APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE STUDIES
Office of Graduate Studies
Data from the BANNER SIS

04-JAN-2008 10:46:22
UC MERCED GRADUATE STUDIES

Student ID:

Date: 02-JAN-2008

To Graduate Adviser in: IGP:Quantitative Sys Biology

Regarding:

Degree Objective: IGP: Quantitative and Systems Biology (PHD Degree)

Beginning Quarter: Fall Semester 2008

Applicant was : (ADMITTED/DENIED) for _____
This is a (REACTIVATION/RECONSIDERATION).

DEPARTMENTAL EVALUATION:

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION INDICATING WHICH CRITERIA WERE USED IN YOUR RECOMMENDATION (Check all that apply).

_____ Overall undergraduate GPA is _____
(If GPA is below 3.0 minimum, a recommendation to admit must be justified below under 'comments'.)
_____ GPA in all undergraduate upper division coursework is _____
_____ GPA in last two years of undergraduate upper division work is _____
_____ GPA in completed graduate program is _____
_____ GRE scores
_____ Statement of Purpose
_____ Letters of recommendation
_____ TOEFL score (If below 550 paper or 213 computer, a recommendation to admit must be justified below under 'comments'.)
_____ Other Criteria: _____

_____ ADMISSION IS RECOMMENDED FOR:

- _____ Degree objective shown
- _____ Other
- _____ Coursework only (3 quarter limit)

_____ CANCEL:

- _____ File incomplete;
  missing _____
  Date applicant notified: _____
- _____ Applicant withdrew; letter attached.

_____ DENIAL RECOMMENDED FOR REASONS CHECKED (MUST SUPPLY DOCUMENTATION AND/OR BRIEF JUSTIFICATION TO SUPPORT DENIAL DECISION)

- _____ Application is inappropriate for this program.
- _____ No major professor available in proposed specialization in major.
- _____ Application received after deadline.
- _____ Not competitive with other applicants because:
  - _____ Scholarship below minimum
  - _____ Scholarship below that of applicant pool
  - _____ Inadequate preparation for advanced study in the proposed program
  - _____ Statement of Purpose/Written work
  - _____ GRE Scores
  - _____ Letters of recommendation
  - _____ Audition/tape or portfolio
  - _____ Personal Interview

COMMENTS:

_____

Date: _____ Graduate Adviser Signature: _____

Attach original documents to this form and return to Graduate Studies with your admission decision (admit or deny).
COPY DOCUMENTS NEEDED FOR YOUR FILES.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE STUDIES
Office of Graduate Studies
Data from the BANNER SIS

Fall Semester 2008

StudentID

Name:

Former Name:

Application #: **1** *Application Type:* ***Domestic Graduate Studies*** *Complete Date:* ***02-JAN-2008***

Mailing Address:

Permanant Address:

Birthplace: **United States of America** *Date of Birth:* *Sex:* **F**

Country of Citizenship: **United States of America** *Day Telephone:*

E-mail:

Citizen Type: **Citizen** *Ethnic Origin:*

If you are not a US citizen, what type of visa do you hold? **NV**

Are you a legal resident of California for tuition purposes? **Y**

Proposed Graduate Program & Degree: **GR PHD: Quantitative Biology**

School: **Graduate Studies Division**

Major: **IGP:Quantitative Sys Biology**

Degree: **Doctorate**

Year you wish to begin: **Fall Semester 2008**

Summary of Attendance

Name of Prior Institution	Enrolled From	Enrolled To	Type of Degree Awarded or Expected	Date Awarded or Expected	GPA
UNIV MASS AMHERST	01-SEP-03	15-DEC-06	Bachelor of Science	01-FEB-07	3.886

Summary of Test Scores

Test		Test Score	Date Taken
GR01	GRE Verbal Code	650	01-AUG-07
GR05	GRE Analytical Writing Section	5.0	01-AUG-07
GR02	GRE Quanitative Code	660	01-AUG-07

Summary of Interests

Honors Program LGBT Organization Softball Swimming

Volleyball

Please list honor societies, prizes, and special distinctions.

Dean's List Honors - UMass Amherst - each semester 2003-2006
Commonwealth College Honors Program - UMass Amherst - 2003-2006 - graduated summa cum laude
Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) Scholarship, declined – 2003

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE STUDIES
Office of Graduate Studies
Data from the BANNER SIS

Fall Semester 2008

StudentID

Name:

Former Name:

Application #: **1** *Application Type:* ***Domestic Graduate Studies*** *Complete Date:* ***02-JAN-2008***

If more than three months since your last university/college enrollment, list your activities since enrollment.

1/07-9/07: I worked as an educator in the Public Programs department at the Maryland Science Center
9/07-present: I work as an educator and supervisor in the Public Programs department at the Maryland Science Center

What language(s) do you read, write, or speak?

I have intermediate French Language skills in reading, writing, and conversation.

