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Grenoble, 10 August 2016

To whom it may concern.

Viktor Radermacher, an advanced 3rd year student from the Evolutionary Studies Institute (ESI), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, has been selected to carry out the ESRF Undergraduate Summer Programme from 29/08/2016 until 23/09/2016. During this training, Mr. Radermacher will attend lectures and perform a research project. For this research project, in collaboration with Professor Jonah Choiniere from the ESI, Mr. Radermacher will study a small theropod dinosaur, *Ngwebasaurus thwazi*, from the Albany Museum (Grahamstown, South Africa), using propagation phase contrast X-ray synchrotron radiation micro-tomography.

It should be noted, related to the research project, that:

- Propagation phase contrast X-ray synchrotron radiation micro-tomography is a non-invasive technique and will not modify the specimen integrity. It has been used on a great number of fossils for the past 13 years with great success;
- During the experiment, the specimen will be carefully prepared and placed onto the sample stage in the most adequate sample holder we will have (e.g. a plastic tube). Should it be necessary, the specimen will be protected with styrofoam and/or foam to provide direct contact with the tube;
- The experiment will be carried out on the beamline BM05 of the ESRF under the supervision of Paul Tafforeau (Palaeontologist and Beamline Scientist at ID19) and myself. We both have a great experience of scanning fossils, including proper way for handling fossils and safe mounting on the sample stages;
- Before and after the experiment, the specimen will be repositioned in a fire-proof locked safe located in the satellite building of the beamline ID19. The combination of the safe lock is known only by two persons at the ESRF, including Paul Tafforeau and myself;
- At the end of the summer school programme, I will take responsibility to ensure that the specimen is safely packed in the container it arrived in for its return trip.

Sincerely yours,

Vincent Fernandez