

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to offer my full recommendation that **Ruth Daniel** is ready to begin their Div III work at Hampshire College. Over the past eight years, I have been a research mentor to over 50 undergraduates at Princeton, Harvard, Columbia, and Northwestern, and out of that highly selected group, Ruth is at the very top.

I was Ruth's advisor for the summer of 2024, when they were part of a research program called Science House, run at Harvard. As part of that program, Ruth completed every part of the scientific process: idea generation, study design, data collection, analysis, interpretation, and communication of findings.

They excelled at each one. The first week they arrived, they picked up a preexisting project, immediately understood it, saw a way to extend it, designed and ran the study, performed the statistical analysis, and presented the results to our group. I've never worked with a student who was ready to hit the ground running like that.

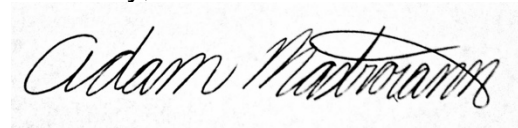
Ruth also has a deeper and more developed understanding of science than most of their peers—they're ready to talk about paradigm shifts, the replication crisis, the philosophy and sociology of science. Since the program ended, Ruth and I have continued to work on projects together, even on top of their full class load and teaching assistantship.

Three of Ruth's talents particularly stand out. First, they're a terrific writer—equal parts insightful, clear, and engaging. They're also an interesting thinker: they read widely and voraciously, and they have an eclectic background of experiences that always gives them a fresh perspective on their projects. (In our line of work, one of the greatest joys is meeting a student who can introduce you to ideas that you don't know already; that's Ruth.) And third, they're simply indefatigable. They completed the research program while maintaining a demanding work schedule, and they never lost steam.

Ruth is more than prepared to take on their Div III, and I look forward to seeing what they accomplish.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at adam.m.mastroianni@gmail.com or 419-681-4347.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Mastroianni". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adam Mastroianni, PhD
Director, Science House