How did you hear about us? (i.e. Grad Fair, Graduate Diversity Forum, Newspaper ? local/school, Advertisement, etc.):

the internet

What are some of the main reasons you selected UC Merced for your higher education needs (i.e. Faculty/Program reputation, job placement, University reputation, Location/region, etc.):

program specifics, faculty interests, location

StudentID

Name:

Former Name:

Application #: 1 *Application Type:* ***Domestic Graduate Studies*** *Complete Date:* ***02-JAN-2008***

Statement of Purpose:

Several facets qualify me for advanced study in the competitive field of environmental science. My academic past includes success in undergraduate classes including ecology, plant ecology, evolution, crop evolution, genetics, physiology, vertebrate anatomy, mammalogy and animal behavior. These classes included research synthesis papers and data analysis projects, which has acclimatized me to a rigorous academic setting. Furthermore, I often incorporated ecological issues into classes not directly related to biology. In an environmental design class, I wove ecological concerns with the study of community design, especially in urban and suburban areas. In my undergraduate thesis on labor issues in the garment-manufacturing industry, I included discussion of unsound environmental practices. I have not yet studied statistics outside of select biology class assignments, but I am confident that I can effectively fill this deficiency at the start of my graduate career. Foremost, I am a good candidate for graduate study because I am self-motivated for intellectual vigor and do not require outside incentives to study and learn.

Besides laboratory and field experiments within classes, I have become familiar with research situations through work in two biochemistry labs, one in industry and the other in academia. During my internship in the protein purification and crystallography departments of Suntory Pharmaceutical Research Labs, I was trained in research protocols. The biochemistry aspects of this drug-development project were not my passion, but I highly enjoyed the scientific atmosphere in which collaborators shared research and worked on different components in order to solve a larger problem.

On my path through graduate school, I want to further develop research skills through field work, as well as cultivate an intimate knowledge of at least one specific ecological interface and learn practical means to preserve that system. In the long term, my goal is a career as a researcher in public service, with either a governmental or nongovernmental organization such as the parks service or a nonprofit group. Ideally, my work would include some informal education and activism aspects in addition to original research in ecology or environmental science. I wish to attend graduate school not just as a means to this end, but also because I enjoy the process of academic study.

Within ecology and environmental sciences, I am predominantly interested in interspecies interactions, including human impacts on the environment and the environment's impacts on humans. I am also concerned with conservation biology, invasive species, keystone species, and environmental change over time (often as influenced by humans). My interests specifically include forest ecology, wetland ecology, habitat use, habitat protection, habitat changes' effects on populations, animal-plant interactions, trophic dynamics, mutualisms, symbiosis, pollination, and endangered species.

I sought graduate programs interdisciplinary enough to encompass my fascination with biotic interactions and incorporate practical applications of studies. The Quantitative and Systems Biology program at the University of California, Merced is exceptional in its focus on using multiple fields to approach environmental questions, which particularly appeals to me and would serve my career goals well. Overall, I believe that the University of California, Merced is an excellent match for me and that I am an excellent match for the University of California, Merced.

Personal History and Achievements/ Contributions:

My interest in ecological and environmental sciences persists from an early age. Each summer, my family visited a cabin that my great-grandfather built on a lake in rural New Hampshire – a cabin that lacks electricity, running water, and even road access! These rustic vacations imbued me with an unshakable love and respect for nature, and I developed a keen desire to comprehend underlying ecological processes and work to preserve them. It is this curiosity and passion that propels me towards graduate study in biology.

When I was young, the lake we frequented was in a state of ecological disrepair. It was murky enough to hesitate before jumping in to swim, and fauna of all types were almost absent. Through the years, its condition has steadily improved through the conscious efforts of its human residents. Nowadays, the lake can be found crystal clear, with abundant fish, amphibian, mammal, and bird species; it is a joy to watch the active beaver population and listen to the once rare loon call. However, we are still tackling the persistent invasive floral species. These achievements inspire me to broader conservation interests and confirm the vital ecological solutions possible through hard work and an understanding of ecosystems and the impacts humans have on them. I developed an eagerness to understand the biological processes around me – everything from the secondary forests taking over old farmland to the beaver lodge being built near my family's cabin to more mundane things like my pet dog's behavior. Every observation became an opportunity to learn a piece of biology, and it all fascinated me.

While my environmental interests have remained constant, my desire to continue on to graduate school to study ecology cemented on one particular occasion. Within one week, I completed an assignment regarding squirrels for both mammalogy class and animal behavior class. The mammalogy assignment entailed observing natural caching behavior and writing a research paper, while the animal behavior assignment involved placing peanuts out to evaluate the squirrels' threat perception and risk-taking behavior. As I spent hours outside in the company of gray squirrels, I realized that I wasn't just enthusiastically completing the assignments; rather, I loved what I was doing. It became clear to me that I am excited and eager to perform research grounded in fieldwork and nature, leading me to pursue graduate study in the ecological sciences.

