



SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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March 24, 2025

Selection Committee
Life Sciences Category, Hong Kong Laureate Forum

Dear Committee members:

I am writing in support of Simay YUKSEL's application to join the Forum 2025 in Life Science and Medicine. Simay is currently a first-year undergraduate student in the Science Master Class with a first-class GPA and a solid A average. I first met Simay during a welcome session. Through our interactions during that meeting and in our recent conversation, I have observed her strong curiosity and passion for science. She is intelligent and communicates effectively both orally and in writing. Simay has already gained various research and entrepreneurship experiences in Turkey and the US, and she has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Hackathon 2023 (Turkey), BIEA 2023 STEM Competition (UK), AP Scholar with Honors Award (US), 3rd STEM Olympiad Gold Medal in Science and Silver Medal in Mathematics (France), and the J.U.C. Awards First Place Winner in Research. Since joining HKU, she has been awarded the HKU Scholarship for Future Leaders. In this coming summer, she will be joining my laboratory through the Faculty of Science Summer Research Fellowship for outstanding students with a strong interest in research. It is noteworthy that she primarily prepared her application on her own following our brief discussion. I have high expectations for her future success as a young scientist and would be delighted to welcome her to our research team.

It is my pleasure to highly recommend Simay for support in the application.

Sincerely yours,

Alice S. T. Wong
Chair Professor & Interim Director