

300-241

Name: DENNIS MACALISTAIR RITCHIE
First Middle Last

I accept the offer of admission to the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

I do not accept the offer of Admission to the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

ADMISSIO

STREET
MASSACHUSETTS

Reason _____

963

Dennis M. Ritchie
Signature

Mr. Dennis MacAlister Ritchie
Lowell House N-22
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that you have been admitted to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences for the academic year **1963-64** to study toward the A. M. degree in the subject of **Applied Mathematics**, under the Division of Engineering and Applied Physics.

The Committee on Fellowships and other Aids for Graduate Students finds that it is not possible to grant your request for a scholarship. This decision was made after careful consideration of your application and of the recommendation of the Department or Committee concerned.

If you also applied for a Teaching Fellowship or an Assistantship, your answer will come directly from the departmental office, as such appointments are made by the Chairmen of the various departments. Denial of a scholarship does not necessarily mean that your application for a Teaching Fellowship or an Assistantship has been denied.

I sincerely hope that it will be possible for you to arrange financing for your study at this school. Will you be good enough to let me know as soon as possible whether or not you accept our offer of admission?

Sincerely yours,

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

ADMISSIONS OFFICE, 75 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

RITCHIE

(Print) Last Name

Dennis

First

MacAlister

Middle

Applied Mathematics

Subject

theory and use of computing equipment

Special Field

I. The Graduate School would appreciate a confidential statement from you concerning the applicant named above, telling us how well you think he will do as a graduate student carrying on advanced study in his field. If you can compare him with other men known to you who have attended or are now applying for admission to this School, we should welcome such a comparison.

Mr. Ritchie will do well in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. I have known few Harvard College undergraduates who were his intellectual equal, and practically none who were as mature and personable. As his freshman advisor, I saw directly his adult approach to education, and how he chose the hardest scientific courses for which he was properly prepared, filling out his program with courses from other areas in which he was interested. Since then, I have seen this continue, as exemplified by the graduate courses he has already taken, as soon as was possible -- perhaps too soon.

He has explained complicated subjects (e. g., the ice machine in the metallurgy department) both to me and to laymen with a facility that implies he will be an excellent teacher, if he so desires. At the same time, he has shown great intellectual curiosity about both scientific (e. g., my research) and other subjects, so he should do well in research.

In conclusion, I would say Dennis Ritchie also compares favorably with men I know who are presently in graduate school; he is in every way an outstanding candidate for admission.

II. Please rate the applicant in comparison with others of his age and position whom you have known:

	Upper 1 or 2%	Upper 10% but not upper 1 or 2%	Upper 25% but not upper 10%	Upper half but not upper 25%	Lower half	No Basis for Judgment
Native Intellectual Ability		X				
Breadth of General Knowledge	X					
Ability to Express Himself Orally	X					
Ability to Express Himself in Writing						X
Perseverance	X					
Emotional Maturity	X					
Imagination and Probable Creativity		X				
Potential as a Teacher	X					

Signature

Robert A. Myers

Date January 28, 1963

Robert A. Myers

Position

Teaching Fellow, App. Physics

at

Harvard College

College or University

Address

Gordon McKay Laboratory, 9 Oxford St., Cambridge, Mass.

RECEIVED

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

ADMISSIONS OFFICE, 75 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Ritchie Dennis MacAlister
(Print) Last Name First Middle

Applied Mathematics Theory and use of computing equipment
Subject Special Field

I. The Graduate School would appreciate a confidential statement from you concerning the applicant named above, telling us how well you think he will do as a graduate student carrying on advanced study in his field. If you can compare him with other men known to you who have attended or are now applying for admission to this School, we should welcome such a comparison.

Dennis Ritchie was a student in my Freshman Seminar during his Freshman year and at that time I was quite impressed with his ability to grasp the essence of a problem and to devise effective methods of attacking it.

Since that time he has worked in the laboratory during two summers and has kept in touch by visits at other times. He is obviously intelligent, and well motivated towards a scientific career. He seems to have considerable initiative and, in my opinion, he is likely to prove to be of Ph.D. caliber.

II. Please rate the applicant in comparison with others of his age and position whom you have known:

	Upper 1 or 2%	Upper 10% but not upper 1 or 2%	Upper 25% but not upper 10%	Upper half but not upper 25%	Lower half	No Basis for Judgment
Native Intellectual Ability		✓				
Breadth of General Knowledge			✓			
Ability to Express Himself Orally		✓				
Ability to Express Himself in Writing			✓			
Perseverance		✓				
Emotional Maturity			✓			
Imagination and Probable Creativity		✓				
Potential as a Teacher						✓

Signature Bruce Chalmers

Date January 23, 1963
Position Gordon McKay Professor of Metallurgy

Position BRUCE CHALMERS

Address Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

ADMISSIONS OFFICE, 75 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

RECEIVED

060-2

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

RITCHIE

Dennis

MacAlister

(Print) Last Name

First

Middle

Applied Mathematics

Theory and use of computing equipment

Subject

Special Field

I. The Graduate School would appreciate a confidential statement from you concerning the applicant named above, telling us how well you think he will do as a graduate student carrying on advanced study in his field. It would be helpful for us to know how long and in what capacity you have known this student. If you can compare this student with others known to you who have attended or are now applying for admission to this School, we should welcome such a comparison.

Mr. Ritchie did a creditable job in AM 229 and ranked 5th out of 20. The ranking does not quite give an accurate picture of his ability as he was less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of a percentage point below the 3rd and 4th ranked men.

I would rate Mr. Ritchie significantly better than Mr. Abbott and only slightly below Mr. Evay in overall ability. On the basis of his performance in AM 229, I would definitely recommend him for admission.

II. Please rate the applicant in comparison with others of his age and position whom you have known: I should rank this student in the top 25. % of approximately 50. students I have taught in 2 years.

	Upper 1 or 2%	Upper 10% but not upper 1 or 2%	Upper 25% but not upper 10%	Upper half but not upper 25%	Lower half	No Basis for Judgment
Native Intellectual Ability			✓			
Breadth of General Knowledge			✓			
Ability to Express Himself Orally		✓				
Ability to Express Himself in Writing		✓				
Perseverance		✓				
Emotional Maturity		✓				
Imagination and Probable Creativity			✓			
Potential as a Teacher						✓

Signature Patric C. Furdor Date February 24, 1963

Position Asst. Prof. of Applied Mathematics at Harvard DEAP

Address 15 Robinhood Road, Winchester, Mass. College or University

percent of students in the basic reference group for that test who received a lower scaled score than the one reported here

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Ritchie Dennis MacAlister
(Print) Last Name First Middle
Applied Mathematics theory and use of computing equipment
Subject Special Field

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Dennis M. Ritchie worked in the ~~Met~~ Metallurgical laboratory at Harvard for two summers. He impressed me very much as an intelligent, capable young man. He was continually interested in, and asked questions about projects which were going on in the lab.

I strongly recommend him to you as a candidate for Graduate Studies.

II. Please rate the applicant in comparison with others of his age and position whom you have known:

	Upper 1 or 2%	Upper 10% but not upper 1 or 2%	Upper 25% but not upper 10%	Upper half but not upper 25%	Lower half	No Basis for judgment
Native Intellectual Ability	✓					
Breadth of General Knowledge						
Ability to Express Himself Orally	✓					
Ability to Express Himself in Writing						
Perseverance		✓				
Emotional Maturity						
Imagination and Probable Creativity	✓					
Potential as a Teacher						

Signature Kenneth A. Johnson Date Jan. 28, 1963

Position _____ at _____ College or University

Address Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.