

Systems Science Graduate Program

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Dr. John Bolte, Professor and Department Head
Biological and Ecological Engineering, College of Agricultural Sciences
116C Gilmore Hall
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Re: Letter of Recommendation for Bruce Marron

I have known Bruce Marron for three years, and I serve as his advisor in our Systems Science doctoral program. Bruce's progress in our program has been excellent, always going above and beyond in all of his academic pursuits. We will be very sad to lose Bruce, but we fully understand and support his decision to seek admission to OSU where he can interact regularly with researchers who address agricultural sustainability issues using methods very similar to those Bruce seeks to employ. Unfortunately we do not have here at PSU all of the expertise that Bruce needs.

Bruce's strong background in science, keen interest in systems, and his experience as a chemistry teacher combine beautifully to allow Bruce to stand out in our program. Nothing fazes Bruce. If he needs to learn a statistics package or a programming language in order to carry out the analysis that interests him, then he teaches himself what he needs to learn. Or, if he needs to deepen his knowledge of physics or mathematics, then he does so--whatever it takes to be able to do good science.

Bruce also communicates very effectively both orally and in his writing. And he brings a systems perspective to his work, as well as a penchant for getting the details right as well. This is a rare talent that has served Bruce well at PSU, and I am confident that it will do the same for him at OSU.

I recommend Bruce to you with no reservations whatsoever. He is top notch scholar who listens to his advisors and also knows when to roll up his sleeves and do the work that is necessary.

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

Sincerely,



Wayne Wakeland
Professor and Systems Science Program Chair