

January 11, 2023

Dear Graduate Admissions Office for Evergreen State College,

I have been asked to write a letter of recommendation for Alicia Heetderks in her bid to be admitted to the university for the upcoming fall quarter, and am more than honored to do so, as it is not often that I run across such a creative, bright, curious, and conscientious student. I have taught English at the college and university levels for more than 27 years and have encountered thousands of students during that time, so I am adept at spotting a rising star. Alicia is one of these. I have known her since the beginning of the spring quarter of 2013 when she surfaced in my English 101 course, and had her again in advanced composition during the fall of 2014. In both classes, and she quickly distinguished herself as a student who stood apart from the rest.

When I think of Alicia's performance in class, the words that come to mind are: inspirational, insightful, strong reader and writer, driven, innovative, courageous. From the first, Alicia established herself as an effective facilitator and team player. Her ability to work with a wide variety of students in small groups, to keep the discussion flowing and focused without being overbearing, and her insatiable quest for obtaining deeper levels of meaning in her papers quickly reflected her maturity and intellectual acumen. I looked forward to reading her papers, which were always provocative, original, and just so fun to read. She excelled in both classes, finishing with a grade of A, and her attendance was impeccable. She was actively engaged in every conversation, every workshop, every class activity. I often found students wanting to sit next to Alicia as she was often so supportive of their efforts and offered much in the way of perspective and attention.

In short, I have no qualms whatsoever about recommending Alicia Heetderks as a candidate for admission. She would bring powerful ideas to the college and could continue her enthusiastic quest to reach her goal of working in the field of environmental sustainability and preservation. Her admission would be an investment well worth making now. Should you require any further information regarding her qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be more than happy to provide any information that might assist you in making a timely decision in her favor.

Kindest regards,

Nancy Miller, M.A.

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