



To: Professor ShiQiang (Samuel) Liu
School of Economics and Management
Fuzhou University
Fujian province
China

Invitation Letter from Mahmoud Masoud

Dear Sam,

I am very happy to invite you to work with me from 25 January to 27 February 2019 to collaborate with me for working together on the project of hospital scheduling and publish more joint papers and propose the potential grant applications. In the future, I will also be invited by Sam to visit Fuzhou University in China. As my understanding Sam will cover all the trip costs including international air tickets and accommodation by his own research funding.

We have published several joint papers in leading SCI journals in the areas of Operations Research, Scheduling, Simulation and Supply Chain Management. These journals include Computers & Industrial Engineering, Optimization Letters, International Journal of Production Research, etc. We have built up solid research collaboration and brotherhood. In addition, I have already committed to be a partner investigator to support Sam's NSFC grant application, titled as "Advanced scheduling methodologies to optimize mining operations" in March 2018. This joint NSFC application has been successful and will commence since 2019. I am very convinced that Sam will deliver a lot more highly valuable contributions based on our previous research output at Queensland University of Technology in Australia.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Masoud', written over a light blue horizontal line.

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