



20th November 2017

MR WILLIAM BULLOCK

University of Essex, BSc Biomedical Science (Integrated), First Class Honours, Graduated July 2014

The 4-year Biomedical Science (Integrated) degree run at the University of Essex is accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science and approved by the Health and Care Professions Council. The course focuses on aspects of biochemistry related to human biology and medicine with a large emphasis on the application of chemical and mathematical concepts. Key modules cover mechanisms for the onset of disease, the discovery and design of pharmaceuticals, the biochemical basis of drug action and the impact of molecular biology and genetics on diagnosis and therapy. Students undertake a final-year research project comprising 150 hours of laboratory work, submission of a 6,000 word thesis and a 10 minute oral presentation. Examinations in all years feature a significant component of data analysis and interpretation. Vocational modules in the Biomedical Science degree covering professional practice are taught by local National Health Service staff and students spend a full year placement as a Trainee Biomedical Scientist in hospital laboratories. During this time they assemble the skills portfolio required for the certificate of competence that allows full registration as an NHS Biomedical Scientist upon graduation.

William arrived at the University in October 2010 having obtained A-levels including biology and chemistry. He exhibited a strong work ethic throughout his time here and his high academic achievement was well deserved. William undertook his placement year in the clinical biochemistry labs of Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge and proved to be a responsible and reliable employee. He assimilated quickly into the working environment and was very proactive. Indeed the feedback from his training officer and laboratory manager continually praised all aspects of his performance including the ease with which he learned and subsequently performed new techniques. In my role as course director for the Biomedical Science degree I marked both William's oral presentation on a patient case study and his reflective diary that form part of the assessment for the placement year. These were both excellent and illustrated how he had progressed academically, professionally and personally from his time at the hospital. William undertook a challenging final year project in the general area of bioinformatics. He ultimately produced a concise and well-written thesis and gave a clear and engaging presentation on his work. His overall project mark was 73%.

William was an exemplary undergraduate student. He was genuinely interested in and enthusiastic about all aspects of his work and was adept at different learning methods. I consider him to be intelligent, conscientious and justifiably ambitious. He also possesses high self-confidence and is very personable. William is now undertaking an MSc at the University of Copenhagen and is looking for employment in Denmark within the science field. I feel that his personal skills and qualities combine with his academic record and practical experience to make him attractive as an employee. He will undoubtedly be very motivated and fully committed. In conclusion I recommend William to you highly and with no reservations.

Dr Paul S Dobbin

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