



University of Maryland  
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27 October 2003

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter serves as a letter of recommendation for **Dr. Adrian Jones**. I have known Adrian Jones since 1993 when he was an undergraduate at the University of Queensland and I was a Lecturer in the Department of Botany. Adrian was an outstanding student and graduated near the top of his class.

In 1994, Adrian was one of the select undergraduates that joined our newly formed Marine Botany group. He completed his Honours degree with Marine Botany, conducting a very independent research project which served to stimulate many future projects conducted by various other Marine Botany students. I co-supervised this project with the Head of Department, Prof. George Stewart. Adrian received a First Class Honours degree, reserved for those few students who can conduct and summarize a superb research project. His research results were submitted to an international peer reviewed journal and subsequently published.

Adrian then left the University of Queensland and went to work for the Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation, the premier government science organization in Australia using the skills and techniques he learned at the University of Queensland.

In 1996, Adrian returned to the University of Queensland to undertake a PhD, receiving a competitive Australian Post-graduate Award. In the course of this PhD research, Adrian was a teaching assistant for various undergraduate courses, as well as serving as a research assistant in the Marine Botany group. Adrian completed his PhD in 1999 and all of the research was published, again in international peer reviewed journals.

In 1999, after completing his PhD, Adrian worked as a Research Assistant for me at the University of Queensland where he performed a variety of duties, including converting my lecture notes, slides and photos into over 1000 powerpoint slides for the various teaching duties I performed. Many of these slides are still being used in lectures at the University of Queensland.

Plg 2  
William C. Dennison



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In 2001, Adrian advanced to the position of Departmental Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Queensland. In this position, he assumed much more responsibility for our growing Marine Botany group, becoming the senior postdoctorate fellow, supervising students, hiring and supervising staff, coordinating lab and field activities. He also maintained a prodigious output of technical papers, posters, newsletters. Adrian also served as a liaison with various stakeholders and research partners in the various enterprises that Marine Botany was involved in.

When I accepted an opportunity to move back to the USA to take up my current position of Vice President for Science Applications at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science in 2002, I was able to convince Adrian to come and help me set up a program known as the Integration and Application Network. Adrian was crucial in helping me establish an active and well funded program as well as creating a new and heavily used web site. He has a standing offer to work full time with me here in Maryland. We have developed a telecommuting job, in which he works as a contractor for me via the internet, phone and occasional visits.

Adrian is one of the most talented students (or colleagues, for that matter) that I have ever met. He can undertake rigorous field and laboratory work, develop analytical techniques to obtain high quality data, and employ tremendous computational skills to display results and concepts. His writing skills are excellent and he is intensely motivated to succeed. Adrian's interpersonal skills are also excellent, and as well as being a good team member, he is a natural leader. Each time he has left or graduated, there has been a large and heartfelt contingent of people from all levels to see him off. Adrian is a good citizen, always helpful and cheerful. I heartily and unconditionally recommend him.

Sincerely,

William C. Dennison

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*Photo of William C. Dennison*

*Sharon A. Foxwell*  
 Sharon A. Foxwell  
 My Commission Expires 7/1/2004



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