

# UNLV | ACADEMIC EFFECTIVENESS

TO: Selection Committee, Dr. Delbert Oberteuffer Scholarship

FROM: Dr. Lindsay Couzens, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Effectiveness

DATE: November 29, 2023

RE: Nomination of Sidath Kapukotuwa for The Dr. Delbert Oberteuffer Scholarship


Dear Selection Committee,

It is my pleasure to offer my support for Sidath Kapukotuwa's nomination for a Dr. Delbert Oberteuffer Scholarship. I have known Sidath since Fall 2018, when I hired him as a graduate assistant in the Office of Academic Assessment. I have rehired him every year because of his work ethic and his willingness to contribute to the mission of our office. Sidath is professional, organized, efficient, and dedicated. He maintains a high GPA, and is involved in campus life in various ways.

Sidath continually demonstrates leadership, academic achievement, and a commitment to understanding health issues that affect youth in everything that he does. He takes initiative in completing tasks such as organizing and administering campus-wide surveys, he is always willing to offer support for projects, and is an excellent communicator, both internally with members of my office, and with students and faculty members when needed. He puts forth his best effort at all times, even while balancing his studies, research, family life, and his service to UNLV. Sidath not only contributes quality work to my office, but he also maintains a steady commitment to his dissertation and to other research projects that have a direct and important impact on UNLV students and youth in the Las Vegas community. Problem gambling is a profound public health problem in a city that not only sensationalizes gambling, but depends on it for economic stability. Sidath's research in this area is vital to not only the youth population of our community, but the adult population as well.

Sidath is a tenacious, persistent student who displays the characteristics necessary to flourish as a professional researcher. He has successfully navigated complex situations that would derail a student with less grit. He is an excellent scholar, and a superb employee. I highly recommend him for this award.

Respectfully,



Lindsay Couzens