March 4, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a student of Dr. Mountjoy's, and I took her Biology 121 lab during the fall semester of 2017. This letter is in reference to how I feel about her qualifications and character as a professor within the Biology department at Western Kentucky University. Taking Biology 121 with Dr. Mountjoy was not only a fun experience, it was a great learning environment as well.

As a student, you always want to know what your professors expect of you, and Dr. Mountjoy always made sure that we knew what she expected. From the very first day of class, she was prepared, thorough, and let us know not only what she expected from us as students, but what we could expect from her. She was so prepared, that there was a never a time that I ever questioned her knowledge, or felt unsure that I could learn what she was presenting. One thing that stood out to me was that she told us that it would not be out of the ordinary to see her sitting in on our Biology 120 lectures, to make sure that what was happening in lab, was as streamlined with lecture as possible. I was so impressed by her desire to make sure that her students learn. I have never heard or seen any other professor say or do that thus far in my time at Western. Not only does she have a strong desire for her students to learn, she wants her students to have fun, and truly appreciate the world of Biology in the process.

To say that Dr. Mountjoy is an effective and thorough professor is an understatement. She is the only professor that has truly taken the time to make sure that I have a full grasp on the material being presented. No matter what the question is, she is willing and able to answer it. If the material cannot be learned fully so that one can succeed within the classroom, she makes it known that she will do whatever she can outside of class to make sure that you are learning, understanding and succeeding. As you know, some of the material in Biology can be challenging to grasp, and intimidating at first glance. In my experience, Dr. Mountjoy took all of that away. She has a way of presenting the information that makes you want to learn it, and makes you want to succeed. From the lab exercises, to the quizzes and exams, there was never a time that I didn't feel prepared. If there is ever a time that a student is not prepared, it is not at all because of Dr. Mountjoy. She holds review sessions for midterms and final exams, and there are so many opportunities for success in her labs.

One of the things that I love most about Dr. Mountjoy is her compassion and willingness to help. As a student, there were times that I really needed her, and she never let me down. She was always full of compassion and ready to go above and beyond when the need presented itself. Not only was she willing to help within our 121 sections, she always let us know that if we needed

help in 120 lectures, or any other Biology class, that she would do all she could to help us. It was always so comforting to know that no matter what, she is in our corner. She is always a familiar face to see on campus, and a reminder that there are professors that genuinely care about your success.

In closing, I would like to say that I truly cannot speak highly enough of Dr. Mountjoy. She is truly a great asset to the Biology department, and I truly feel that her mission as an educator should be shared throughout the Ogden College. It is not every day that you find an educator so willing to help, and that is so passionate about what they do. This in turn, translates to how successful her students are. It is my opinion that you simply cannot place enough value on educators like her. My overall impression of Dr. Mountjoy as a professor is nothing but positive, and I feel incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to learn with her. I have found myself recommending Dr. Mountjoy time and time again for Biology 121, and any other Biology class that she make teach in the future. It is my hope that Western Kentucky University will see what they have in her as an educator, and use her teaching methods and philosophies to grow the Biology department within Ogden College.

Sincerely,

Megan B. Owens