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**Deadline:**

**Thursday, February 9, 2017**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC / RESEARCH RECOMMENDER FROM THE HERCHEL-SMITH HARVARD SELECTION COMMITTEE**

**Applicant Name:**

This student is submitting an application to the Herchel Smith-Harvard Undergraduate Science Research Program. Recipients of this prestigious award are selected on the basis of a compelling, well-designed, full-time research project of at least ten weeks duration in the summer linked with a dedicated host institution and faculty principal investigator; evidence of high academic achievement and preparation for the proposed research; and, strongly positive endorsements from Harvard faculty and other academics regarding the candidate’s overall intellectual strengths and likelihood of success as a scientist. A critical factor in evaluating the application is evidence of initiative and motivation in an academic and/or research setting. The applicant has selected you to provide a letter of recommendation to the Herchel-Smith Harvard Selection Committee, and we thank you for your effort on the applicant’s behalf. We would appreciate it if you would address the following questions in your letter:

1. In what capacity do you know the applicant?

2. Can you provide brief examples of initiative, motivation, and determination in an academic and/or research activity?

3. Can you evaluate the likelihood of the applicant’s success in the project and as a developing scientist, based on your observations?

You will receive an email prompt generated by the Centralized Application for Research and Travel (CARAT) after the applicant has invited you to submit a recommendation. Simply follow the directions to upload a signed pdf version of your letter on official institutional stationary to the CARAT online link indicated on the invitation.

The deadline for receipt of application materials is **Thursday, February 9, 2017**. If you have any questions, please contact the Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, Greg Llacer, at gregory\_llacer@harvard.edu.

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