

February 1, 2017

To The Social and Decision Analytics Laboratory,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter of reference at the request of Denny Huynh. If I had to describe Denny with three aspects it would be: thoughtful approach to new ideas, steady work ethic, and genuine enthusiasm. Denny and I first met last semester, when he approached me for advice on a project that he had undertaken on his own. Denny wanted to see what he could do to be helpful to a campus program that supports students in the sciences. Denny was interested in using social science methodology to identify positive and negative factors within the program, in the hopes of providing helpful information for best practices. He continues with this project, working hard to make a difference. This self-guided work for the good of his community is a strong signal to me of his value as a researcher and a person.

This semester, Denny was selected from a pool of applicants to work in my lab on an ongoing project about emotion and its expression. The project roughly involves understanding if perceptions of appropriateness differ when in particular, a man cries for positive reasons (winning an award) versus negative reason (losing an award). Denny has brought new ideas to this project, and is currently working through study design with me.

Denny is a special student who rises above the rest for many reasons. He is always well prepared, interested, conscientious, curious and thoughtful, but also he is a pleasure to work with. Denny is very comfortable and even eager to tackle complex theoretical questions that arise in our work. He is committed to problem solving, and intellectually able to do so. Denny exudes a warmth and concern for others. I am sure that he will be a future standout in our collective community, just as he is a standout here at Clemson. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Oriana Aragón, Ph.D.