My enthusiasm for the environment has pervaded through my work experiences. For two summers, I worked at an overnight Girl Scout camp on the same lake as my family's cabin. This job included inspiring kids to care about environment issues, as well as leading some ecology-based camp programs such as minimum-impact living and basic species identification. Teaching children about ecological concepts persists in my current position at a science museum. I develop and carry out programs to educate the

StudentID

Name:

Former Name:

Application #: **1** *Application Type:* ***Domestic Graduate Studies*** *Complete Date:* ***02-JAN-2008***

---

public on environmental and biological topics, often using models and specimens. Specifically, I recently developed a program that models the relationship amongst pollution, watersheds, and wetlands. I also created and regularly perform an ecology-based presentation utilizing a spherical movie screen conceived by NOAA.

Because children ask so many unanswerable and often scientifically-intriguing questions, this work stimulates my awareness of knowledge as limitless. Science appeals to me because its work never stagnates, despite the immense depth of scientific community. In science, there is always more to know and perpetually a deeper understanding to achieve. This constant pursuit of knowledge engages me to strive for a PhD and the jobs to which that advanced degree could lead. While my work experiences and academic grounding have primed me, it is my dual passion for knowledge and the environment that will drive me to succeed at graduate study in ecological science. I strive to fulfill the path I started as a child visiting a lake in New Hampshire – a path that leads me to a life of exploring how our planet works and acting to preserve it.

UCIR

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
AMHERST, MA 01003

University of Massachusetts

John Cunningham, Acting Registrar

Official Transcript of Undergraduate Work

Name :
Student ID:
Birthdate :

Send To : Graduate Admissions
5200 North Lake Road, Ste. 227
Merced, CA 95343
United States

Print Date : 2007-10-26

- - - - - Test Credits - - - - -

Test Credits Applied Toward Undergraduate (general) Program

Fall 2003

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
CHEM	111	Gen Chem-Sci	4.00	4.00	CR	
FRENCHST	ADV	Language Exemption		0.00	CR	
HISTORY	150	Dev Amer Civ To 1876	3.00	3.00	CR	
HISTORY	151	Dev Amer Civ 1876 On	3.00	3.00	CR	
MATH	1	Tier I Waiver		0.00	CR	
MATH	131	Calculus I	4.00	4.00	CR	
Test Trans GPA:	0.000	Transfer Totals :	14.00	14.00		0.000

- - - - - Transfer Credits - - - - -

Transfer Credit from Bridgewater State College
Applied Toward Undergraduate (general) Program

2001 Fall

PY	227	Devel Thru Life Cycl	Accepted	3.00	A

- - - - - Beginning of Undergraduate Record - - - - -

Fall 2003

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
BIOLOGY	100	Intro Biol II	4.00	4.00	A	16.000
BIOLOGY	191L	Sem-Biotap	1.00	1.00	P	
ENGLNRIT	112H	College Writing	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
HONORS	191D	S-Dean's Book	1.00	1.00	A	4.000
MATH	128	Calc Life-Soc Sci II	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
PHIL	164	Medical Ethics	3.00	3.00	A	12.000

TERM GPA : 4.000 TERM TOTALS : 15.00 15.00 56.000

CUM GPA : 4.000 CUM TOTALS : 15.00 32.00 56.000
Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Spring 2004

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
ANTHRO	106	Culture Through Film	4.00	4.00	A	16.000
BIOLOGY	101	Intro Biology II	4.00	4.00	A	16.000
BIOLOGY	192L	Sem-Biotap	1.00	1.00	P	
CHEM	122H	General Chemistry	4.00	4.00	A	16.000
ENGLISH	117H	Ethnc Americn Literature Hnrs	4.00	4.00	A	16.000

TERM GPA : 4.000 TERM TOTALS : 17.00 17.00 64.000

CUM GPA : 4.000 CUM TOTALS : 32.00 49.00 120.000
Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Fall 2004

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
BIOLOGY	297A	ST-Intro Physiology	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
CHEM	261	Organic Chemistry	3.00	3.00	B+	9.900
FRENCHST	230	Intermediate French	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
FRENCHST	350	French Film	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
HONORS	291D	S-Dean's Book	1.00	1.00	A	4.000
PHYSICS	131	Intro Physics I	3.00	3.00	A	12.000

RECEIVED
NOV - 5 2007
GRADUATE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

TO BE OFFICIAL THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, OR IN AN ENVELOPE WITH THE SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRAR ACROSS THE BACK FLAP OF THE ENVELOPE. THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT MUST CARRY THE UNIVERSITY SEAL AND THE SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRAR AT THE TOP. RAISED SEAL NOT REQUIRED. THE TRANSCRIPT IS PRINTED ON WHITE PAPER WITH MAROON INK. THIS RECORD IS FOR THE USE OF THE RECIPIENT ONLY AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR RELEASED TO A THIRD PARTY OR TO THE STUDENT.

