



January 27, 2020

Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
Clemson University
220 Parkway Drive
Clemson, SC 29631

Dear Committee:

My name is Jim Coykendall, and I am a Professor of Mathematics at Clemson University, and it is my pleasure to be able to write to you on behalf of Ande Debyle.

I have probably known Ande better and for longer than any other undergraduate since coming to Clemson. She was first a student in my Math 3190 course in the spring of 2018 and since that time, she has been a student with me in Math 4560, Math 4120, and Math 8510 (at my invitation).

Ande started as a very solid student. She earned an "A" in my proofs course, but it was on the lower end of the "A" range. She followed up with a "B" in Math 4560 (topology), an "A" in Math 4120, and an "A" in Math 8510.

Ande is a very solid student, there is no doubt, and although I do not think that she quite has the natural gifts possessed by Evan Haithcock and Sylvia Wu (both of whom I am writing for as well), she does bring a great gift of focus, determination, and drive to the table. In the time that I have had Ande as a student, her growth has been amazing. She was always a good student, but I have noticed (especially in the past two semesters in Math 4210 and Math 8510) an amazing amount of growth and developing mathematical maturity. It has been exceedingly enjoyable for me to witness her evolution from a more passive learner to a more mature and independent budding mathematician.

During the time that I have known Ande, I have had many opportunities to talk with her concerning her future plans. When she began in my proofs course, she indicated that she would like to go to graduate school and maybe pursue a career in academia. Over the next few semesters, I have watched her confidence in that future wane and then begin to slowly wax again. Given her work-ethic (she is one of the hardest-working students that I know) and the progress that she has made, I think that her ambitions along these lines should be lauded and nurtured. She is a student who has worked hard and made good progress because of her devotion; I strongly recommend that she be recognized and encouraged for this.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Coykendall', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Jim Coykendall
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School of Mathematical Sciences
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