## Application Related Information

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Application: | Application Incomplete | Iteration Name: | 202610_GR_G |
| Grad Program Applying To: | MES | Program Name: | MES |

## Recommendation Information

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Recommended By: | John Lendvay | Recommenders Title: | Professor, Environmental Science |
| Recommenders Institution: | University of San Francisco | Contact Name: | Madeleine Yates |
| 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: | 03/16/2025 04:37 PM | Recommender Assessment: | I recommend this applicant. |
| Recommendation Type: | General | Recommender Form: | Letter of Recommendation |
| Recommendation Entity ID: | 1024000121885529 | 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: | 03/04/2025 03:32 PM | Created By: | Josephine Bernier |
| Modified Time: | 03/16/2025 04:37 PM | Modified By: | Josephine Bernier |

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Department of
Environmental Science
2130 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117
Tel 415.422.6553
Fax 415.422.6387
envs@usfca.edu

16 March 2025

Dear Selection Committee,

I write to strongly recommend Made Yates for the Master of Environmental Studies at The Evergreen State College. I have known Made since August 2018 when they enrolled in my second-year environmental science course, Air & Water w/Lab (ENVS-212), at the University of San Francisco (USF). Made also enrolled in my team-taught capstone course, Methods of Environmental Monitoring w/Lab (ENVS-410). Considering my role as instructor and chair of the department, and my continued interactions with Made, I am sufficiently familiar with their academic progress and their potential for success in a program like yours. Made graduated Magna Cum Laude in May 2020 with a BS in Environmental Science. Moreover, they won the Stanley Nel Award, given to the graduating environmental science student who achieved the greatest academic success while at USF. Since graduating, they built upon their academic success by engaging in a variety of projects monitoring natural systems and educating others on methods of environmental monitoring.

The Environmental Science program at the University of San Francisco is anchored in the links between biology, chemistry, physics, and statistics giving our students a broad scientific basis on which to evaluate environmental problems and consider possible solutions through sound policies. Additionally, our program recognizes the importance of incorporating issues of community involvement and social justice as integral parts of our coursework, thus promoting interest in links between community and the environment. Our students who complete the degree are very capable of both field and laboratory-based research and Made succeeded toward that end.

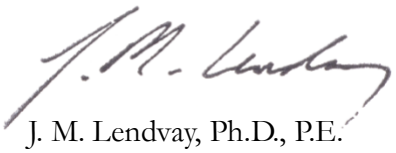
While Made did not directly performed research for me, I have had the opportunity to observe their scientific thought process and based on these observations believe Made has the characteristics necessary to conduct successful research. This assessment is based on my interactions with Made during my Air & Water w/Lab course in fall 2018, a course focusing on the physical and chemical aspects of environmental science. The corequisite laboratory section of this course introduces students on how to properly conduct field sampling for various environmental parameters. Several field and laboratory analyses are taught and learned. Following this introduction to field and lab analyses, the students are tasked to form small groups and to independently develop an experimental plan to analyze a significant environmental issue of concern in the San Francisco Bay Area. For this project, Made and their project partners compared the levels of $PM_{10}$ particulates for various traffic levels in Golden Gate Park with areas of urban traffic within San Francisco. In their experiment, they utilized current air monitoring techniques to gather their data. Method validation and quality assurance practices were part of this project. The data indicated that for certain conditions there was a statistically significant difference between park and urban settings, while not in other conditions.

Moreover, Made was highly successful in our team-taught senior capstone course, Methods of Environmental Monitoring w/Lab. This course requires that students work in groups in collaboration with the US National Park Service, our community partner, to conduct an ongoing water quality

assessment of Redwood Creek. Working in a team of 6 students, I observed Made following strict sampling protocols and always stepping up as an active member of the group during sampling events. Later, with field sampling and lab analysis being limited by the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions, Made and their project partner used GIS techniques to conduct probability mapping of the endangered red-legged frog in Big Lagoon, an area adjacent to the confluence of Redwood Creek as it enters the Pacific Ocean within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in nearby Muir Beach, CA. Their project successfully predicted where red-legged frog habitats were in respect to distances from water and land use features and that the recent restoration efforts to Big Lagoon increased the suitability of the frog's habitat.

Based on my experiences with our students moving on to opportunities such as those provided by your program, I am confident that Made will not only succeed but excel in your program. I most strongly encourage you to accept Made. I provide my highest recommendation. If you have any questions about this letter or wish to speak with me further about Made, please feel free to contact me.

Most Sincerely,



J. M. Lendvay, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor
Department of Environmental Science
University of San Francisco