



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN  
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## Letter of reference for Shane Weisz

### To whom it may concern

I first met Shane as his lecturer in July 2019. I lectured a course on Lattice Theory which is a demanding final year module in Mathematics. The module is both practical and abstract, requiring an adaptable approach to solving problems and understanding theory.

Shane struck me from very early on in the course. Even before the first assessment I was aware of his consistent and stimulating engagement with the material in the lectures and tutorials. His questions were often surprising, indicating a deep level of enquiry, and it was a great pleasure to interact with him on a one-on-one basis. I had to dig deep sometimes!

His results bear out the impression I obtained. He eventually finished my course with full marks, which has never happened before. I looked forward to grading his answers and sometimes there was obvious creativity in his responses; something one hopes for but doesn't often get in an undergrad student.

He finished the final year maths course, of which my module was a part, with a superb mark and carried off the class medal, which is a hugely significant honour. (This is a medal not always awarded, but based on performance in all modules over the year.) He is without doubt a very gifted student and one has high hopes for his future in the mathematical world.

It is also appropriate to consider his demeanour as a young person. I have to say that he has a very engaging character. His mates in the class clearly looked up to him both as a fun person to be with and as a helpful classmate. I know that he helped several of the students in my module with their work and did so in a very modest way; while he is aware of his abilities he shows no unpleasant "superiority". I get the feeling that his mates revered him in some way. My impression is that he is a very easy and engaging person to be with; I particularly enjoyed his sense of humor. It was great to have him in the class.

To summarize, I have no hesitation in recommending Shane as a student with very high potential and the means to realize this. He is without doubt one of the best students I have ever worked with in my long career as a lecturer. I can think of about 2 or possibly 3 others who have shown his ability in my 30

years at the University of Cape Town. He will be a great asset to any institution that gets him!

Yours sincerely

Dr. John Frith (Ph.D.)

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