John Cunningham, Acting Registrar

Name : a
Student ID:
Birthdate :

PHYSICS	133	Intro Physics Lab I	1.00	1.00	A-	3.700	

TERM GPA : 3.859 TERM TOTALS : 17.00 17.00 65.600

CUM GPA : 3.949 CUM TOTALS : 49.00 66.00 185.600

Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Spring 2005

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
BIOLOGY	283	General Genetics	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
BIOLOGY	287	Intro Ecology	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
CHEM	262	Organic Chemistry	3.00	3.00	C+	6.900
CHEM	269	Organic Chem Lab	2.00	2.00	A	8.000
PHYSICS	132	Intro Physics II	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
PHYSICS	134	Intro Physics Lab II	1.00	1.00	B+	3.300

TERM GPA : 3.613 TERM TOTALS : 15.00 15.00 54.200

CUM GPA : 3.868 CUM TOTALS : 64.00 81.00 239.800

Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Fall 2005

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
BIOLOGY	280	Evolut:Diversity Life-thruTime	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
BIOLOGY	312	Writing In Biology	2.00	2.00	A	8.000
BIOLOGY	548	Mammalogy	4.00	4.00	B+	13.200
BIOLOGY	550	Animal Behavior	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
HONORS	292C	Contemporary Readngs	3.00	3.00	A-	11.100
HONORS	391D	S-Dean's Book	1.00	1.00	A	4.000

TERM GPA : 3.769 TERM TOTALS : 16.00 16.00 60.300

CUM GPA : 3.847 CUM TOTALS : 80.00 97.00 300.100

Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Spring 2006

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
BIOLOGY	497B	ST-Plant Ecol	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
BIOLOGY	497R	Bio/Art Research Studio	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
BIOLOGY	521	Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy	4.00	4.00	A	16.000
BIOLOGY	597P	ST: Origin and Future of Crops	3.00	3.00	A	12.000

TERM GPA : 4.000 TERM TOTALS : 13.00 13.00 52.000

CUM GPA : 3.869 CUM TOTALS : 93.00 110.00 352.100

Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Fall 2006

Program : Undergraduate (general)
Plan : Biology(BS) Major
Plan : Member of Commonwealth College Honors

Course		Description	Attempted	Earned	Grade	Points
ENVIRDES	140	Awareness of the Visual Envir.	3.00	3.00	A	12.000
HONORS	392G	Ghosts That Haunt Us	4.00	4.00	A	16.000
WOMENSST	499F	S-Transnational Women's Actvsm	6.00	6.00	A	24.000

TERM GPA : 4.000 TERM TOTALS : 13.00 13.00 52.000

CUM GPA : 3.886 CUM TOTALS : 106.00 123.00 404.100

Awarded Dean's List honors for this term

Undergraduate Career Totals

CUM GPA : 3.886 CUM TOTALS : 106.00 123.00 404.100

- - - - - **Degrees Awarded** - - - - -

TO BE OFFICIAL THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, OR IN AN ENVELOPE WITH THE SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRAR ACROSS THE BACK FLAP OF THE ENVELOPE. THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT MUST CARRY THE UNIVERSITY SEAL AND THE SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRAR AT THE TOP. RAISED SEAL NOT REQUIRED. THE TRANSCRIPT IS PRINTED ON WHITE PAPER WITH MAROON INK. THIS RECORD IS FOR THE USE OF THE RECIPIENT ONLY AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR RELEASED TO A THIRD PARTY OR TO THE STUDENT.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
AMHERST, MA 01003

University of Massachusetts

John Cunningham, Acting Registrar

Official Transcript of Undergraduate Work

Name :]
Student ID:
Birthdate :

Degree : Bachelor of Science
Confer Date : 2007-02-01
Degree Honors : Summa Cum Laude
Plan : Major in Biology
Plan : Commonwealth College Scholar

End Of Transcript

TO BE OFFICIAL THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, OR IN AN ENVELOPE WITH THE SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRAR ACROSS THE BACK FLAP OF THE ENVELOPE. THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT MUST CARRY THE UNIVERSITY SEAL AND THE SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRAR AT THE TOP. RAISED SEAL NOT REQUIRED. THE TRANSCRIPT IS PRINTED ON WHITE PAPER WITH MAROON INK. THIS RECORD IS FOR THE USE OF THE RECIPIENT ONLY AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR RELEASED TO A THIRD PARTY OR TO THE STUDENT.

ETS GRE

GRADUATE INSTITUTION REPORT OF SCORES

SCHOOL CODE: 4129
DEPT. CODE: 0203

LAST NAME:

FIRST NAME: MI: E

ADDRESS:

BIRTH DATE MO. DAY YR.	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	SEX	MOST RECENTLY REPORTED		PRINT DATE
			TEST DATE	REGISTRATION NUMBER	
		F	08/07	5217821	11/02/07

INSTITUTION CODE & NAME	DEPARTMENT CODE & NAME
4129 U CA MERCED	0203 COPY FOR BIOLOGY

GENERAL TEST

TEST DATE	VERBAL		QUANTITATIVE		ANALYTICAL WRITING		ANALYTICAL	
MMYY	SCORE	% BELOW	SCORE	% BELOW	SCORE	% BELOW	SCORE	% BELOW
08/07	650	93	660	63	5.0	73		

ANALYTICAL WRITING/ WRITING ASSESSMENT*

TEST DATE MMYY	SCORE	% BELOW

NS: No Score. Indicates that no questions were answered in this section.

* Analytical Writing scores earned from the stand-alone administration and/or Writing Assessment scores earned between October 1, 2002, and December 31, 2003.

