

December 15, 2014

Office of Student Field Experiences:

It is a pleasure for me to write a recommendation for Emily Herbst who is interested in out-of-state student teaching. I met Emily in August 2012 when she entered my first-year experience liberal arts core class, cornerstone. Cornerstone is an integrated communication course that focuses on written and oral communication combined with student success and civility. The following year, Emily moved into a peer mentor position for the same course where she not only assisted me as the instructor, but built personal relationships with our students. Outside of the classroom she collaborated with other mentors and developed professional relationships with the peer teaching assistant program staff and faculty. In the time that I have known her, she has proven to have a passion for her education and her future. Her enthusiasm is infectious and I have found her to be both a motivated and responsible student and leader.

By nature, Emily is an outgoing and optimistic person, willing to talk with others and share her insights, opinions, and ideas. Her peers respond positively to her and look up to the academic standards she sets. During her time as my peer mentor, she shined as an example to our students of the importance of being diligent and responsible. She exudes a general excitement for her education and she sets high standards for her work. Emily demonstrates great initiative, which is evident in her coming to see me with any questions she may have and in my observations of her as she works with both our students and her peers. I have observed Emily's ability to lead and motivate others, to remain organized, and to remain task-oriented when balancing everything she does. She is passionate about her responsibilities and she is a joy with whom to work.

Since the moment Emily set foot in my classroom, I have watched her make calculated choices to prepare herself as a future teacher. She approaches assignments not only from the perspective of a conscientious student, but as a potential learning opportunity as an educator. She has pursued and taken every teaching opportunity the University of Northern Iowa has to offer her, and even found a way to assist a school in office and custodial duties over the summer in order to see the inner workings of the system from another angle. I highly recommend Emily for an out-of-state student teaching assignment. She is a hard worker who shows great initiative. This opportunity would allow her a chance to see all she has worked for in the last three years come to fruition.

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Amandajean Nolte
Instructor and Director of the SAVE Forum Actors
Communication Studies
University of Northern Iowa
Lang Hall 313
Cedar Falls, IA 50614 -0139
319.273.3793