

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Not Verified  
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202330\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MIT

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Art Constantino  
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College

Recommenders Title: Former Vice President of Student Affairs

Contact Name: Jackie Robinson

Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Waiver Choice: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Form Submitted: 

Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 11/14/2022 09:20 AM

Recommender Assessment:

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000108447410

Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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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

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Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

#### Other Information

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Created Time: 11/14/2022 09:06 AM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 11/14/2022 09:24 AM

Modified By: Shalimar Pedersen

Art Costantino  
730 SE Nelson Rd  
Shelton, WA 98584

November 13, 2022

Dear MIT Selection Committee,

It is my pleasure to provide this recommendation for Jackie Robinson who is applying to The Evergreen State College Masters in Teaching program.

I have known Jackie since 2000, when he arrived on Evergreen's campus. During that time, I was serving as the Vice President for Student Affairs at the College. In 2000, Evergreen initiated a men's basketball program and Jackie was a member of that first team. As it was a new program, I took a special interest in getting to know the players, including Jackie. I have remained in close contact with him since then.

Jackie's early years at Evergreen were a testament to his perseverance, courage, and influence. He grew up in rural Alabama. Moving to the Pacific Northwest, a place very different from his home, required Jackie to adapt and embrace the culture of his new hometown. In addition, like others on that team, Jackie's financial aid was limited, resulting in additional hardship and strain.

Despite the many changes and challenges Jackie faced at first, he served as a mentor and role model to his younger teammates. Sometimes, that role even meant helping them to find a meal. Although Jackie had precious limited money to spare, he was also sending money home to his family. These are just a few examples of Jackie's sense of responsibility to others and generosity.

Upon graduating, Jackie spent two years playing professional basketball in Europe. I think about what an experience that must have been for Jackie, but unsurprisingly, he excelled. When he wasn't playing ball, Jackie tried to learn all he could about the countries in which he resided. This speaks to the fact that Jackie is curious and embraces learning opportunities, both qualities that will serve him well in graduate school.

Upon returning to the states, Jackie actively pursued his passion for assisting at-risk students. He served as a Family Integrated Therapist and Multisystemic Family Therapist for Behavioral Health Resources and a Foster Care Therapist at Community Youth Services. For the past four years, Jackie has been working with at-risk students at Olympia High School helping them to reach academic milestones required for graduation. He did all of this while continuing to coach basketball at the high school level, now serving in a new role as Head Women's Basketball Coach at Evergreen.

Jackie is very likeable and has wonderful skills and insights when working with young people. Perhaps because of the challenges he faced and transcended, he is empathetic and encouraging. He seems to know exactly what each individual student needs and provides it. Students respond positively to his quiet supportive style.

Jackie would be a good graduate student. I believe he would be open to new ideas and would be hard-working. I know he would benefit from the program at Evergreen, and I believe fellow students and faculty would gain from knowing him, just as I have.

I anticipate you will give Jackie serious consideration and should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Art Costantino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Art" and last name "Costantino" clearly distinguishable.

Art Costantino  
Former Vice President for Student Affairs  
at The Evergreen State College  
(360) 528-1861