
Ref: Recommendation Letter for Nawat Kawkeeree

[31st May 2020]

I am a Lecturer and Residential Fellow (RF) at the College of Alice & Peter Tan (CAPT) in the National University of Singapore (NUS) and I have known Nawat Kawkeeree as a student of this college for the past one year. My association with him started when I took up the position as an RF of the college.

CAPT, a residential college (RC) in the University Town in NUS, has been promoting its mission of community engagement and active citizenship through providing a number of different platforms for students to learn through a living-and-learning programme (LLP). The living aspect of the LLP distributes the student population into five houses that are intentionally designed to provide an immersed and holistic university experience for the students. Each house, or popularly known as 'Neighbourhood', elects two student representatives – House Heads (HH) – who are responsible for the overall social and communal living and well-being of all residents of the neighbourhood. During the last academic year (AY), Nawat was the one of the HHs for the neighbourhood of which I am the RF.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with Nawat and can strongly say that he has undoubtedly been one of the most exemplary HHs. His involvement and contribution to the different programmes and activities of the neighbourhood during last AY has been highly commendable. Along with his co-HH he organized on an average 5 events each semester that focused on enabling a smooth transition for residents, especially first year students, to staying at an RC. He constantly strived to build a strong sense of community and belonging for all by creating a climate of social support. I have witnessed first-hand his enthusiastic participation and team building efforts in different aspects of the neighbourhood communal living.

I would also like to highlight that Nawat is a visionary as well as a good communicator of his ideas. These qualities were exhibited especially in the last project that he and his co-HH organized. In this they created a *Yearbook for the Neighbourhood* which documented the different moments of the social and communal living of the house through the voices of the residents. This project strengthened the identity of the neighbourhood and Nawat's vision and enthusiastic participation made this possible. I have had the opportunity to observe Nawat closely in group meetings and events organized by them and have always found him very hardworking and paying attention to the minutest of details. He was most amicable with all his team members but also very strong. One important quality I have observed in him is his capability of carrying out a discussion with the others without being impatient. He respects others' views and is always ready to listen to counter arguments. In addition, he is a very passionate and empathetic person.

In addition to the above roles and neighbourhood engagements, Nawat has also been a participant in the experiential learning programme that I co-supervised during

semester 1 of AY2019/20. This programme under the informal curriculum of the College comprised mainly an overseas learning trip called STEER (Study Trip for Engagement & EnRichment Programme) to Nepal. STEER programmes, promoted by the Global Relations Office (GRO) of NUS, focus on experiential learning for students through immersion in intercultural settings of emerging economies. This group was particularly focusing on understanding the community, culture and conservation in Nepal, and the innovative solutions through community participation that different organizations and institutions are adopting to address issues in these areas. Nawat had undoubtedly been one of the most engaged students of this programme too. His involvement and contribution to the different aspects of the group – readings, discussions, guest lectures, physical activities and the overseas travel – was highly laudable.

CAPT, as an RC, offers students a guaranteed stay for the first two years of their undergraduate programme, if accepted. Students can apply to stay beyond the two years but success in acquiring a position as a senior in the RC is highly competitive because of the limitations in the available spaces for seniors. Nawat has been successful in his application for continuing in the RC's LLP for his third year of his undergraduate programme, which is a testimony to his holistic qualities as an intelligent and engaged student.

Nawat clearly demonstrated excellent leadership skills especially during the HH role and a commitment to excellence that sets him apart from his peers. I would therefore highly recommend him for an internship position in your firm/organization.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,
Kankana Mukhopadhyay

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