

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202510_GR_G
Program Name: MPA

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Kyle Pittman
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Received Date: 04/01/2024 08:18 PM

Recommendation Type: General

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000117275329

Recommenders Title: Professor

Contact Name: Charity Turk

Recommendation Waiver Choice: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Status: Received

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.

Recommender Form: MPA Letter of Recommendation/Form

Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:

2.5 years

Time since last contact with applicant:

Several days

Applicant ability as self-directed learner:

While I think Charity has the potential to be a successful self-directed learner, she has required explicit direction at times in order to fully grasp some more rigorous assignments. However, she is reflective and cognizant of where she needs improvement in this regard and does attempt to solve her own problems. Overall, I think this is more of a self-confidence matter.

Applicant as productive member of group:

Charity has worked in several groups scenarios during her time as one of my students. I believe she is fully capable of doing so in a productive manner, but does require explicit direction at times in order to make contributions. I have not witnessed a tendency to start conflicts or an inability to resolve them, so it seems like group cohesion matters to her and she tries to encourage collaboration.

Relationship with Applicant:		Applicant most significant strengths:	Charity's most significant and relevant strengths lie in her tenacity and willingness to accept firm feedback. She does not shy away from challenges, is diligent about following instructions, and desires to achieve the expected outcomes for tasks. In this, I have not witnessed her "giving up" on an assignment as she will continue to work at it until she grasps it. This is both admirable and, in my opinion, a necessary trait for tackling graduate level work.
	Professor		
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Very Good	Responsibility/reliability:	Very Good
Communication Skills - Oral:	Above Average	Communication skills - written:	Very Good
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Excellent	Ability to work independently:	Excellent
Ability to handle stress:	Above Average	Ability to think critically:	Very Good
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Excellent	Ability to think creatively:	Below Average
Openness to feedback:	Outstanding	Potential for leadership:	Excellent
Ability to work in a team:	Very Good	Personal/professional reflection:	Very Good

Description Information

Description:

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

Other Information

Created Time: 01/15/2024 09:36 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 04/01/2024 08:18 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



Date: April 1, 2024

RE: Letter of Recommendation for
Charity Turk

To the Master of Public Administration Admissions Committee,

My name is Kyle Pittman and I am a Member of the Faculty at The Evergreen State College where I am assigned to teach with the Native Pathways Program. I am writing this letter of recommendation for **Charity Turk** to support her application for admission to the Master of Public Administration program at The Evergreen State College.

I first met Charity during the fall 2022 term during her undergraduate studies when she joined the Native Pathways Program (NPP) and registered for my class titled “Legacies of Resistance: Indigenous Environmental Advocacy.” Since then, she has remained a steadfast student in the NPP and has subsequently taken numerous classes with me. I can say with confidence that Charity has the motivation and determination necessary to complete a graduate studies program as she has exhibited a strong learning spirit and dedication to community that few students display.

In particular, Charity has shown her aptitude and skills with the thorough completion of coursework and attempts at more rigorous forms of research. She has submitted several research essays during her time in my classes that show a genuine effort to tackle tough topics in Indian Country with accurate and credible research, such as her research regarding Tribal sovereignty and Indigenous identity issues in society. Charity has also demonstrated her organizational abilities by compiling her work over the last several terms into portfolios that capture her studies around various subjects such as environmental advocacy, Indigenous feminism, settler colonialism, and education. These portfolios are a strong representation of the interdisciplinary education Evergreen students receive.



Another item of note is Charity's dedication to supporting her academic community. A key element of the NPP pedagogy (and even one of our consistent learning outcomes) is the development of relational accountability—the value of being accountable to one's relationships. Charity has manifested this quality on numerous occasions by volunteering to support her fellow students. For example, she participated on NPP's Student Governance as a site representative for the NPP Olympia site. The Student Governance is a body of students who are responsible for supporting the curricular and social needs of the program and requires close communication and teamwork with other students while also providing an opportunity to enact leadership skills. Charity has also been in charged of hosting cultural events such as beading workshops and has even engaged in mentoring new students to our program. Combined, this behavior is a testament to Charity's readiness to enter a graduate program that emphasizes commitment to serving the public.

With this being said, an honest assessment of Charity's abilities clearly depicts her potential for success. However, Charity does have some areas for improvement that she should be mindful of as she enters graduate school. Chief among them is her tendency to sometimes "miss the forest for the trees," so to speak. Graduate level studies often require students to work either independently or collaboratively and while Charity has had success with both approaches in the past, there are have been moments of hesitancy when explicit direction has not been provided. Despite this, I do not doubt Charity's adaptability. Therefore, it is my honor to recommend Charity be accepted into the Master of Public Administration program. If there are any questions, please reach out to me with the contact information below.

Sincerely,



Kyle Pittman, MPA

Member of the Faculty
Native Pathways Program | The Evergreen State College
pittmank@evergreen.edu | Cell: (253) 241-5320