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February 8, 2016

Alex French
Sustainability Coordinator
Clarkson University
8 Clarkson Avenue
Potsdam, NY 13699

Dear Alex,

This letter is to verify that Clarkson's Adirondack Semester is a unique and innovative program within higher education. This opportunity allows students to study the Adirondacks holistically for a semester by looking at the park through both natural science and social science lenses. Through the integrated research project (IRP) students learn how to work in a group on complex environmental issues in a way that engages multiple community stakeholders. The Adirondack Semester is a model for experiential education and civic engagement.

Last Semester I collaborated with them on their IRP. It involved the viability of a hut to hut ecotourism system through a section of the park. As someone who develops curriculum for higher education I was impressed by the working capacity of Clarkson's Adirondack Semester students. Their work provided a significant contribution to our project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Drury".

Jack K Drury
ACTLS
Program Director