Application:	Application Verified	Iteration Name:	202510_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MES	Program Name:	MES
Recommendation Information			
Recommended By:	John Kyndt	Recommenders Title:	Professor of microbiology and sustainability management
Recommenders Institution:	Bellevue University	Contact Name:	Emma Stock
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	
Recommendation Form Submitted:	\checkmark	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	12/13/2023 06:39 AM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000112353301	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:

Other Information

Application Related Information

Created Time: 11/27/2023 10:24 AM Modified Time: 12/13/2023 06:39 AM Form URL: https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu

Created By: Josephine Bernier Modified By: Josephine Bernier



Bellevue, December 11, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Emma Stock was a student in my Molecular Biology (BI314) class in spring 2023 and my Microbiology (BI309) class in the fall of 2023. The classes have a small number of students (10 or less) and includes a lab portion that I teach myself as well, therefore during the twelve weeks I have the opportunity to get to know and evaluate the students very well. Emma always stood out from the group as a dedicated and very motivated student. She attended every class and always came prepared to the lab courses. She did a remarkable job of balancing her student work and athletic responsibilities. It was during the time of these courses, that I found out about her deep passion for studying environmental sciences.

For her Biology Capstone Thesis project, Emma has taken on the challenging task of obtaining sequencing data from preserved samples of environmentally collected, endangered Shoal Chub (*Macrhybopsis*) samples, with the purpose of performing a detailed phylogenetic and ecological study of these species. Since these samples have been preserved for several years, it is a challenging task to obtain sufficient intact genomic DNA for Illumina sequencing. Although I am not Emma's thesis mentor, I have worked with her extensively on the DNA extraction, library prep and sequencing of these samples using our in-house Illumina sequencer. Emma's dedication and commitment to this project has been commendable and truly shows her devotion to scientific research. As a consequence of her dedication and passion for this project, she was able to obtain sufficient data from several fish species and is planning to present her results at the Nebraska Academy of Sciences conference in the Spring of 2024. I was thoroughly impressed with the way Emma took the lead in setting up these experiments and how she understood the critical variables in this process.

Besides her thesis project, Emma has also been working this past year as a lab research assistant with me on a variety of projects that involve sequencing and data analysis from environmental soil samples and bacterial isolates from extremophilic environments. I would like to note that this commitment to science and research is on top of her athletic commitment to the BU Soccer team, where she functions as team captain. She has shown a remarkable capability of time management and has excelled in both academic and athletic areas during her time at BU. Given her dedicated work in the sciences and her passion for relating the science to field applications, I truly believe that she is destined for a successful career in environmental sciences.

Emma is a very committed student and always ready to help out her mentors and fellow students. She worked very well with other students during the lab courses and was always willing to discuss a particular experiment more in depth. She is very self-motivated and a pleasure to work with. I would rate Emma within the top 2 percent of students that I have mentored over the years as far as academic performance and commitment and motivation to the lab projects. Given the right opportunity and guidance I believe Emma has the potential to achieve a bright career in the field. It is therefore my pleasure to highly recommend Emma for the graduate program in Environmental Studies at Evergreen State College, and I am confident that she will be a viable asset to your program.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

AND

Dr. John Kyndt Professor of Microbiology and Sustainability College of Science and Technology Bellevue University 1000 Galvin Rd. South, Bellevue, NE, 68005 402-557-7551 - john.kyndt@bellevue.edu