## Wesleyan University

## **Mathematics and Computer Science Department**

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Sebastian Zimmeck Assistant Professor of Computer Science 860 685 2398 szimmeck@wesleyan.edu November 10, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I comment on Logan Brown's tenure as a research assistant at Wesleyan University's privacy-tech-lab.

I am an assistant professor of computer science at Wesleyan's Mathematics and Computer Science Department. I am directing the privacy-tech-lab. My research areas are information security and privacy. Since March 2021 Logan is serving in the privacy-tech-lab as a student research assistant. In Spring 2021, Logan also took COMP 333 – Software Engineering with me.

Logan focuses his work on the frontends of the web and mobile apps that we develop. He is knowledgeable in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React, React Native, and other frontend technologies. Logan's designs and implementations are particularly instrumental in our ongoing work on Privacy Pioneer (<a href="https://github.com/privacy-tech-lab/privacy-pioneer">https://github.com/privacy-tech-lab/privacy-pioneer</a>), a browser extension for surfacing data collection and sharing practices to users in "nutrition label" format. In an iterative process in which he took feedback from myself and others in the research team, Logan refined the user experience to an extent that is substantially higher than is usually the case in academic research. Indeed, a collaborating industry researcher commended the polished appearance of the user interface.

Logan reliably performs his assigned tasks well and with a pace that is in line with expectations at this early stage in his career. He has the initiative to plan future tasks and follow through. In particular, he took care of the logos and designs for Privacy Pioneer. He is also able to identify new frontend problems that need to be resolved to achieve a coherent look-and-feel and integration with the backend. What I particularly like is that Logan demonstrates a genuine interest in advancing his skills. He is truly interested in the subject matter and always willing to learn.

Logan is at the beginning of his career as a software engineer. During his time in the lab, I saw both his technical and soft skills improve. Naturally, he will continue to grow from here. As we are proceeding in our work, I expect Logan's level of initiative to rise beyond his concretely assigned tasks and develop towards ownership of the project as a whole. As it is for many students who are only used to individualized homework assignments, Logan is going through the learning process of working as part of a team. I expect that Logan will continue to improve his communication, which, especially, at the beginning was a bit sparse. Keeping in sync with the pace of the team and tightly integrating

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himself with the other team members are other areas in which I also expect further improvements over time.

I am very much looking forward to continuing working with Logan in the privacy-tech-lab until his graduation. He is a valuable contributor to our projects and all-around pleasant person. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information that I can provide. I would be delighted to tell you more about Logan.

Sincerely,

Sebastian Zimmeck

To whom it may concern,

It's my pleasure to provide this letter of professional reference for Logan Brown, who works as a Student Help Desk Head Manager, Network Specialist, and Technician at Wesleyan University since Spring semester 2019. As Logan's current direct supervisor who worked closely with them throughout their time here, I am impressed with their work ethic, friendly personality, management capabilities, and ability to work well under pressure. As he graduates from Wesleyan University in the Spring of 2023, I am confident that he has the skills to be a vital asset to any organization.

As a Help Desk Technician, Logan continues to demonstrate superlative customer service. Our clientele is a mix of tenured professors, esteemed faculty/staff, students, and visiting persons, and Logan is personable and professional toward all. Even as the volume of challenges increases during peak business hours, Logan always keeps up their energy level and attention to detail.

As a Network Specialist, Logan displays a superior knowledge base of all network related equipment and tasks. The range of tasks can be anywhere from a simple power on and shut down of a network router, to a full installation of a network wireless remote access point in a student residence. Logan is able to set up and complete any and all network related work with little to no supervision with incredible success.

As one of three Help Desk Head Managers, Logan is co-responsible for a student staff of 18-24 employees. Logan is co-responsible for scheduling, supervising, and training the Help Desk student staff. He also works closely with ITS Professional Staff in order to maximize productivity for ITS as a whole.

Logan has my highest recommendation to be a valued member of your team. He consistently impresses me and the rest of the staff with their work ethic, customer service, and burgeoning managerial skills. Please don't hesitate to contact me for any further information. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Steve Alvarez
(he, his, him pronouns)
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