

January 7, 2013

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Heather Cohen

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am writing to express my most enthusiastic recommendation of Ms. Heather Cohen for your open position. Ms. Cohen has been the primary coordinator for my research lab since the Fall of 2011.

Ms. Cohen has a unique background that brought her to UCLA. Noticing that she had grown up in Los Angeles and attended the Merman school for gifted children, I was keenly aware of her intellectual prowess. After college at UCSB, Ms. Cohen was employed by several online companies doing a combination of analytics and customer service. During her interview, she expressed her desire to return to Los Angeles and seek employment in an academic research setting in order to apply her skills in tackling issues related to behavioral health and its public impact. Her skills and background made her ideally suited for a coordinator role in my lab, which uses novel Web-technology to study behavioral health.

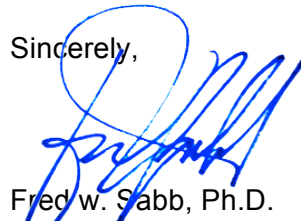
In her role as coordinator, Ms. Cohen was solely responsible for day to day lab management including recruitment, scheduling, data entry, running experiments, coordinating with other departments and special projects. During her time here, she has accomplished many noteworthy achievements including raising participant recruitment weekly averages from around 10 to over 100 participants per week, teaching herself several programming languages along with maintaining a social media presence for multiple projects and writing custom software for use in experiment data analysis in the process. This also resulted in a paper co-authorship currently under review.

Ms. Cohen possesses remarkable flexibility and autonomy as well as a willingness to research and quickly learn new skills. She has maintained an excellent rapport with coworkers, colleagues and participants, even in the face of an overwhelming project that was largely understaffed. In my defense, I had not expected her to have so much success in recruitment that we would be so under-staffed!

Ms. Cohen is able to work with very little supervision and succeed with complex and even poorly formed tasks. She is extremely organized, reliable, and able to complete open-ended research tasks independently. Yet when faced with challenges, she is able to seek out people and ask questions in order to complete the task at hand. She constantly looks to continue to learn and improve her skill set in preparation of the next project or to tackle/automate a previous task where she needed help.

It has been a great pleasure to get to know Heather during her time in my lab. With funding being exceptionally tough, I have been forced to lay-off my entire staff. If there was any possible way for me to keep her on, I would. She is an exceptionally bright young woman with an obvious thirst for learning and eager to take on new projects and grow. I have no doubt that she will excel at any challenge put before her; she has my highest possible recommendation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Fred W. Sabb, Ph.D.

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