

Applicant: Sean Lavery
Mentor: Frederick Adler

Dear Committee members:

It is a pleasure to recommend Sean Lavery for the Advanced Study Institute and Workshop. I am writing as both his recommender and mentor. Sean is off to an outstanding start as a mathematical biology graduate student, with tremendous enthusiasm and talent for both mathematics and ecological research.

During his first summer, he participated in a field research project with a student of Peter Hudson's at Penn State, and learned a great deal about the day to day challenges of field work. More importantly, however, he came back with increased enthusiasm for finding ways to integrate field research with mathematical modeling. In his thinking about appropriate systems for his thesis, I have been consistently impressed with Sean's ability to identify and explain promising areas. He thus has not only the background and ability, but also the intellectual maturity, to participate.

I have no doubt that Sean will continue doing research when he returns from the Advanced Study Institute, and am looking forward to mentoring this research, whether it is a continuation of research begun during the institute or a new project.

In addition to his research and intellectual ability, Sean is a born leader, whose enthusiasm and outgoing personality buoys those around him. He will not only get the most from this opportunity, but contribute to the experience of those around him. I give him my highest recommendation for this Institute and Workshop.

Sincerely,
Frederick R. Adler
Professor of Mathematics and Biology
University of Utah