

August 30, 2021

Dear Fulbright Selection Committee,

It is my great pleasure to recommend [NAME] for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program in Madrid. Within the short space of this letter, I hope to convey how [NAME] is an exemplary candidate to receive admittance into this program. I serve on the Scholarship Committee within the Morrison School of Agribusiness at the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University (ASU), so I understand the complexities of choosing well-deserving students among impressive candidates and, again, I hope this letter makes a stronger case for [NAME].

I have known [NAME] for two years, beginning as his research mentor and advisor for the Barrett Honors Fellows Program (Fall 2019) in the Food and Agribusiness (FAB) Lab. Upon completion of his position as a Barrett Honors Fellow, [NAME] continued working with me on several research-related efforts in food marketing and food supply chain issues, the outcomes of which include the following:

- Compiled, cleaned, and classified unstructured data on farmers market locations and vendors, which would be used for a model of retail gravitation,
- Engaged in complex coding projects using Stata, Python, and R to begin work on a portfolio model of farmers market profitability,
- Linked disparate sources of information to build out a dataset of food pantry locations and food assistance services in Arizona, and
- Wrote a methods section for his work on our farmers market study, which would be used in a future publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Having worked alongside [NAME], his aptitudes are truly among the top in his class. Three strengths that distinctly characterize [NAME] are self-motivation, curiosity, and thoroughness. As a senior with a heavy course load, it is an ambitious venture to be involved in any type of rigorous research project and often requires a great deal of self-accountability. Because of his commitment to learning and his ability to grasp complex topics, I have encouraged [NAME] to go beyond his comfort zone and take the initiative on several research-related assignments, which he has done with professionalism and enthusiasm.

[NAME] is a motivated and dedicated student, as demonstrated by his involvement in our projects that fall outside of his core academic requirements. [NAME] will be competing in a “datathon” this year, during which he will be immersed in a time-restricted, applied problem, charged with the task of finding the “best” solution within the span of 72 hours. There is no shortage of examples, like these, in which [NAME] seeks out opportunities at ASU.

During the Spring of 2020, [NAME] was enrolled in a study abroad program located in Madrid. The program ended abruptly when US citizens returned home at the onset of the pandemic. So, I was not surprised when [NAME] presented this opportunity to me. He has long expressed an interest in pursuing graduate school, so when he told me about this program and I read about it,

the program is a wonderful fit for his interests. As noted above, [NAME] has taken a keen interest in working on complex problems using data analytics for our collaborative research projects. Entering this Master's program will provide him with contextual and empirical knowledge as he begins his career. As [NAME] noted in his personal statement, he has dedicated his undergraduate career to honing his technical skills, and, I believe, he is **demonstrably qualified** to undertake the academic rigors of a Master's program to pursue his career goal working on sustainable urban development and smart cities.

Aside from our research collaborations, [NAME] maintains a GPA of 3.89, which is quite outstanding for an engineering student with a rigorous course load and who is **actively involved** in the ASU community. One of [NAME]'s most unique positions has been serving as one of two TikTok Ambassadors across all of ASU. Especially during the pandemic, when in-person activities on campus were suspended, [NAME]'s mission was to maintain some of its vibrancy. He was able to get students to interact with each other by creating TikTok challenges specifically for ASU students. This example of his service to his university community is exemplified by the way in which he developed videos about student life at ASU to connect a community of students that would have otherwise never been introduced. [NAME]'s **creativity**, **personability**, and **good-natured sense of humor** are a few attributes that, I believe, are integral for serving as a cultural representative of the United States.

With that, I enthusiastically, and without hesitation, recommend [NAME] for admittance into this program. Thank you for taking my remarks into consideration.

Sincerely,



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