



Duke Clinical Research Institute
DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

February 8, 2005

RE: Clayton Thomas

Dear Sir or Madam,

This is a brief note to introduce you to Mr. Clayton Thomas, a bright and well mannered undergraduate student who rotated with me last summer as part of the Duke Health Careers Internship Program. He has not waived access to this letter under the Privacy Act of 1974.

After his rotations in Neurology and the Neurosciences Critical Care unit, Clayton had a fairly good idea of inpatient and intensive care medicine. During our time together, we elected to pursue additional exposure to cardiology, as well as the fundamentals of the physical examination and cardiovascular imaging techniques. Clayton interacted with both Cardiology and General Internal Medicine inpatients, as well as Harvey, our cardiovascular patient simulator. He spent several afternoons in the cardiac catheterization laboratory, gaining a basic understanding of coronary angiography and percutaneous coronary intervention. During our introductory tours of different imaging areas, Clayton had a brief exposure to cardiac MRI and ultrasound technologies.

My impression is that Mr. Thomas is an extremely intelligent young man with the potential to achieve much during his academic career. He is active in his neurobiology and genetics research, and he masters new information and concepts easily. He is incredibly curious and asks thoughtful questions. Clayton is an eloquent speaker and communicates well, no doubt the result of his debate and editorial experience. In front of patients, he is reserved, yet confident. He is reliably punctual and assumes responsibility well. In the catheterization laboratory, he integrated well with the technical and nursing staff.

Clayton performed admirably and discharged his duties with distinction. It has been a delight to interact with this talented young scientist. He will undoubtedly find his character and diverse skill sets in great demand nationwide. Mr. Thomas will be a valuable asset to any institution he chooses. I recommend him to you with enthusiasm and without reservations. If there should be any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office by telephone (919-668-8946) or email (David.F.Kong@duke.edu).

Sincerely yours,

David F. Kong, M.D., A.M., F.A.C.C., F.S.C.A.I.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiology

DK/mrp

US Mail:

P.O. Box 17969 • Durham, NC 27715

Express Mail and Deliveries:

2400 Pratt Street • Room 0311 Terrace Level • Durham, NC 27705