

Recommendation for Matthew Rieger

Matthew has been an outstanding student in two classes – Entrepreneurial Leadership/creativity and Enterprise Consulting. I will focus the reference on ESP 461 (Enterprise Consulting), which is the capstone course for Miami University’s Entrepreneurship (ranked 11th in the United States) curriculum. Matthew worked effectively with a team of five to develop a start-up plan for a new product including digital marketing strategy, operations plan and P&L statement. The team’s final plan/verbal presentation to founders and investors was outstanding. Matthew was certainly a team leader and was responsible for co-developing the idea, the channel and start-up strategy and final presentation. He was a critical asset in this team’s successful run to the finish-line.

Matthew possesses many leadership qualities critical for success. He is very competitive in a constructive way. This competitiveness was instrumental in the quality of work his team produced. He has a high level of curiosity as evidenced by his questions in the classroom and the amount of time spent with me to question/review his work. He treated all members in the class with dignity and respect. He did this by actively listening to the instructor and his fellow classmates. Matthew attended every class (dependable) and was always prepared. He has a high level of intensity and wants to achieve “great professional status.” Matthew’s strengths are his leadership skills, his intuition, his creativity, his competitiveness and desire to win with credibility. His excellent class work happened while being engaged in numerous campus and entrepreneurship activities.

- His team members in the capstone class worked well with Matthew. This feedback from a team member is representative of the entire team’s assessment of his contribution – **Without a doubt, Matthew spent the most time on the project and constantly brought new content and new ideas to help us put together a complete package for this venture/new product. Not once did he simply complete something “because it has to be done” or to simply check off a box. He constantly raised the bar for our group’s standards, asked tough questions and then searched for the best answer to those questions. This process allowed us to move deeper into the project than I ever would have imagined. He works until he is satisfied enough to move on and gave us enough options to do our best in each aspect of the venture. It has been an amazing experience working with him.** The most important recommendation is how your peers view you. This feedback speaks measures about Matthew.

Matthew has a positive, upbeat attitude about life and himself. I never experienced a cynical moment in class with him. He has an excellent sense of humor which brings a light-heartedness to a difficult working environment. Life is important to him. With this attitude and view of the world, I see Matthew being able to make a significant impact in whatever he does. He knows that attitude is the critical component to success.

Matthew’s character is excellent. He is collaborative, cooperative and works hard at getting his voice heard. Once he developed his credibility within the team and class, the students really listened to him. Again, this is part of his development as a leader.

As you can understand, I highly recommend Matthew to you for this product management and design thinking consulting opportunity. He will make a positive impact in any future professional situation.

By the way, I am a former consulting Director with Deloitte, President of a publicly traded company and three-time start-up artist. So, I really do believe that I am an excellent judge of talent. Thanks for your time and consideration of Matthew.

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