

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to support Dr. Charity Marsh in her application for Full Professor at the University of Regina. I took my first undergraduate course with her in the Fall of 2017, and by April 2018 I had taken two of her courses and joined her IMP Labs research team. I continue to hold a position as her research assistant, and she is currently supervising my MA thesis.

Dr. Marsh's passion for popular music studies and community-based research has influenced my academic and professional interests to a significant extent. I considered dropping out of university prior to the Winter 2018 academic term, but her course on hip-hop (CTCH205) restored my motivation. In that course, she showed me that hip-hop, a movement and genre I had previously considered non-academic, had a place in the academy and warranted intellectual pursuit. She also proved to me that the act of *making* popular music was a powerful learning tool in the university context.

Since initially meeting and working with Dr. Marsh, I have written several papers on popular music at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and have immersed myself in this field of study. I was able to present one of these papers at the IASPM-Canada 2019 conference in Montreal, and was accepted to present another in Cape Breton in 2020, but the conference was cancelled due to COVID-19. Further, Dr. Marsh encouraged and inspired me to pursue popular music studies in graduate school. At the time of this writing, I am nearing completion of a SSHRC-funded thesis on hardcore punk subculture.

At the end of the Winter 2018 semester, Dr. Marsh asked me to become an IMP Labs research assistant. In this position, I have facilitated workshops on music production, contributed to research projects, and assisted with Girls Rock Regina. I have also had the pleasure of meeting a variety of talented artists and thinkers. My time in this position has been fulfilling and educational.

As a professor, supervisor, and boss, Dr. Marsh has provided me with an invaluable education, and has helped put me in a position to succeed in future professional and intellectual environments. Anyone who has taken her courses would agree: she is fair, approachable, and has a great knowledge and command of her subject matter. I fully endorse Dr. Marsh's application, as any student would be lucky to have an experience similar to mine.

Sincerely,
Brett Wyatt