

1. Recommender's Name:

Text Response

Barry H. Cohen, Ph.D.

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

2. Recommender's Email Address:

Text Response

bc2@nyu.edu

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

3. Applicant's name for which you are providing a recommendation:

Text Response

Fangfang Lee

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

4. How long have you known the applicant and under what circumstances have you become familiar with the applicant's academic abilities?

Text Response

I am delighted to write this letter in strong support of Ms. Fangfang Lee's application to your graduate program in statistics and/or data science. I have known Ms. Lee for about a year in my capacity as a research affiliate with the Mindful Education Lab at NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, and have also served as an informal academic and research adviser for her. Previously, I taught graduate-level statistics for about thirty years, and directed the M.A. program in psychology at NYU, in which Ms. Lee is currently enrolled, for more than a decade. Thus, I believe that I am in a good position to judge Ms. Lee's academic capabilities and potential, and can state with confidence that she is ready to advance to the next level in her study of quantitative analysis, and is very likely to succeed in your graduate program.

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

5. Please assess the applicant's ability to contribute to the Data Science for the Public Good Fellowship Program.

Text Response

Ms. Lee, seeking to challenge herself, and advance her quantitative skills, chose to take a sophisticated statistics course, Causal Inference, as part of her electives towards her Master's in psychology. Although concerned about the difficulty of the class and her lack of training in the required statistical packages, such as Stata, Ms. Lee conferred with the instructor, my colleague Dr. Jennifer Hill, and after some reassurance regarding the expectations of the course, she chose to persist and complete the course. Ms. Lee is clearly a self-starter and fast learner; to make up for her lack of background in computer science, she completed numerous online and part-time courses outside of NYU, and learned Python and R on her own. She is able to complete projects and conduct analysis on existing datasets with the skills she acquired outside and inside the classroom. During this past fall semester, Fangfang worked on an extremely messy and complicated dataset from Turnaround for Children, an organization with which the Mindful Education Lab has partnered. As an affiliate of that lab, I'm familiar with the clever and effortful work she has expended on that project, and her ability to communicate the results of her efforts clearly.

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

6. How would you describe the applicant's motivation and initiative in pursuing his/her academic and career goals?

Text Response

On an individual basis, Fangfang is warm and friendly, with strong social skills and a team-player mentality. Her ability to juggle multiple obligations through a hectic semester -- Fangfang is also serving as a teaching assistant for an undergraduate statistics course -- suggests that she has great time management skills. She eagerly embraces diversity, and appears to have an abundance of resilience and perseverance. Thus, I am confident that Fangfang has much to contribute to your program, and to the field of data science, more generally. Thus, I have no hesitation in recommending Ms. Fangfang Lee most highly to your graduate program.

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1