SUBJECT TEST

TEST DATE MMYY	TEST NAME	SCORE	% BELOW	SUBSCORE NAME	SCORE	% BELOW

RECEIVED
NOV 14 2007
GRADUATE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

00101 011213 GRECIR MH 06/15/07

ETS GRE.

GRADUATE INSTITUTION REPORT OF SCORES

SCHOOL CODE: 4129
DEPT. CODE: 0203

LAST NAME
FIRST NAME: MI E
ADDRESS:

BIRTH DATE MO. DAY YR.	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	SEX	MOST RECENTLY REPORTED		PRINT DATE
			TEST DATE	REGISTRATION NUMBER	
		F	08/07	5217821	11/02/07

INSTITUTION CODE & NAME	DEPARTMENT CODE & NAME
4129 U CA MERCED	BIOLOGY

GENERAL TEST

TEST DATE	VERBAL		QUANTITATIVE		ANALYTICAL WRITING		ANALYTICAL	
MMYY	SCORE	% BELOW	SCORE	% BELOW	SCORE	% BELOW	SCORE	% BELOW
08/07	650	93	660	63	5.0	73		

ANALYTICAL WRITING/ WRITING ASSESSMENT*

TEST DATE MMYY	SCORE	% BELOW

NS: No Score. Indicates that no questions were answered in this section.

* Analytical Writing scores earned from the stand-alone administration and/or Writing Assessment scores earned between October 1, 2002, and December 31, 2003.

SUBJECT TEST

TEST DATE MMYY	TEST NAME	SCORE	% BELOW	SUBSCORE NAME	SCORE	% BELOW

RECEIVED
NOV 14 2007
GRADUATE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

0C101.011213 GREGIR MH 08/15/07

UC Merced Graduate Division

Return to:
Graduate Division
UC Merced
PO Box 2039
Merced, CA 95344
Attn: Recommendation

Letter of Recommendation

APPLICANT

Please complete this form then print it out and give it to your recommender. Ask your recommenders to return this *Letter of Recommendation* along with the *Waiver of Access* form to the Graduate Division Office listed in the address box.

Name of Applicant _____
Last Name First Middle

Mailing Address _____
Street City State/Country Postal/Zip Code

Degree PhD Area of Concentration Biology

Proposed Semester & Year of Enrollment Fall 2008

RECOMMENDER

To the recommender: The Admissions Committee cannot use letters of recommendation intended to be confidential unless the applicant waives any and all rights of access to this letter. Statements about confidentiality should not appear on the letter itself. If this letter is intended to be confidential, the student must complete and sign the accompanying *Waiver of Access Form*.

The University is particularly interested in an evaluation of the applicant's potential for academic professional achievement in the field indicated. Explicit descriptions of academic strengths and weaknesses are more helpful to the candidate than routine praise. Comments about character, integrity or motivation also are appreciated, if pertinent. The experience upon which the opinion of the writer is based should be described. Rankings should be related to other students in the same class or academic program, or other persons of comparable experience. Please attach your letter of recommendation, preferably printed on your institutions letterhead, to this completed document.

(Please check one percentage level for each category below.)

	Upper 1-2%	Upper 10%	Upper 25%	Upper 50%	Lower Half	No Basis for Judgment
Intellectual Ability		X				
Imagination & Creativity		X				
Ability in Oral Expression		X				
Writing Ability		X				

Among the individuals I have known in recent years in the applicants field and at a comparable level of study/achievement, I would rank this applicant in the upper 10 %.

Signature Elizabeth R Dumont Date 11/30/07

Name (print) Elizabeth R Dumont Title/Institution Assoc. Prof. / UMass Amherst

Professional Address 221 Morrill Science Center, 611 N. Pleasant St., Amherst MA 01003
Street State/Country Postal Zip code

Telephone 413 545 3565 E-mail Address bdumont@bio.umass.edu

UC Merced Graduate Division

Waiver of Access
To Letter of Recommendation

APPLICANT

Please print this form. **Waiving your right of access is optional**; however, regardless of whether or not you waive your right of access, the completed Waiver of Access form **must** be given to the person from whom you are requesting a recommendation.

Name of Applicant _____
Last Name First Middle

PhD _____ Proposed Semester & Year of Enrollment Fall 2008

To the Applicant: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 gives students (persons admitted and enrolled) the right to inspect letters of recommendation written in support of applications of admission. The law also permits students to waive that right if they choose, although such a waiver must be voluntary and cannot be a condition of admission, award or employment.

If you wish to waive your right to examine the accompanying letter of recommendation, please sign the waiver below.

I expressly waive any rights that I might have to access this letter of recommendation under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, or any other law, regulation or policy.

Date: 10/16/07 *Signature of Applicant: _____

***Do not sign unless you wish to waive your right to examine the accompanying letter of recommendation.**

RECOMMENDER

Please sign below and return both this waiver form and the accompanying letter of recommendation to the Academic Degree Program the student indicated below. Thank you.

