

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

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**Letter of Recommendation for Daveena Tauber**

I am happy to have this opportunity to describe my work with Daveena Tauber and the very valuable assistance that she has provided to my graduate students.

As an Associate Research Professor at PSU in the Center for Science Education I have the responsibility to guide our MST students in developing a proposal for their Masters Thesis. The research proposal is essentially a preliminary version of the thesis itself, since it includes an introduction, literature review, and description of methodology. Since the thesis is the single most important creative work that our students must produce in order to demonstrate their professional capabilities, it is important that they succeed in producing a high quality proposal.

Nearly all of our students have recently graduated with an undergraduate degree in science, engineering, or mathematics. Most of these students have just taken the minimal English requirements for the degree, and they typically have no experience with the kind of writing required to draft a thesis. We were fortunate to be able to hire Dr. Daveena Tauber to give a series of workshops for our students on how to write an engaging introduction, an objective literature review, and a clear and compelling methods section. I have benefitted from Daveena's workshops as well, learning some of the techniques that she uses to encourage and support the students as she provides some hard lessons in writing.

Perhaps most valuable has been the work that Daveena has done with a small number of students who have been struggling to write their theses. These are bright students in science or engineering, but who have had little instruction in writing. She has provided excellent one-on-one support, taking care not to write the paper for the students, but to help them think through what they have to say and organize their thoughts so they can write about them clearly and professionally. In doing so, she has given the students motivation, confidence, and skills that will serve them well in their careers.

I am pleased to recommend Daveena's consulting and instructional services to other departments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cary Sneider".

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