

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Complete  
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202510\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MES

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Kat Harmon  
Recommenders Institution: Evergreen State College  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title:  
Contact Name: Marina Aune

Recommendation Waiver Choice:

Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 01/20/2024 12:54 AM

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000112486753

Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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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

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Description:

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

#### Other Information

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Created Time: 12/03/2023 09:30 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 01/20/2024 12:54 AM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier

Recommendation letter for Marina Aune

January 19, 2024

Dear Master of Environmental Studies Graduate Admissions,

In my role as Marina Aune's Academic Advisor in the TRIO Disability Support program since August 2021, I've had the honor of seeing her work up close. Marina and I have met weekly for three academic calendar years, which has given me the opportunity to observe her successful participation in and contributions to varied learning environments at Evergreen. Her qualities remain consistent.

Marina's path at Evergreen centers advocacy for people and the environment, continually discovering the next level of sustainability in terms of shaping restorative systems. Marina was a humanities student with very little science background when, in Spring 2022, she chose to leap into upper division science studies to pursue a dual Bachelor of Arts and Science degree. She merged disciplines gracefully in pursuit of her passion for being an informed steward of communities - be they mycelia, plants, or people.

In Spring 2023, Marina utilized her GIS skills to create a map of the Evergreen campus and student housing, identifying areas that weren't accessible due to a lack of benches. Marina shared her work with TRIO and Access Services as praxis, wowing and inspiring all of us. It was thrilling to watch Marina's multidisciplinary project use data and science to support disability justice and serve the Evergreen community in a tangible and direct way. Marina improves the spaces she inhabits with her stewardship and precision of mind.

In her recently completed internship, Marina worked with a local farmer to learn how to grow microgreens indoors. Again with a focus on equity, Marina was specifically inspired to learn this form of plant science in service of increasing autonomy and decreasing food scarcity for underserved populations. Marina believes self-sustaining food systems in one's own home can be liberatory.

In addition to her independent GIS and internship work, I've observed Marina in group and teamwork scenarios. I can vouch for her professionalism, communication skills, emotional maturity, and marked capacity to build healthy working relationships. These qualities will serve her in the graduate school setting.

Marina has remained dedicated to her studies through hardship. She is resilient and resourceful when it comes to navigating the systemic realities of being a low-income student with disabilities, and so she thrives. She is grounded, growth oriented, and persistent.

I have grown as an advisor through working with Marina. Marina has so much knowledge to share, and bearing witness to her focus and creativity has been enlivening and instructive for me. Marina contributed beautifully to TRIO, contributed beautifully to Access Services, and I can't wait to see what she cultivates in the Master of Environmental Studies program, should she be admitted.

I strongly recommend Marina Aune for admission to the MES program. Thank you for considering her application and my recommendation.

Respectfully,



Kat Harmon, MA, LMHCA  
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