



COLLEGE LETTERHEAD
CONFIDENTIAL LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

It is students like Mr. Rishikesh Sonawane who make teaching such an enriching experience. As the Associate Dean and faculty of Design Business and Technology, I guided him in his pre-thesis project in the 7th semester. During this period, I noticed his dynamism and interactivity in class, which has led him to develop a superior understanding of his subjects especially design techniques. Rishikesh has consistently been amongst the top scorers of his batch. Having observed his progress for more than three years, I am happy to state that he is an intelligent and talented student focused on his goals and committed to his responsibilities. He is an ardent learner; during my association with him, the most prominent qualities I observed were his diligence, willingness to learn, and obedience. He was very punctual with completion of assignments which had innovative answers, which underline his proficiency in concepts. He does not hesitate to ask questions and ensures that he clarifies all his doubts. I have found him to be a hardworking and dedicated student.

Rishikesh comes across as an intelligent student with clear ideas, one who spares no effort to overcome, even the most challenging tasks. He always attempted to find novel approaches to problems, never conforming to existing or pre-laid norms. He has a stronghold over manufacturing tools and techniques, which he can effortlessly channel through his product designing abilities. Using these skillsets, he was able to design and construct a fully operational electric transit vehicle from scratch, which was physically tested in the field. Rishikesh is skilled at using advanced power tools and machines that enabled him to execute such a complex project efficiently, in less time. He also possesses deep knowledge in alternative subjects that gives him an edge over other students and enables him to finish such complex tasks. He developed his interest in using various research techniques to identify consumer groups and map data using charts and diagrams. He made an accurate business model canvas to identify categories such as key partners, value addition, cost structures, and revenue streams. His ability to ask the right questions and conduct his research and studies outside of the classroom helped enrich class discussions and reflected his research potential.

Rishikesh has attended various seminars and workshops. Besides the coursework, he presented and showcased his pre-thesis project at the Bangalore Design Week 2022 conference. He displayed immense working efficiency, exceptional analytical capabilities, and impressive technical writing and presentation skills, establishing himself as a promising young specialist, capable of performing independent research and development. His intelligence, sincerity, and pleasing personality will make him an asset to the graduate program at your university. I recommend him to your graduate school and for any financial assistance you can offer. I am confident he will continue to be a promising and competitive student. I wish him all the success in his future endeavors. I strongly endorse his candidature for graduate studies in Industrial Design.

Ritu Sonalika
08/02/2023

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Associate Dean – Design Business and Technology





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It gives me immense pleasure to recommend Mr. Rishikesh Sonawane for graduate study and research at your esteemed university. As a professor in this college, I have come across many hardworking students. I am happy to state that Rishikesh is one of the best students I have had the pleasure to interact with. I taught him "Ideation Mechanics, Design Characteristics & Design for Manufacturing" in his first, second and third year. He had consistently performed well in my subjects and had been one of my favorite students from his batch.

Rishikesh has a natural disposition for inquiry, which makes him ask questions and learn more quickly than others. He is sincere, and he engages fully in understanding the subject. His diligence and hardworking habit enabled him to complete his academic obligations on time. His logical approach to complex concepts and the clarity of thought helped him achieve his targets efficiently. A mature student that he is, he will find his way through the rigors of the academic and professional world, and his adroitness will be his dependable ally in his journey to success. A true designer can think differently and put innovative ideas into existence. Rishikesh stood tall among those students who had the innate ability to do so. His particular areas of strength have been identifying problem areas, analyzing consumer demands and designing to cater to their specific needs. He also developed his skills in sketching natural products and highlighting signifiers and affordances. He can build accurate working prototypes and mockups to present his work. He has an excellent grasp of workshop skillsets that include the use of power tools and electricals. He has shown capabilities of working with a variety of materials such as metal, wood, plastics, glass, and cement. He has an exceptional flair for innovation and always strives and learns something new. His strong grip of the core concepts and ability to communicate well through various mediums such as 3D modelling/on-paper sketching convinced me that he has the propensity to become a good and effective teaching assistant.

His engagement with co-curricular activities includes presentation of a term paper on micro-mobility along with his final year pre-thesis project. His paper was very informative, showing his strong understanding of the subject matter, and displayed his superior ability to conduct research and put his thoughts across in a lucid report, which he presented with great panache.

I am happy to know that he wishes to pursue further studies in Industrial Design. This course will further nurture his technical abilities. It will help his exposure to international styles. Based on his overall abilities, I strongly recommend him as a student at your prestigious university.

07.02.2023

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CONFIDENTIAL LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

It gives me immense pleasure to write a recommendation for an energetic and bright student like Rishikesh Sonawane. I have had the opportunity to assess his work in my capacity as a Director-Research & Development at A.O. Smith India, as his supervisor for his third-year summer internship. I coached him in Product Manufacturing, Design & Engineering, and Consumer Market Analysis during his tenure. I found him immensely passionate about his studies during my association with him. I can vouch for his academic excellence and competence.

Under my guidance, he was assigned to work on "Designing new products for A.O. Smith India." The aim of the project was to develop new designs for water heaters and water purifiers, in accordance with market trends and competitors. He has also redesigned a few existing products for upgraded technologies and to serve alternate markets. He presented the latest designs with high-quality models and has rendered to the company board. The project was efficiently developed using industry-leading software such as Solidworks, Fusion 360 & Rhino 7 for modelling designs and Key Shot, Adobe Dimensions for creating realistic renders and use case scenarios. He also used Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop for a few products' sticker designs and Shapr 3D for rapid modelling. Rishikesh's project work gave him a chance to gain experience in conducting product research and provided an opportunity to work on frontline improvements using advanced tools and be part of the industry's thrust for excellence. He has designed instructed product lines after conducting market and competitor research and presented multiple designs. His selected designs were modelled using industry-grade 3D software and were handed over to the engineering team for development. He prototyped designs using industrial prototyping methods for review. What stood out distinctly during the project was his propensity to work hard with undeterred focus towards meeting his goals.

He showed excellent mathematical acumen & analytical skills during the project. As a diligent designer, Rishikesh interacted with me extensively during the project and took it upon himself to prepare the presentations, which were interestingly informative, lucid, and comprehensive. I am impressed not only by the hard work he put into acquiring and researching the data but also by his imaginative and ingenious coupling of diverse methods to allow their applications in a variety of remarkable ways.

I very strongly recommend Mr. Rishikesh Sonawane for Graduate Studies at your university and suggest his candidacy as a good contender for financial assistance in the form of a Research or Teaching assistantship. I am confident he will surpass your expectations and be your institution's pride.

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CIN : U31909KA2006PTC040282