

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202410_GR_G
Program Name: MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Nancy Murray
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College

Recommenders Title: Faculty
Contact Name: Zoe Ortega-Owen

Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Waiver Choice:

Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 07/03/2023 03:14 PM

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant without reservation.

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000109805582

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.radius>

Other Information

Created Time: 05/13/2023 01:39 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 07/03/2023 03:14 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



June 25, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Ms. Zoe Ortega is applying to the Master of Environmental Science program at The Evergreen State College and has asked me to write on her behalf. I am extremely happy to do so. She is a motivated individual deeply committed to exploring a career that combines the natural sciences and the environment; she is an excellent student and communicator with high standards and has a wonderful personality. In short, I believe she has all the earmarks to be a successful MES student.

Zoe was enrolled in a 2022 spring quarter, upper-division science program I taught called *Developmental Biology*. The program covered cell biology, molecular biology, and developmental biology. This program was extremely rigorous. In fact, the material covered was equivalent to all the biology taught in the year-long Molecule to Organism program! From my initial contact with Zoe, I realized that she was an insightful, analytical, and interested student who consistently came to class well prepared. She did not hesitate to ask questions during lecture or to come to office hours or tutoring sessions to help clarify difficult material. Her exam scores were consistently in the top 10% of the class, demonstrating a thorough understanding of the concepts presented.

Often you will find students who succeed in the classroom but are all thumbs when it comes to bench or field work. Zoe is unique in that she excelled in both areas. She has an innate desire to learn the background material, asks the right questions, and the drive to work out answers to those questions both on paper and at the bench. On numerous occasions she has expressed his desire to pursue graduate work.

As I am sure the admissions committee knows, Evergreen is a unique institution emphasizing interdisciplinary teaching and learning, it encourages students to take responsibility for their own education. To that end, students are asked to learn from and teach each other as well as from the faculty. This environment fosters great intellectual growth. Zoe can take information, synthesize it and return with plausible connections and outcomes. She is also a strong group learner and is to be able to strike the appropriate balance in a group situation between serving as an active leader or an excellent listener.

As I hope is clear from this letter, I hold Zoe in high regard. She is a dedicated student with great potential. I believe that she has some strong qualities (only a few of which are mentioned above) that will make her an excellent candidate for the MES program. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Nancy C. Murray, Ph.D.
Member of the Faculty