Date: 11/30/07 Elizabeth R Dumont
Signature of Recommender

Elizabeth R Dumont
Name (Print)

Note: In compliance with the provision of California State Senate Bill No. 1493 (Stull bill), this form will be kept in a file separate from the applicant's departmental admission file until after the close of the admission period for which this application is being made.

RETURN TO:

Graduate Division
UC Merced
P.O. Box 2039
Merced, CA 95344
Attn: Recommendation

RECEIVED
DEC 5
GRADUATE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

December 1, 2007

RE: Recommendation for

Dear Admissions Committee,

I would like to offer my enthusiastic recommendation for application to your graduate program. is a smart, upbeat and hardworking young woman who is a real pleasure to work with. Her excellent academic record at UMass and extracurricular activities are an indication of her maturity, dedication, and time management skills. has taken a wide array of biology courses and thus has an excellent foundation upon which to build a career in ecological and/or evolutionary biology. From what I know of her academic performance I believe you will find her to be a very strong candidate.

I first met when she took my upper-level Mammalogy class (bio548). She was one of the top 5 students in a class of more than 70 students. She excelled in both lecture and the laboratory, where her attention to detail, ability to focus, and observational skills served her well. My second experience working with was though a course that brought together the unlikely combination of Biology and Art majors. The goal of the course was to develop and build an educational display. It was in this very small, highly collaborative working group that I really got to know her.

Through the course of our weekly "production meetings", emerged as a leader of the biology half of the research team. She came up with creative ideas and took the initiative to go out and investigate potential topics and became skilled at communicating biological concepts to the Art students, who knew nothing about biology going into the project. When it came down to the hard work of building the display was there on nights and weekends to see that everything came together on time. Seeing interacting with her peers in the context of the "real world" experience cemented my earlier impression of her as an outgoing, hard working but relaxed person who interacts positively with her peers.

In my opinion would be an excellent addition to your graduate program. Indeed, I would welcome her into my lab if she were interested in working with me. In accepting Katrina's application you'd be getting a hard working and dedicated student who is likely to become a successful professional and an excellent representative of your program.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A Dumont

Elizabeth Dumont
Associate Professor of Biology
Graduate Program in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
Email: bdumont@bio.umass.edu

UC Merced Graduate Division

Return to:
Graduate Division
UC Merced
PO Box 2039
Merced, CA 95344
Attn: Recommendation

Letter of Recommendation

APPLICANT

Please complete this form then print it out and give it to your recommender. Ask your recommenders to return this *Letter of Recommendation* along with the *Waiver of Access* form to the Graduate Division Office listed in the address box.

Name of Applicant _____
Last Name First Middle

Mailing Address _____
Street City State/Country Postal/Zip Code

Degree PhD Area of Concentration Biology

Proposed Semester & Year of Enrollment Fall 2008

RECOMMENDER

To the recommender: The Admissions Committee cannot use letters of recommendation intended to be confidential unless the applicant waives any and all rights of access to this letter. Statements about confidentiality should not appear on the letter itself. If this letter is intended to be confidential, the student must complete and sign the accompanying *Waiver of Access Form*.

The University is particularly interested in an evaluation of the applicant's potential for academic professional achievement in the field indicated. Explicit descriptions of academic strengths and weaknesses are more helpful to the candidate than routine praise. Comments about character, integrity or motivation also are appreciated, if pertinent. The experience upon which the opinion of the writer is based should be described. Rankings should be related to other students in the same class or academic program, or other persons of comparable experience. Please attach your letter of recommendation, preferably printed on your institutions letterhead, to this completed document. LETTER ATTACHED

(Please check one percentage level for each category below.)

	Upper 1-2%	Upper 10%	Upper 25%	Upper 50%	Lower Half	No Basis for Judgment
Intellectual Ability		✓				
Imagination & Creativity		✓				
Ability in Oral Expression	✓					
Writing Ability		✓				

Among the individuals I have known in recent years in the applicants field and at a comparable level of ~~study~~ achievement, I would rank this applicant in the upper 10 %.

Signature [signature] Date 10.23.07

Name (print) LEE B. LILLEY Title/Institution SUPERVISOR OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Professional Address MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER 601 LIGHT ST. BALTIMORE MD. 21230
Street State/Country Postal/Zip code

Telephone 410-545-5917 E-mail Address LEEB@MDSCI.ORG

UC Merced Graduate Division

Waiver of Access
To Letter of Recommendation

APPLICANT

Please print this form. **Waiving your right of access is optional**; however, regardless of whether or not you waive your right of access, the completed Waiver of Access form **must** be given to the person from whom you are requesting a recommendation.

Name of Applicant _____
Last Name First Middle

PhD _____ Proposed Semester & Year of Enrollment Fall 2008

To the Applicant: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 gives students (persons admitted and enrolled) the right to inspect letters of recommendation written in support of applications of admission. The law also permits students to waive that right if they choose, although such a waiver must be voluntary and cannot be a condition of admission, award or employment.

If you wish to waive your right to examine the accompanying letter of recommendation, please sign the waiver below.

I expressly waive any rights that I might have to access this letter of recommendation under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, or any other law, regulation or policy.

