Dr. Roeland de Kat

Capacity in which I knew the applicant:
Lecturer
Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics
Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences
University of Southampton
Email: R.de-Kat@soton.ac.uk

Current position:
Associate Professor
Faculty of Military Sciences,
Netherlands Defence Academy,
Den Helder, The Netherlands

28 April 2020

Recommendation letter for Mr. Christian Laurent for Lincoln's Inn GDL Scholarship

Dear Scholarship Interviewing Panel,

This letter is to express my support of Mr. Christian Laurent's application to the Graduate Diploma in Law scholarship. I have known Christian since 2014, when he decided to pursue a PhD under my supervision to further our understanding of the structural mechanics of feathers.

To enable his PhD research, he secured two prestigious scholarships and multiple visits to both national and international research facilities. In his PhD research, he has combined biology, chemistry and engineering to gain a detailed look into what makes bird feathers light, stiff and strong. He always worked hard to find answers himself, but a project of this breadth inevitably involves dealing with topics that go far beyond the scope of his own research. In those cases, Christian always reached out to colleagues within (and outside) the University for help, and offered help to those who needed it. Having already demonstrated academic flexibility to such a high level I am sure he would apply the same scholarship to studying the law.

Christian's research has resulted in multiple publications in well-regarded scientific journals and he has presented the findings of his research at various national and international conferences, meetings and seminars. He is a presentable person and a great public speaker. Besides his PhD research, he has made connections with respected researchers in Romania and China and arranged funding for visits to broaden his research and experience other research cultures.

He is an experienced scuba instructor, enjoys cycling, running and playing water polo.

In summary, I recommend Mr. Christian Laurent for the Lincoln's Inn GDL Scholarship. He has a curious mind, his work ethic is strong, and he exhibits a due diligence commensurate with a high standard required to contribute to literature.

Yours sincerely,

Roeland de Kat