



Dr Anthony Shidong Wang
Department of Statistics
1 South Parks Road
Oxford, OX1 3TG, UK
Email: shidong.wang@stats.ox.ac.uk
Phone: +44 (0) 7588 565 575

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To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to write this letter to refer Miss Lei Xu for her application. I have known Lei Xu since last year. I firstly met her in a Skype interview which is for selecting the candidates to involve in the 2013 Oxford Winter School based at St Catherine's College, Oxford University. We two interviewers were both very impressed by her confidence and communication skills. Also, it is not the usual case for a student who studies courses in Chinese to speak such fluent English like her.

It was a general education curriculum that refers to politics, history, economics, language, finance, aesthetics, and photography. Except for her actively involvement in class, and proposing deep and interesting questions to the lecturers, I noticed that Miss Xu was able to initiatively study other books to broaden her knowledge horizon. I was accustomed to ask students to do presentation in groups. The group that Miss Xu was teamed in provided the whole class with an excellent presentation titled *Contrast of Western Culture and Oriental Culture-from aspect of Food, Housing, Clothing, Transportation, and Education*. Miss Xu was the scriptwriter of presentation play and was in charge of the contrast of food and housing. Their vivid performance brought direct visual impacts with understandable contents and skillful presentation skills which I think impressed the whole class. From these, I see Miss Xu's creativity and competency, her wide scope of knowledge, and the ability to apply theory into practical case, which should reflect her constant reflection during self-studies process.

In addition, there is another thing I would like to highlight her. We tailored the programme especially for our winter school students so there is not that much interaction with Oxford local students in class. One day, Lei asked me if there is any possibility to join

in the class for Oxford local undergraduates and I told her that she had to develop on her own. The next day she said to me that she had attended a lecture in Said Business School. I was very impressed by her independent study ability and her strong desire to seek deeper and further knowledge in which she is interested.

The last thing I would like to mention is my recent academic trip to China. One of my Oxford colleague Dr Coombes was traveling together with me in Beijing. When he gave talks in university, some students found it difficult to follow his speed. Lei volunteered to interpret for her fellow students. She did very great job and Dr Coombes was very pleased with her generous help and excellent translation.

No doubt, Miss Xu's intrinsic motivation in her learning will make her a great asset in any organization. I am glad to learn that Miss Xu has chosen to study abroad and apply your university as her first choice. For all these reasons, I am entirely convinced that Lei Xu fully deserves a positive consideration for the admission to your programme. I therefore whole heartedly support her application in the strongest possible way. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information about her.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Anthony Shidong Wang

