PHD APPLICATION SERVICE

ELEMENT FOUR

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Letter of Introduction

To: Prof. Jennifer Howard-Grenville
Diageo Professor in Organisation Studies
Cambridge Judge Business School
University of Cambridge

Subject: Prospective PhD Applicant – Interest in Supervision for Research in ESG and Sustainable Business Strategy

Dear Professor Howard-Grenville,

I hope this message finds you well.

My name is Daniel Thorne, and I am in the process of preparing a PhD application focusing on the strategic integration of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles within multinational organisations. I have long admired your extensive research on organisational sustainability and environmental innovation, and I am particularly drawn to your work on how institutions shape and are shaped by corporate sustainability agendas.

As part of my proposed doctoral research, I aim to explore how stakeholder engagement and institutional governance mechanisms influence the implementation of ESG frameworks within firms, particularly in the context of emerging markets and global value chains. Your publications, especially those exploring the intersection of organisational theory and environmental change, have significantly influenced the development of my proposal.

Given the strong alignment between your research interests and my intended topic, I would be honoured to be considered for supervision under your guidance. I have attached a draft of my research proposal for your reference, along with my CV. I would be very grateful for any opportunity to discuss this further and explore whether my academic direction could fit within your supervision portfolio at Cambridge Judge Business School.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Warm regards,
Daniel Thorne
[Email Address] | [Phone Number]
Encl: CV & Research Proposal