

February 18, 2012

Dear Student Research Grant Committee,

I am delighted to write this letter on behalf of **Laraine Tumblin**. I have known Laraine since September, 2007 when she enrolled in my Introductory Psychology course. Since that time, Laraine has taken two additional courses with me. Last Fall, she approached me to supervise her honor's thesis, concerning personality and motivation to volunteer. Laraine's thesis concerns students' motivation to volunteer. Her data have been collected and analyzed. This project (Tumblin & Brunell) will be presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science (APS) in Chicago this May. This is a very important meeting for all areas of Psychology. As you can see, Laraine is the first author of this project, and she will benefit in many ways by presenting her work to this audience. Attending this conference will provide Laraine with the opportunity to network with important scholars in the field, at a time when she is applying to graduate school in Social Psychology. Furthermore, her presentation at this conference will set her apart from the other applicants applying to graduate school because it is uncommon to present at professional conference in Psychology as an undergraduate. I have been pushing Laraine to present at conferences because she has a great deal of potential and will no doubt make an excellent Social Psychologist someday.

Laraine received a Student Research Grant to do a conference presentation earlier this year. This present proposal is for a second project that she has not yet had an opportunity to present at a professional meeting.

Laraine is bright, highly motivated, and is well-prepared for graduate school. In addition to maintaining a high GPA and working in my research lab, she has volunteered her time to work in another Social Psychology lab with a colleague on the Lima campus. Laraine has also been extremely active on campus. She has presented her thesis proposal to the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum and the Newark Campus Undergraduate Research Forum and will present at these two forums again this year. Among her many activities, she serves as Student Government President, as the Student Trustee, and as the secretary of Psi Chi, the international honor society in Psychology. She also works as a peer tutor and as a student worker in the Testing Center. Laraine has been the most motivated and dedicated student that I have ever met, and our campus has benefited a great deal from her involvement.

I thank you for your consideration of Laraine's application for the Student Research Grant. If you have any questions or would like to discuss Laraine's qualifications further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Amy Brunell, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychology