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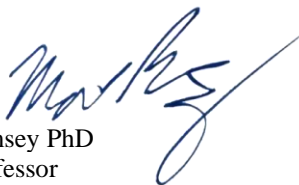
To whom it may concern:

My name is Matthew Ramsey and I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of Rhode Island. I am writing to give an unreserved and enthusiastic recommendation for Casey Marciezyk for employment. I had the pleasure of teaching Casey in two courses, CMB414 and 416 which were senior/grad level highly specialized advanced microbiology lecture and lab courses. In these courses there are only a few (~12-15) students meaning that I get to spend more time in one on one discussion and interaction than I do for most students.

Casey impressed me from day one, confidently approaching and introducing themselves to me after class and asking for guidance on course reading and preparatory materials. I could tell right away they were taking their coursework seriously and wanted to approach it in a rigorous and organized fashion. This was a challenging semester from a teaching perspective, due to my need to take over the course at the last minute from a colleague who was out with a severe injury. This led to the laboratory course especially being difficult to manage which frustrated the students. I again was impressed with Casey as I saw her steer her lab members back towards performing the immediately relevant work and not to get tripped up with the setbacks we had encountered. She brought an optimistic and positive attitude to the course and impressed that attitude on the peers which she unhesitatingly led through an annoying stretch of work we had to complete. In the lecture portion of the course it can often be a struggle to get students to engage and ask or answer questions. Often you need 1-2 students to open up which gets the rest of the class engaged quite easily. Casey again was an asset here and through their own inquisitiveness and aptitude routinely asked excellent questions and prompted other students in the class to bring forward their own opinions. In short it was an absolute joy to have Casey in these courses and she elevated both the quality of work and the spirit of her peers with her intellect and attitude.

I believe that Casey is a highly intelligent person for whom which high level coursework posed no real problem. More rarely, Casey is a natural leader which was evident within the 1<sup>st</sup> hour of our meeting. She is capable of both positively impacting the mood of those around her, but also capable of getting those around her to perform their work more effectively and in my opinion improved their results due to her own professionalism and attention to detail in her work and others. I am confident that Casey will be easy to train and quickly become an irreplaceable team member in whatever work she chooses. I would not hesitate to employ her alongside my own staff and would be thrilled to have her as a colleague. I give her my highest recommendation and if you give her a chance you will not be disappointed.

Sincerely,



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