



Housing and Residence Life

December 9, 2009

Letter of Recommendation
Ms. Carla McKnight
Graduate Assistant

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Carla McKnight as reference material for the SEAHO Graduate Student of the Year selection process. I have worked with Carla, as her indirect supervisor, for the past two years that she has served as a Housing and Residence Life Graduate Assistant at the University of Central Florida. I have had the opportunity to witness firsthand Carla's high level of commitment and dedication to our department, to our division and to the university community.

I have been incredibly impressed with Carla's smooth transition from the Office of Student Conduct to Housing and Residence Life. She is a quick learner and open to new experiences that will help her develop as a professional. Carla has demonstrated her ability and willingness to adapt well to new situations and change. Carla's student staff truly enjoying working with her and for her. It is easy to see that they have a lot of fun but also truly respect her as a supervisor. She is often helping them figure out how to handle a tough work or personal issue.

Carla is currently in her first year as serving as an area council advisor. This has been a great opportunity for Carla to showcase her programming and leadership talents. She is incredibly patient and thoughtful when dealing with this group of students. With Carla's leadership this group has offered several programs this fall to over a 1,600 students in the Academic Village.

This past summer Carla sought out a unique internship experience with the Upward Bound program on campus. Although it is a new program at UCF Carla didn't hesitate to express interest in working with this group of students. She was able to work with a new population and develop a nutritional educational series for the students.

I believe Carla's work with the Disciplinary Sanction Review Request committee, the Safety and Security committee and the Recruitment and Selection committee is helping to make her a well-rounded new professional. Carla is an extremely responsible and professional within her role as a graduate assistant. On a regular basis Carla is mediating roommate issues, confronting inappropriate behavior, having educational conversations and advising students in tough situations. She has worked really hard to balance her academics and her graduate assistant responsibilities.

Please consider Carla as the truly remarkable graduate student and new professional that she has proven herself to be. I have every confidence that Carla is a great example of what the SEAHO Graduate Student of the Year stands for. Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding Carla's skills and experience.

Sincerely,

Sarah A. Oleksy

Sarah A. Oleksy
Assistant Director
Housing and Residence Life