

September 10, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

As Director of the Project on Science, Technology and Disability at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), I have first hand knowledge and experience in developing ways to improve the entry and advancement of individuals in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). We realize the importance of accessibility in academics and the workforce – this is especially true for students with disabilities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Entry Point!, our summer internship program, is on its fourteenth year and we have since had over 600 internship placements. These paid summer internships give students with disabilities, majoring in STEM, the opportunity to intern around the nation with companies including NASA, NOAA, IBM, Pfizer, Google, Infosys, Lockheed Martin, Merck, and CVS.

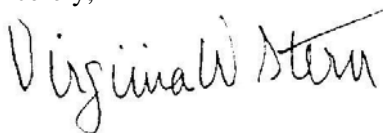
It gives me great pleasure and satisfaction to recommend Ms. Bonnie Blake-Drucker for the Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. I first met Bonnie about ten years ago in San Francisco, CA at a meeting hosted by the American Chemical Society, where she was giving a talk on the needs for accessible laboratories and how this can be accomplished.

Bonnie was the architect for the Prototypical Disabled Accessible Chemistry Workstation at UC Berkeley back in 1996. She has since designed dozens of laboratories, meeting ADA requirements, to make them accessible and/or adaptable with innovations like the universal fume hood complete with sink. The hood she designed remains as one of the NEA Universal Design exemplars.

Bonnie's endeavors and accomplishments have been invaluable to students with disabilities interested in STEM careers. Our Entry Point! interns serve as "existence proofs" of achievement. About twenty of our alumni are pursuing or have received a Ph.D. Sixty-five individuals converted from the internship to full-time employment and more than 300 are working in STEM. No doubt Bonnie's dedication and achievements have played an enormous role in ensuring science is accessible and a viable career for these individuals. For example, most of our interns have had to take a chemistry course including lab work at least once throughout their academic path – this was made possible by accessible laboratories.

I am confident that Bonnie would be a great asset and contributor. I enthusiastically recommend Bonnie, without reservation, for this wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,



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