Date: 10/16/07 *Signature of Applicant _____

***Do not sign unless you wish to waive your right to examine the accompanying letter of recommendation.**

RECOMMENDER

Please sign below and return both this waiver form and the accompanying letter of recommendation to the Academic Degree Program the student indicated below. Thank you.

Date: 10·23·07 _____
Signature of Recommender

Lee B. Lindsley
Name (Print)

Note: In compliance with the provision of California State Senate Bill No. 1493 (Stull bill), this form will be kept in a file separate from the applicant's departmental admission file until after the close of the admission period for which this application is being made.

RETURN TO:

Graduate Division
UC Merced
P.O. Box 2039
Merced, CA 95344
Attn: Recommendation

RECEIVED
OCT 26 07
GRADUATE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

601 Light Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21230-3812
410.685.2370 Fax 410.545.5974 www.marylandsciencecenter.org

Letter of Recommendation

Graduate Division
UC Merced
Attn: Recommendation

This is a letter of recommendation on behalf of who is employed here as a senior public programmer in the education department of the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore.

Public Programmers are the soul of the Education Department and our role is to teach and convey scientific facts and information through engaging, interactive, hands-on activities and science demonstrations.

is very conscientious in the performance of her work duties and has earned a promotion to a full-time, supervisory position as the senior public programmer. She displays enthusiasm and a commitment to excel. She takes seriously her role as mentor and role model for student visitors and has sought-out opportunities to work with them, most recently for specialized programs for home schoolers.

; duties as a science educator involve public speaking and presentations to large groups of visitors and school groups on a daily basis. She demonstrates a marked level of maturity and self-confidence in performing those duties. Additionally, she has been assigned to work with other part-time staff to insure that they receive the necessary training and background materials to be accurate in demonstrating and conveying science concepts. Her knowledge base in biology and ecology serve her well.

I believe that has the qualities and desire necessary to be a dedicated and committed graduate student. I rank her in the top 10% of all the programmers whom I have supervised over the course of the last 11 years in my capacity as the Supervisor of Public Programs. I recommend her to you without reservation. Long-range, I believe that she will be successful in any endeavor and hope that she will remain in a field that involves science education and research.

Sincerely,

Lee Billingsley
Supervisor of Public Programs
Maryland Science Center
Leeb@mdsci.org

UC Merced Graduate Division

Return to:
Graduate Division
UC Merced
PO Box 2039
Merced, CA 95344
Attn: Recommendation

Letter of Recommendation

APPLICANT

Please complete this form then print it out and give it to your recommender. Ask your recommenders to return this *Letter of Recommendation* along with the *Waiver of Access* form to the Graduate Division Office listed in the address box.

Name of Applicant _____
Last Name | First | Middle

Mailing Address _____
Street | City | State/Country | Postal/Zip Code

Degree PhD Area of Concentration Biology

Proposed Semester & Year of Enrollment Fall 2008

RECOMMENDER

To the recommender: The Admissions Committee cannot use letters of recommendation intended to be confidential unless the applicant waives any and all rights of access to this letter. Statements about confidentiality should not appear on the letter itself. If this letter is intended to be confidential, the student must complete and sign the accompanying *Waiver of Access Form*.

The University is particularly interested in an evaluation of the applicant's potential for academic professional achievement in the field indicated. Explicit descriptions of academic strengths and weaknesses are more helpful to the candidate than routine praise. Comments about character, integrity or motivation also are appreciated, if pertinent. The experience upon which the opinion of the writer is based should be described. Rankings should be related to other students in the same class or academic program, or other persons of comparable experience. Please attach your letter of recommendation, preferably printed on your institutions letterhead, to this completed document.

(Please check one percentage level for each category below.)

	Upper 1-2%	Upper 10%	Upper 25%	Upper 50%	Lower Half	No Basis for Judgment
Intellectual Ability	✓					
Imagination & Creativity						✓
Ability in Oral Expression		✓				
Writing Ability		✓				

Among the individuals I have known in recent years in the applicants field and at a comparable level of study/achievement, I would rank this applicant in the upper 5 %.

Signature Margery C. Coombs Date 11/18/07

Name (print) Margery C. Coombs Title/Institution Professor of Biology

Professional Address University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003
Street | State/Country | Postal/Zip code

Telephone 413-545-0514 E-mail Address mccc@bio.umass.edu

UC Merced Graduate Division

Waiver of Access
To Letter of Recommendation

APPLICANT

Please print this form. **Waiving your right of access is optional**; however, regardless of whether or not you waive your right of access, the completed Waiver of Access form **must** be given to the person from whom you are requesting a recommendation.

Name of Applicant _____
Last Name First Middle

PhD _____ Proposed Semester & Year of Enrollment Fall 2008

To the Applicant: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 gives students (persons admitted and enrolled) the right to inspect letters of recommendation written in support of applications of admission. The law also permits students to waive that right if they choose, although such a waiver must be voluntary and cannot be a condition of admission, award or employment.

If you wish to waive your right to examine the accompanying letter of recommendation, please sign the waiver below.

I expressly waive any rights that I might have to access this letter of recommendation under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, or any other law, regulation or policy.

