

February 2, 2024

To whom it may concern,

This letter is an enthusiastic recommendation on behalf of Abigail Gogan. Abby graduated from the Mathematics program at Mount Allison University in May 2023; her excellent academic performance earned her the honour of graduating "With Distinction" and she completed minors in Music and Computer Science.

I am a technician/instructor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science; one of my duties is to recruit and supervise teaching assistants. Teaching assistants are senior students hired to oversee the lab periods for our first-year courses; the TAs assist and mentor students as they complete lab assignments, and the TAs then grade and provide detailed written feedback and corrections on those same lab assignments.

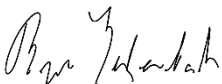
Abby was a valuable member of our team for three academic semesters. She was a TA for our first calculus course (Math 1151: Applied Calculus) during two separate semesters, and she was a TA for an advanced third-year Mathematics course (Math 3311: Probability & Statistics) in her final semester before graduation. We hire very few TAs for third-year courses, and Abby was selected for the Probability & Statistics course over all other applicants based on her history of excellence as a TA and mentor in mathematics.

Abby is a supportive presence in the lab environment; she displays patience, attentiveness, and respect. I especially commend her listening skills; she allows students the space to communicate their difficulties before giving assistance and shows consideration of their individual needs. Most TAs work in pairs, to reduce the pressure on a single TA. However, Abby carried out her first assignment without a partner, and was very effective as a solo instructor.

I highly recommend Abby for any teaching position to which she applies, she is effective and passionate as a mentor, and succeeded in every role she held with us.

Very kindest regards,

Ryan Tifenbach, PhD



Mathematics and Computer Science, Mount Allison University

rtifenbach@mta.ca