



The Evergreen State College ■ Olympia, Washington 98505

September 24, 2023

Dear Selection Committee,

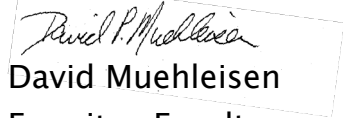
Ms. Louise Batten has applied for admission to graduate school in the Master's in Teaching Program (MIT) at the Evergreen State College for Fall 2023. Louise has asked if I would write a letter of recommendation on her behalf. This letter is an easy task because she is such an outstanding student and an exceptional person. I have worked with Louise during the 2019 Practice of Organic Farming Program (POF) (Spring and Summer). Louise joined POF with a clear focus on what she wanted to accomplish, staying true to that focus throughout her time in the program. During the POF program, Louise focused on learning and practicing teaching basic farming skills. She did this by helping different workgroups how best to complete various tasks. She was knowledgeable about basic gardening skills and used that knowledge to help fellow students complete assigned field tasks. She is adept at teaching, but initially, it was challenging for her because fellow students saw her as an equal, not looking for instruction, but she persevered. Her fellow students quickly realized what a wonderful resource she was. Nevertheless, she was persistent, and with good communication skills and helpful information, she won many students' over.

Louise did well in both the classroom and on the farm. In the classroom, Louise demonstrated a good understanding of the foundational scientific underpinnings that guide the many organic farming practices we use and teach at the Evergreen Organic Farm. Her greatest strength is asking questions if she needs help understanding something until things click for her. She is determined and enjoys learning and sharing what she has learned with others. She is adept at teaching but initially challenging because fellow students saw her as an equal rather than someone to look to for instruction. She was persistent and had good instruction, and her delivery won many students. She is a dedicated student who prioritizes completing her work as detailed as possible. She always comes to class prepared to get as much as possible from each workshop, lecture, field trip, or program event. Louise's level of engagement and dedication to her learning is what every instructor wants for every student they teach. She did well on all her exams and demonstrated a good command of the material and concepts presented in the program. On the farm, we do most of the farm work in teams, and Louise proved to be both an excellent team member and when called upon, a great team leader. In addition,

on her own time, Louise would weed areas and help fellow students whenever needed.

Louise is a kind and very focused student. She is very determined and does not let setbacks stop her from achieving the goals she sets for herself. She seems to live to help others. She will make a very good addition to the MIT program. I recommend her and believe she will be an outstanding graduate program representative. If you have any questions about Louise's qualifications as a student or person, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David P. Muehleisen", is enclosed within a thin, light gray rectangular border.

David Muehleisen

Emeritus Faculty

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