



Mechanical Engineering & Mechanics
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October 23rd, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of John Cummings. John has been in two of my courses over the last year; both in Fundamentals of Engineering Mechanics last fall, and currently in Thermodynamics. I've also started overseeing some of his work outside of class, as he just recently joined my metal additive manufacturing research group.

In the two short months since John has joined our research project, he has demonstrated an astonishing capacity for producing results. There doesn't seem to be a challenge that he can't tackle. He has already identified and taken initiative to resolve a multitude of technical difficulties, independently researched possible solutions, presented his findings and then introduced resolutions. He is very clearly an autodidact, who has assimilated knowledge about a wide array of subjects from genuine interest, and is passionate about applying this knowledge to real-world applications. While his technical training is in mechanical engineering and he demonstrates a deep skillset in this area with seemingly endless ability to build things, he is also profoundly knowledgeable about electrical systems, including custom wiring, microcontrollers, and power sources among others. This combination of skills enables him to work at the interdisciplinary edge of electromechanical systems, which is a truly impressive position for an undergraduate junior student to be in.

In addition to his technical competence, John is a true team player. He shares his knowledge freely with others, and supports teammates in their projects along the way. He is much appreciated by all who know him, and a pleasure to work with. It is John's unique combination of social and technical skills, his autonomy, and creativity that make him such an outstanding student. Everything John works on, he does with great care and dedication. In fact, in my experience, a student of John's creative capacity for solution finding, technical know-how, self-reliance and determination comes around only every few years. I fully and without reservation recommend him. You will be lucky to have him join your team.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christina Viau Haden".

Christina Viau Haden
Professor of Practice
Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics, Lehigh University

