



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93106-9430
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August 18, 2015

Dear Madam/Sir:

It is a great pleasure to write on behalf of Maximillian Lin's application for medical school. Maximillian has a truly global perspective on life and has accomplished far more than most people his age (around 21 years). He fell in love with science in the fifth grade and has done as much as he can to explore multiple aspects of the empirical world via reading, experimentation, museums and much more. He reads voraciously and understands his "time" and geopolitical situation far better than his peers. He very much wants to be a medical professional with a large vision of the health situation so that he can participate in extending health care to those without it.

I first came to know Maximillian when he did outstanding work in my large lecture class (Soc 152A), earning a very high "A" grade. The course is about human sexuality, and Maximillian was able to use his extensive biological knowledge to grasp many sectors of the study of sexuality in great detail.

Because Maximillian did so well in Soc152A, I invited him to be in the small honors course (Soc 152B) that I held the next quarter for the very best students in the previous quarter. It was in this honors class that I first came to know Maximillian well and to respect his intelligence, integrity and deep concern for humanity. This small class is a discussion class and Maximillian made insightful and creative contributions. I got to see Maximillian thinking "on his feet," and was very impressed with how quickly he formulates ideas and clearly he expresses them. He wrote an excellent paper for the course, revealing advanced writing skills and an easy communication style that many others science majors cannot begin to equal.

Maximillian has earned a 3.8 GPA, which is very impressive—since the premedical courses are among the hardest ones on our campus. He has been on the Dean's Honor List for seven quarters. He has been a research assistant in the UCSB Ma Laboratory, working to understand the mechanism of primary cilia length regulation by H3K4MT complex, utilizing techniques such as cell culture, immunofluorescence staining and microscopy, cell lysis and western blotting.

Maximillian has volunteered at our local Cottage Hospital and shadowed several physicians. He worked with nurses and doctors in the Medical Intensive Care Unit both helping patients and paying close attention to the best ways to treat them. He has volunteered as a UCSB Bio-mentor, who helps incoming students during their first two or more years of their biology major. He was chosen to be an Honors Program Peer Mentor, which is a great honor. He has volunteered for the UCSB Community Affairs Board, working to feed the homeless people who live in communities near our campus.

He has been a peer educator on our campus, leading programs on diversity, chemical abuse, personal development, relationships and much more. He has been an intern in the UCSB Wellness and Fitness Institute, helping to spread healthy habits on our campus.

In this letter, I've tried to reveal how Maximillian is a person with big dreams who can achieve a great deal. Maximillian is a cheerful and outgoing person, leading people to like him and enjoy working with him. He relates well to many different types of people. He also carries responsibility well and takes his projects extremely seriously, working carefully and with attention to detail. He is forward looking in attaining his long-term goals.

By now it should be abundantly clear that Maximillian is a truly extraordinary person who is developing into an outstanding professional. He loves challenges and wants to gain ever-increasing numbers of skills as he advances through his career. He has already accomplished a great deal by dint of his own hard work and intelligence, and he looks forward to staying busy all of his life, giving back to others. He earns my highest recommendation. If I can be of any further help to you, please do not hesitate to phone me at (805) 967-4995.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John D. Baldwin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John D. Baldwin, Ph.D.
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