

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202540_GR_G
Program Name: MIT

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Lalita Calabria
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Faculty
Contact Name: Zacharie Straley
Recommendation Waiver Choice:
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 12/09/2024 06:53 PM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000121272104

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.
Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation
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 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

Description:

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

Other Information

Created Time: 11/25/2024 12:03 PM
Modified Time: 12/09/2024 06:53 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier
Modified By: Josephine Bernier



December 9, 2024

To The Evergreen State College Master's in Teaching Program Search Committee:

Zacharie Straley asked me to write a letter of recommendation to support his application for the Master's in Teaching Program at The Evergreen State College. Based on my experience working with Zacharie as faculty member, both in the classroom and as a research and teaching mentor, I'm convinced that Zacharie will be an excellent addition to your program.

I have known Zacharie since 2020 when he was a student in the program General Biology: Cells, Populations, and Ecosystems and then in 2022, as part of the junior-senior level program *The Fungal Kingdom* at The Evergreen State College. Zacharie was an engaged and self-motivated learner, who demonstrated excellent collaborative ability in a variety of situations. Zacharie gained effective scientific writing skills, proficiency in lab and field methods for biological sciences, and excellent comprehension of the biology and ecology concepts covered in class.

For their research project in The Fungal Kingdom program, Zacharie's team investigated biologically active, medicinal compounds from Lion's mane mushroom, *Hericium abietis*. Their project involved culturing, extracting and fractionating cyathane diterpenoids from *H. abietis*. Zacharie did a great job working collaboratively to refine a research question, develop methods and implement their project over three academic quarters. Overall, Zacharie's project work demonstrated a very good time management skills and a solid understanding library research and technical writing.

During his last year as an undergraduate, Zacharie was actively involved in pursuing his interests in mycology and psychology through attending conferences, applying for grants to fund travel to conferences, and participating in our campus psychedelic studies club as well as other regional professional associations. In Spring of 2024, Zacharie worked as a student program aide from my remotely taught Psychedelics class where he assisted with Zoom classroom management and engaging with students in online discussion boards. Zacharie shared his growing knowledge and expertise of the topics in ways that helped to support students and build the community within the course. In summary, I give Zacharie a strong recommendation without reservations. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

Lalita Calabria, Ph.D.
Member of the Faculty