



1st August 2012

Dear Dr Greenberg

I am writing in support of Software Carpentry's application for support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

As datasets grow and programatic interfaces to these data become the norm, I believe that the productivity of future researchers will increasingly rely upon their ability to consume and build upon these services. Even a rudimentary introduction to modern, best practice software development techniques can be sufficient to start a researcher down the road to increased future productivity.

I'm excited to see that Software Carpentry are planning on developing a program to introduce researchers to web services and developing tools that interface with external APIs. I believe that the resources they develop will be of great value to researchers as well as a dedicated subset of the Zooniverse community hence this letter of support.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arfon Smith", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Arfon Smith., Ph.D.

Director of Citizen Science & Zooniverse Technical Lead