



To whom it may concern,

This letter is in support of Loyola University Chicago's leadership and innovation in their biodiesel program. This program is the most comprehensive and successful integration of sustainability principles related to biofuels that we have had the opportunity to partner with. Although many schools across the country have experimented with the creation of fuel alternatives, Loyola has combined an academic course with an economic enterprise that serves the larger community and reduces its impact on the environment.

Chicago Biofuels has been focused on advancing the use of biodiesel in the Chicago area since 2006. The company works with local businesses to ensure that their used cooking oil gets used in biofuels production. Chicago Biofuels also has extensive experience educating the public through outreach efforts and has worked with a number of high schools on renewable energy curriculum.

Loyola's biodiesel program started as an outcome of an experience-driven course looking at major environmental issues. It successfully engaged students from a variety of disciplines around the creation, marketing and sale of biodiesel from waste cooking oil. They have successfully received three US Environmental Protection Agency grants to expand the program, engage with high school students and explore more environmentally-friendly ways of producing the fuel. This program includes classroom teaching, internships, professional development, and secondary education outreach. Loyola has invested in this program through internships and a gleaming new lab space in the Institute of Environmental Sustainability. Loyola is the only school that has received the federal, state and local permits necessary to produce and sell their biodiesel on the retail market. All of these reasons are why this program is seen as a model nationally and is deserving of an innovation credit.

Thank you for considering this request and please don't hesitate to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,  
Pete Probst

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Probst", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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