Application Related Information

Application:	Application Incomplete	Iteration Name:	202510_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MES	Program Name:	MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:	Roberto Anitori	Recommenders Title:	Dr.
Recommenders Institution:	Clark College	Contact Name:	Alannah Mitchell
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:	07/29/2024 03:57 PM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000119199043	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 rigourous 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:	07/09/2024 11:16 PM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	07/29/2024 03:57 PM	Modified By:	Josephine Bernier

29 July 2024

Letter of Reference for Master's in Environmental Science, Evergreen State College.

Student: Ms. Alannah Mitchell

I have known Alannah Mitchell for over 7 years. I have interacted with her via: (i) Portland State University/Clark College BUILD-EXITO - a program that focuses on recruiting under-represented undergraduate students into biomedical research, with Ms. Mitchell chosen as a scholar in a competitive application process; and (ii) three separate, approximately term-long, laboratory internships at Clark College (2017, 2018, 2022).

I have found Ms. Mitchell to be very thoughtful, mature, and in possession of a practical intelligence. For example, during her internships with me she displayed an ability to synthesize experimental results and, based on these, determine subsequent steps. Ms. Mitchell also learns quickly – in 2017 she helped me to establish the nanopore DNA sequencing protocol that I now use in one of my undergraduate classes. During that project she first demonstrated the attention to detail, precision and reliability I associate with her, and which is one of the main reasons I have continually engaged her to conduct undergraduate research projects. In a nutshell, I trust her ability to successfully conduct a research project. Her research skills have also been recognized by the fact that she has been employed with a local laboratory since 2022.

While Ms. Mitchell's undergraduate classes have focused on Biology-related topics, she has also completed an admirable selection of courses in other areas. This diverse course selection is important, as it has made her a well-rounded individual, both personally and academically. Ms. Mitchell was one of the many students who suffered academically during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the fact that she has overcome that difficult period and wishes to extend her education emphasizes her resolve, and bodes well for her ability to be successful in a Master's program.

I know from discussions with Ms. Mitchell that her true passion is environmental studies, and that she has wanted to be involved in that field for a long time – since she was a teenager. For example, she feels an immense sense of duty to the environment and wants to contribute to solutions for climate change and wildlife conservation. There is a particular instance that comes immediately to mind when I think of Alannah and her passion for environmental studies. I conduct research on the microbiology of ice caves in the crater of Mt. St. Helens, and one of Ms. Mitchell's research internships with me involved her isolating bacteria from cave samples. For one of the samples, it was uncertain whether it contained plant material. Therefore, I asked her to microscopically determine whether it was a plant, which she was able to accomplish easily. While her ability to do so was impressive, what sticks with me years later is how excited she was to be involved in doing real environmental science!

I strongly believe that Ms. Mitchell has the passion, academic skills and determination to excel in the field of environmental studies. I unhesitatingly and strongly recommend her for the Evergreen Master's in Environmental Science program.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roberto Anitori
Microbiology Professor ~ Life Sciences Division Chair
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Lead Faculty, BUILD-EXITO program
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