



9 February 2011

Linda Webb
Teaching and Teacher Education
University of Arizona
College of Education, room 705
Tucson, AZ 85721

Dear Linda,

It is my pleasure to recommend Hunter Wilson for the Teach Arizona Master's Program. Hunter has been a student employee in the Education and Outreach department of Biosphere 2 for the past two and a half years. During that time he has impressed me as being intelligent, team-oriented, creative, flexible, and hard-working. I imagine these are traits you desire in people admitted to your program. Allow me to elaborate on each of these as they relate to Hunter.

The job Hunter does here is a hodge-podge of tasks (as student jobs often are). He has never once complained about a task assigned and stays very positive in the process. He has cleaned trash out of Biosphere 2, guided guests into and out of the facility, taken photos that have been used in a variety of ways, kept a blog of his exploits here, staffed demonstration tables both at B2 and in the community, and performed a whole host of administrative tasks, some of which were quite tedious I assure you (copying every word of text by hand from one of our exhibits, inventorying GEMS kits, etc.). To me, his "ready and willing" response to doing all of these things clearly illustrates his team-oriented attitude and flexibility.

He has shown great initiative here as well, which I described as creativity above. These two words are both apt I think. He is a very accomplished photographer and volunteered early on to photo-document different events at B2. This was very helpful as we, like most UA departments, don't have as many staff members as we might like and thus his service in this area would likely have gone unfilled. His photos are beautiful and have been put to use on our web site. Additionally, we have a strong relationship with the Flandrau Science Center on campus, and Hunter jumped at the opportunity to receive training with that organization as they ramped up their staffing over the last year. He served ably there for many months, and once again, I was impressed by his willingness to fill in wherever needed.

Hunter's desire is to someday serve as a high school biology teacher. To underscore how excellent I think he will be in this regard, as the parent of a seventh grader, I would have the utmost confidence in Hunter to be my child's teacher in two years' time.

Lastly, above all of the professional traits and pursuits I describe here, let me say that Hunter is also simply a very nice young man, polite, and easy to interact with. I'm always very proud to have Hunter represent Biosphere 2 to the community. I recommend Hunter Wilson to you in the strongest possible terms and sincerely hope you will admit him to the program. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or for clarification of anything I've said here.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Adamson
Program Coordinator, Sr.
Education and Outreach
University of Arizona Biosphere 2
(520) 838-6137
madamson@email.arizona.edu