

Application Related Information

Application: Application Not Verified
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202510_GR_G
Program Name: MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:

Chip Appel

Recommenders Title: Soil Science Professor at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, former department chair, study abroad advisor.

Recommenders Institution: california polytechnic state university, san luis obispo

Contact Name: Ian Mann

Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Waiver Choice:

Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 02/20/2024 03:07 PM

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant without reservation.

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000117591748

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: 02/09/2024 01:18 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 02/20/2024 03:07 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier

February 20, 2024

Dear Graduate Coordinator,


Mr. Ian Mann asked me to write a letter in support of his application for acceptance into the Master of Environmental Studies program at The Evergreen State University and it is my pleasure to give him a strong recommendation. I have known Ian for about 8 years as he was my advisee, was in a few of the courses I teach while he was a student at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly), and he traveled with me to Thailand and Cambodia for five weeks in 2018 on a Cal Poly international program. Therefore, I have had the opportunity to observe him in a variety of settings. Ian has very strong technical skills and understanding in environmental sciences and he understands the research and project management process.

Ian was a great student while at Cal Poly. He graduated with about a 3.5 GPA and was on the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences Dean's List for academic achievement nine times. Furthermore, besides successfully completing a challenging degree in Environmental Earth and Soil Sciences (EESS) that incorporated environmental science, soil science, geospatial technology, geology, geography, as well as plant and agricultural science; Ian overcome significant academic challenges while navigating his way toward his B.S. degree. He started Cal Poly as an Electrical Engineering major that was not a good fit for his interests. After nearly three years in this program, he made the difficult decision of switching his major to EESS, which allowed his passion for the environment and his academic ability to come together and flourish. His intellect and ability to work hard and complete projects while overcoming challenges will serve him well in his graduate program.

Ian has very good training in environmental sciences due to his undergraduate preparation in Environmental Earth and Soil Sciences, which incorporated a rigorous combination of soil science, geology, and geography courses and is Cal Poly's equivalent to an environmental sciences degree. Through his major coursework, he took a wide array of soil science, GIS, geology, geography, botany, plant and agricultural science, and earth science courses. Almost all the major and support courses he took had labs associated with them. These labs were field-based, computer-based, and wet chemistry labs. Thus, he is well versed in describing and mapping plants, rock/geologic formations, soils and landscapes, and is familiar with a wide variety of computer-based methods of geospatial analysis as well as analytical laboratory techniques and procedures, including QA/QC, ICP-OES, CN Combustion Analysis, and ion selective electrodes. Ian is comfortable in the laboratory, greenhouse, and the field and is familiar with experimental design, sample collection, and data analysis. From a technical/analytical standpoint, he is well prepared to conduct high quality research to solve complex natural resources problems.

As previously mentioned, Ian and I traveled to Thailand and Cambodia together on a Cal Poly international program. During the program, I was impressed how well he adapted to diverse and stressful environments and seemed to thrive in these settings. He had no problem at all traveling on his own and with fellow Cal Poly students. Moreover, he possessed a respect and curiosity for other cultures in much greater degrees than most of the other students with whom we traveled. I have no doubt these qualities allow him to take care of himself and even thrive in challenging and diverse environments. I believe Ian will be a successful graduate student at The Evergreen State College in the Environmental Studies program and I give him a very high recommendation for acceptance into your program. Please feel free to contact me by phone (805-756-1691) or email (cappel@calpoly.edu) with further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher S. Appel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chip Appel
Professor of Environmental Soil Chemistry