

April 19, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

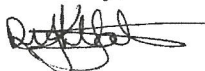
I am writing this letter on the behalf of Mark Macdonald who is the owner of Tracery Professional Builders of San Jose, California. I am currently the Joe W. Kimmel Distinguished Professor of Construction Management at Western Carolina University in North Carolina. I was previously the program coordinator of the Construction Engineering Program, in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, at San Jose State University during the time period Mark Macdonald was a student in the masters program.

I have known Mark Macdonald for close to a decade and I have continued to keep in touch with him even after I left San Jose State University. In addition to having Mark Macdonald in several of my graduate courses, I was also his advisor and the chairman of his masters project committee. Mark Macdonald is a highly intelligent individual who is able to quickly grasp difficult concepts and apply them to whatever discipline he is working in and to real world situations. Mark will be highly successful in owning and managing his own firm because he is able to understand the needs of clients and how to implement the many different concepts required of construction managers.

Mark works well with others in a team environment and also independently. He has excellent written and oral communication skills and is very adept at writing technical reports and preparing job proposals. Mark is very easy to work with and he is respectful of those he works with and clients. Mark excelled in all of the courses that he took in the graduate program and completed a very comprehensive and difficult masters project.

I highly recommend Mark Macdonald and his firm to anyone interested in hiring someone to perform construction because of his work ethic, his attention to detail, his intellectual abilities, and his work experience. If you need any additional information please contact me at 828-227-2175 or [jkyates@wcu.edu](mailto:jkyates@wcu.edu)

Sincerely,



Dr. J. K. Yates

Joe W. Kimmel Distinguished Professor of Construction Management

**Department of Construction Management**

211 Belk | Cullowhee, NC 28723 | 828.227.2201 *tel* | 828.227.7138 *fax* | <http://kimmel.wcu.edu>