

Sharon Christian

University of Arizona, 1401 E. University, Tucson, AZ 85721 · 520-621-1836 · schristian1@email.arizona.edu

November 5, 2021

Dear Graduation Selection Committee,

I am writing to highly recommend Jim White for your graduate studies program. I am fully aware that you have many students who would be ecstatic to enter your college. I promise. Jim is deserving of admission to your prestigious school of business. He is a former student, and I was always impressed with his diligence, efficiency, and ability to generate a community of learning with his classmates and myself. I have no doubt he will carry these traits into his studies as a graduate student.

Perhaps what I admired about Jim the most was his demeanor in the class. While he did exceptionally well academically, that is not what made him stand out. What made him stand out was his commitment to scholarship. He was excited to learn, always open to feedback, and quite honestly a positive role model to classmates. As he engaged with peers, I noticed they valued his professional experiences and class energy that encouraged others to do well. He displayed a strong work ethic and a consistent, collaborative spirit while working as a team of writers during a major course project. These are the traits that influence others to work together and make progress in our world, whether locally or globally. I believe Jim is a person who can make a positive impact wherever he goes.

Jim has said that his GPA does not meet the minimum requirements, and I do not know what life or class experiences interfered with his course work. As I focus on my studies at Arizona State University, a Masters of Education in Learning Design and Technology, I often consider that instructors have to be open to ideas that grades do not define students. We are sometimes too rigid, lack flexibility in the learning environment, and fail to implement theoretical pedagogy and instructional strategies to help learners understand the material in flexible, innovative ways. You might invite Jim to a conversation about his performance and his potential to do well as a Business student at Eller College. I have no doubt your committee will be impressed with his potential to succeed.

I am a retired United States Air Force Senior Non-Commissioned Officer and served 22 years. I am the former Commandant at Davis-Monthan Airman Leadership school, where I oversaw Professional Military Education which instructs leadership and management curriculum. Solid students and strong leaders have surrounded me. With this exposure and experience, I strongly recommend Jim for your graduate program. He is organized, detail-oriented, competent, and committed to continuing his educational journey. He will make an excellent addition to your classrooms. If you have any questions, I would be thrilled to discuss his acceptance with you.

Sincerely,

Sharon A. Christian

Sharon A. Christian, M.A.
Lecturer, English Dept.