Recommendation by a Graduate Student





February xx, 20xx

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Ms. Janet Lerner, an undergraduate with whom I have been acquainted for four years as her graduate student lab supervisor. A biochemistry major, Janet has dedicated much of her time outside of the classroom to research directed by our mentor Dr. John Teacher. Janet's efforts have been fruitful: she has contributed data to at least one manuscript and has delivered several successful poster presentations.

Over the years, I have had the pleasure of watching this young woman blossom into a focused, self-assured scholar who aspires to a career combining both clinical and basic research. Although Janet struggled to see her own potential earlier in her college career, encouragement from her advisor as well as her labmates, coupled with her own growing desire to succeed, transformed this once tentative student into an important contributor to the lab. Even as a senior graduate student, I have benefited from Janet's presence in the lab. She has excellent lab hands, and she is, in fact, responsible for teaching me some of the main staples of molecular biology, which have become essential to my work. Furthermore, Janet's mastery of quantitative RT-PCR, in particular, has made her an invaluable resource for undergraduate and graduate students alike. An undergraduate who has earned my implicit trust and respect, Janet would surely be an asset to any laboratory.

Janet's talents and motivations are not limited strictly to the lab, however. She is a young person who cares deeply about the social implications of science and who has demonstrated this conviction through several substantial internships. Working closing with a well-known local TV health correspondent, one of Janet's internships involved producing news stories that pertained to health-related topics. Another internship focused on health education locally. Her efforts culminated in an HIV/AIDS prevention program designed for teenagers at risk for infection in the local area. These few examples embody the depth of Janet's commitment to science, which for her begins at the bench top, but has important implications at the bedside.

Without hesitation, I recommend Ms. Janet Lerner unequivocally for the Research in Science and Engineering summer program.

Sincerely,

Janet Student, M.E.S., M.S.
Ph.D. Candidate in Toxicology
Graduate Assistant in Biochemistry