

1665 Patterson Office Tower Lexington, KY, USA, 40506-0027 allison.burkette@uky.edu

April 07, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to recommend Mark Marji, who worked with me as an intern on the Linguistic Atlas Project (LAP) beginning in September 2024. During his time with the LAP, Mark brought a strong foundation in digital media and mapping to a complex set of tasks that required both technical skill and intellectual flexibility. He has been a thoughtful and reliable contributor to a team working with historical linguistic data and geospatial technologies.

Mark's work focused on the creation of digital maps that visualize dialect data and its intersection with environmental and sustainability themes. He demonstrated proficiency with GIS software—including ArcGIS, QGIS, Mapbox, and GitHub—and handled geospatial databases with care and attention to detail. Throughout his internship, Mark was highly responsive to suggestions and open to feedback. He consistently sought out clarification when needed and made steady improvements in both his technical and organizational approaches. He works best when given clear guidance and structure, and overall he is eager to learn and willing to revise and refine his work to meet project standards. This openness makes him a good collaborator, particularly on teams where expectations are clearly communicated.

In addition to his technical abilities, Mark worked well independently and communicated clearly about his progress, questions, and deadlines. He asked smart, productive questions and consistently met expectations. His background in digital media and his interest in applying design and mapping tools to socially relevant issues made him a valuable asset to the project.

Mark is a capable and motivated early-career professional with a growing portfolio of experience in digital mapping and communication. I'm confident he will bring that same level of competence and commitment to his future work. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

Allison Burkette, PhD

Chair and Professor of Linguistics

Director, Linguistic Atlas Project