



Letter of recommendation

15/03/16

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to write a letter of recommendation for Simona Pencheva Peteva, who is a student in the last semester of master program "Ecology" at Sofia university "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Biology. She has interests in Forest Ecology & Management, Dendrochronology and Environmental Protection.

As her professor and scientific advisor, I have had an opportunity to observe her participation and interaction in class and to evaluate Simona's knowledge of the subject matter. She is an outstanding student in all respects. Simona Peteva has proven that through hard work, follow through, and team work, she can accomplish tasks in a courteous and timely manner.

Simona Peteva's Master thesis is about TRY initiative: **Preliminary Survey on TRY Forest Traits and Growth Index Relations – New Challenges.**

Furthermore, she is goal oriented and also fluent in English. The experience Simona Peteva has gained through both her academic studies and her work experience at Department of Ecology and Environment Protection allowed her to make two academical publications in the Journal of Balcan Ecology. The publications are for Forest management & Dendrochronology:

- Lyubenova, M., S., Peteva. 2016. **Management of Forest Ecosystem Services – benefits, payment and values (in print).**
- Lyubenova, M., S., Peteva. 2015. **Eustress Assessment of *Quercus petraea* (Matt.) Liebl. Dendrochronological Series. Journal of Balkan Ecology, vol. 18, № 2, 171 – 181;**

The national project in which she is taking part now is as a student of master program "Ecology". The project is business oriented by using information technologies for modeling the

ecosystem services:

- **Application of Information Technologies for Modeling of the Forest Ecosystems as an approach for the Development of Dynamic Global Vegetation Models.**

Simona Peteva is a bachelor of Biomanagement & Sustainable Development from university of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Biology with excellent results – 5.80.

Simona Peteva also had a membership in the only one "Association for Innovative Development" of the Republic of Bulgaria and in Faculty student council of the Faculty of Biology, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Based on all of the above I believe that Simona Peteva is well equipped to grow from challenges that she is presented with. Her patience, teaching ability, strong computer programming skills, prepare her beautifully for TRACE 2016.

Your Sincerely,



Prof. Dr Mariyana Lyubenova

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