

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202510_GR_G
Program Name: MPA

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Roberts Williams
Recommenders Institution: University of Arizona James
E. Rodgers College of Law

Recommenders Title: Professor, Co-chair IPLP

Contact Name:
Michelle Pennington

Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to
review this recommendation.

Recommendation Waiver Choice: I do not waive my right to
review this recommendation.

Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 03/03/2024 07:43 AM

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.

Recommendation Type:
General

Recommender Form: MPA Letter of
Recommendation/Form

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000117510396

Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:	2 years	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:	see letter of recommendation
Time since last contact with applicant:	1 month	Applicant as productive member of group:	see letter of recommendation
Relationship with Applicant:	Student	Applicant most significant strengths:	See Letter of recommendation
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Excellent	Responsibility/reliability:	Excellent
Communication Skills - Oral:	Excellent	Communication skills - written:	Excellent
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Outstanding	Ability to work independently:	Outstanding
Ability to handle stress:	Outstanding	Ability to think critically:	Excellent
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Excellent	Ability to think creatively:	Outstanding
Openness to feedback:	Outstanding	Potential for leadership:	Excellent
Ability to work in a team:	Outstanding	Personal/professional reflection:	Outstanding

Description Information

Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radius>

Other Information

Created Time: 01/31/2024 08:42 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 03/03/2024 07:43 AM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



March 3, 2024

To the Admissions Committee:

My name is Robert A. Williams, Jr., Regents Professor, E. Thomas Sullivan Professor of Law and Faculty Chair of the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program at the University of Arizona. I am writing to provide a recommendation to Michelle Pennington, who is applying for admission to the Masters degree program at your School of Public Policy.

Ms. Pennington was a student in my class, Human Rights and Indigenous People at the University of Arizona Rogers Law School. She graduated in August of 2023 and is now pursuing an LLM degree and expects to graduate in August of 2024. While attending law school here as a JD student, she distinguished herself with her work in the IPLP Tribal Justice Clinic, crafting a handbook for judges in Arizona with guidance on tribal matters. She learned criminal defense skills while serving in the Criminal Defense Clinic at the PIMA County Public Defender's Office. Ms. Pennington served on the Arizona Journal of Environmental Law and Policy during her three years in law school. She is the first person in her family to attain a JD.

In her personal life, Ms. Pennington raised two daughters as a single mother. Her twenty-five-year-old daughter is on the autism spectrum, and Michelle is her primary caregiver. Ms. Pennington believes in being an active member of her community volunteering at local food banks and animal charities. One of the charities Ms. Pennington volunteered for five years before law school was Family Works in Seattle, WA.

Before law school, Ms. Pennington attended Seattle College attaining an AAOT degree. She then attended the University of Washington and received a degree in Sociology. Her work experience includes working at the Seattle Municipal Court Probation Department on the minimum supervision bank processing paperwork for DUIs. Ms. Pennington worked at the King County Behavioral Ombudsman's Office (KCBO) advocating for low-income vulnerable populations. A part of her job at the KCBO was the attendance of county meetings for the King County Behavioral Health Program where her interest in law and public policy implementation developed.

Ms. Pennington is interested in attending the Evergreen Public Policy program to further and implement her professional goals. While law school has given her a framework for the legal field, she still desires to acquire a skill set that addresses public policy. Her goal is to start a not-for-profit for underserved populations. She has chosen Evergreen as her top school because of its unique structure, allowing her to flexibly pursue her degree. As she plans on taking the Washington State Bar exam during the summer of 2024, her financial situation

requires her to work while pursuing her master's degree and Evergreen tailors its structure to students like herself. Thank you for considering Ms. Pennington for the program at Evergreen. I am pleased to recommend her for admission to your outstanding program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert A. Williams, Jr.', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Robert A. Williams, Jr.
Regents Professor, E. Thomas Sullivan Professor of Law and
Faculty Co-chair, Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program
University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law