Date: 10/16/07 *Signature of Applicant _____

***Do not sign unless you wish to waive your right to examine the accompanying letter of recommendation.**

RECOMMENDER

Please sign below and return both this waiver form and the accompanying letter of recommendation to the Academic Degree Program the student indicated below. Thank you.

Date: 11/18/07 Margery C. Coombs
Signature of Recommender

Margery C. Coombs
Name (Print)

Note: In compliance with the provision of California State Senate Bill No. 1493 (Stull bill), this form will be kept in a file separate from the applicant's departmental admission file until after the close of the admission period for which this application is being made.

RETURN TO:

Graduate Division
UC Merced
P.O. Box 2039
Merced, CA 95344
Attn: Recommendation

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST

Morrill Science Center
611 North Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01003-9297

Biology Department

voice: 413.545.4400

Recommendation for 11/18/2007

_ took two courses from me: Biology 280 (Evolution: Diversity of Life Through Time) in Fall 2005 and Biology 521 (Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy) in Spring 2006. She was a junior during the year I knew her.

Biology 280 was a large lecture class, and I didn't get to know her well. Nonetheless, she was one of three individuals with the top average (97.8: A) out of 150 students in the course. She did an excellent job on all the exams and took advantage of all extra credit opportunities.

Biology 521 was a much smaller class and had a lab, so I got to know her much better. Here her final average ranked 8th out of 38 students in the class, and she also received a grade of A. It is worth noting that the class group included a number of highly competent seniors, several of whom received acceptance to veterinary or medical schools during the course of the semester.

As you can see from the above, has an outstanding record in Biology coursework. Her work in the lab for Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy shed additional light on her abilities. She is quiet in personality but becomes more open as you get to know her better. She was very skillful in dissection and did careful, unhurried work. She is independent and can be relied upon to work competently and to master material on her own. She often worked alone but also interacted positively with her lab mates and was helpful to others having difficulty. She had confidence in herself as a student, knew what she needed to do to master her subject, and did consistently well.

roved a stellar student in the two courses she took from me. I am not able, however, to comment on her activities outside class and do not know whether she added research experience to her considerable strengths. On the basis of my contact with her, I rate her highly as a bright, capable, and mature person who has excellent potential for further study.

The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

Printed on Recycled Paper

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO

SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

GRADUATE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED
5200 NORTH LAKE ROAD, STE KL 227
MERCED, CA 95343
(209) 228-4723 FAX: (209) 228-6906

April 11, 2008

Re: Application to the Quantitative and Systems Biology Graduate Program

Term: Fall 2008

Dear

Thank you for your interest in graduate study at University of California, Merced. We regret to inform you that you were not among the group of individuals selected for admission to the Quantitative and Systems Biology Graduate Program for the fall term of 2008.

Please be assured that each application underwent a comprehensive review by the program faculty to which you applied. However, the limited resources we have available required that only a small number of the most qualified individuals can be accepted into the Quantitative and Systems Biology Graduate Program. In addition, it was imperative that we identify a good fit of student interests with those of a particular faculty mentor.

We understand this decision is disappointing. Should you wish to address specific issues regarding your application, please contact the Graduate Division at (209) 228-4723.

Please accept my best wishes for success in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Samuel Traina
Acting Dean, Graduate Division

cc: Professor Andy LiWang

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE	The Admissions Committee Chair should complete this form. If the applicant is recommended for a provisional admit, state the specific conditions for admission under "Comments" at bottom.

Student Name:	Student ID Number: _____
Academic Unit: **School of Natural Sciences**	Program/Major: IGP:Quantitative Sys Biology
Expected enrollment date: Fall Semester 2008	Major Professor:

- New Admit - Re-admit	Deny admission
Degree objective:	- GPA below 3.0
	- TOEFL too low
X Doctorate	X Below program standards, Unable to accommodate
_ Master of Arts	- Interest not matched to program
_ Master of Science	- No major professor available
	- See comments below

If the committee's recommendation is to admit, complete this section:

- The Graduate Group recommends admission but is unable to commit any financial support at this time
- The Graduate Group recommends admission and financial support for the following:

- TA appointment (9 months)
- Graduate Research Appointment
  - Academic year (9 months)
  - Holidays/Summer (indicate appointment)

- FT - PT

Grant Source for Funding:

- The department recommends fellowship/scholarship award:

Fellowship/Scholarship Name:

- Other external sources:

COMMENTS:

Admissions Committee Chair: Monica Medina

Signature: **kbrown22** Date: 2008-04-08 09:58:52

Graduate Group Chair: Andy LiWang

Signature: **aliwang** Date: 2008-04-08 14:24:00

Graduate Division Only:

___ Graduate GPA if more than 11 units have been completed.

___ Approximate GPA for all academic courses during applicant's undergraduate years.

___ Approximate GPA (in last two year's of undergraduate years) if cumulative GPA is less than 3.0.

TOEFL: __ Satisfied __ Not satisfied

Comments: _____

__ Incomplete file

__ Applicant withdrew

__ G3

__ GC

__ GP

Reviewed by: _____