

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202410_GR_G
Program Name: MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Gerardo Chin-Leo
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Faculty
Contact Name: David Glisson
Recommendation Waiver Choice:
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 03/15/2023 11:25 AM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000109297491

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.
Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Time since last contact with applicant:	Applicant as productive member of group:
Relationship with Applicant:	Applicant most significant strengths:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Responsibility/reliability:
Communication Skills - Oral:	Communication skills - written:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Ability to work independently:
Ability to handle stress:	Ability to think critically:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Ability to think creatively:
Openness to feedback:	Potential for leadership:
Ability to work in a team:	Personal/professional reflection:

Description Information

Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

Other Information

Created Time: 03/08/2023 03:16 PM
Modified Time: 03/15/2023 11:25 AM

Created By: Josephine Bernier
Modified By: Josephine Bernier



March 14, 2023

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of **David Glisson (Daye)** who is applying for to the Master of Environmental Studies (MES) program. Daye was my student in Marine Environments: Organisms and the Ocean (ME, Winter and Spring 2022). ME was an advanced science course focusing on marine environments and life. This class included library and field/lab research components and well as instruction of methods for quantitative data analysis.

Daye showed great progress in ME gaining advanced knowledge of marine science. Daye's performance in this class was very good demonstrating a strong handle of the oceanography and marine ecology concepts presented in lectures. In field and laboratory exercises, Daye completed all field observations assignments and demonstrated a consistently good ability to observe and describe marine organisms. Daye's lab reports were very good showing understanding of the concepts relevant to each activity and ability to apply statistical tools to data analysis. Daye consistently and thoroughly completed all laboratory and computing workshop assignments, demonstrating strong engagement with all the topics.

Daye successfully completed a library research project on the bull kelp, *Nereocystis luetkeana*. Daye's written report demonstrated very good use of primary, secondary and tertiary source material. Daye's final presentation did a very good job of summarizing primary research and demonstrating an excellent understanding of the chosen subject matter. In addition, Daye also acquired experience designing research by preparing a formal research proposal. Daye and a collaborator completed a proposal to assess the impacts of nitrogen inputs from a local wastewater treatment plant (LOTT in Olympia) on phytoplankton species composition. The proposal described various field experiments to distinguish between the impact of natural and anthropogenic sources and included a detailed methods section and timeline. Through this proposal, this team showed a very good understanding of the process of designing research including a thorough review of scientific literature relevant to the project and details on how to address time and resource constraints. Daye received high ratings from his teammate on his for

contributions to the group project in terms of work habits, collaborative skills and particularly for his strong leadership.

Daye also did excellent work conducting field research. In spring quarter, students in teams worked on two research projects. One was to examine bivalve and larval ecology at a beach, and the other was to study the succession of phytoplankton species at a local estuary. Students then choose one of the datasets to analyze . Daye successfully completed lab and field work in both beach and estuary. For the data analysis exercise, Daye chose to examine the phytoplankton data. Daye's team did an excellent job of analyzing the data, which included many physical, chemical, biological and meteorological measurements over various space and time scales. His team effectively identified the various hypotheses to be tested and equitably distributed the work. Their presentation of the results was excellent with an organized and clear report of salient trends and a logical discussion on the possible explanations for the observed changes in phytoplankton during the study period. Daye's contribution to the team effort was substantial and focussed on the analysis of changes in nitrate concentrations, water temperature and weather conditions (e.g., precipitation and light intensity). Through this project, Daye demonstrated a very good ability to analyze data and to work collaboratively.

In summary Daye demonstrated a commitment to engaged learning, collaboration and showed proficiency with a range of scientific skills. In addition, he acquired substantial experiences designing and conducting research. Daye is well-prepared to take on independent research in graduate school. Daye is very interested in pursuing a career in environmental studies and wishes to continue his education in this field in the MES program. I think that Daye would be a good fit to the MES program, and I strongly support his application.

Sincerely,

Gerardo Chin-Leo, Ph.D.
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