

Application Related Information

Application: Application Not Verified
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202510_GR_G
Program Name: MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Tia Neas-Gass
Recommenders Institution: Puget Sound Estuarium
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Lead Interpreter
Contact Name: Gwendolyn Heaton
Recommendation Waiver Choice:
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 12/18/2023 07:52 PM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000116663573

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: 12/16/2023 09:59 PM
Modified Time: 12/18/2023 07:52 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier
Modified By: Josephine Bernier

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to recommend Gwendolyn Heaton for the Master's of Environmental Studies program at The Evergreen State College.

I am a Lead Interpreter at the Puget Sound Estuarium in Olympia, WA. I have been facilitating environmental education programs at the Puget Sound Estuarium since 2022. Before that, I held similar positions with environmental education programs in Bolu, Turkey and Federal Way, WA.

I have supervised Gwendolyn over the past few months during our aquarium open hours on Saturdays and Sundays. During this time period, our facility is open to the public and volunteers are expected to give tours, assist with animal husbandry and prepare interactive exhibits that relate to our monthly themes. Gwendolyn has been an outgoing and engaged volunteer. They have excelled with public engagement and interactive exhibit creation and maintenance. They have demonstrated that they hold a breadth of knowledge in the fields of marine science and microbiology.

They also are competent with Pacific Northwest marine life husbandry and have graciously shared this knowledge with the public via interactive husbandry events such as animal feedings. We recently had an exhibit on phytoplankton and zooplankton and Gwendolyn did a great job assisting with the setup and interpretation of the exhibit. They have indicated that they also have taken relevant marine science courses as an undergraduate that have helped facilitate this seamless interpretation. At the Estuarium, we have several exhibits that explore themes related to ocean chemistry such as Gwendolyn has also done a great job helping the public engage with these exhibits.

I feel as though Gwendolyn is proficient at communicating scientific knowledge to the public and their communication skills coupled with their academic knowledge will serve them well in Evergreen's interdisciplinary MES program. Environmental issues require multifaceted solutions and Gwendolyn possesses the necessary hard and soft skills to make meaningful contributions to the field.

If you have any further questions about Gwendolyn's performance at the Puget Sound Estuarium, feel free to email me at tia@pugetsoundestuarium.org or call me at (404) 825-8981.

Best Regards,

Tia Neas-Gass
Lead Interpreter at the Puget Sound Estuarium

