



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

To Whom It May Concern:

Sinclair Nzenwata has an insatiable appetite for turning the things he learns into real-life experience. He has proven time and time again that when something interests him, he is not afraid to get to work. And moreover, that he is not afraid to put in that work *himself* to make sure that his vision comes to life.

I serve as Sinclair's indirect supervisor at the Digital Corps on campus, and his work with us for the past two years has been nothing short of astounding. He's went from a new freshman learning the basics of web development—and integrating with American culture—to leading teams of students working on complex projects that require collaboration and understanding. He frequently takes on tasks that challenge his existing knowledge and never fails to face a new assignment without fear.

One of the most impressive things that I've seen him do, however, has been undertaken outside of our office. For the past year, Sinclair has been working to build his passion project: Naahia, a mobile app-based marketplace for students. **Imagine if one student had recreated the entire functionality of Facebook Marketplace, Ebay, or Craigslist by themselves while still maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Sinclair has done this.** Let me be clear: this is no small feat, and the amount of work that he has put into the idea is by far the largest interconnected system that I've seen a computer science student tackle in their time at Ball State. Without getting too technical, the skills needed to even consider working on something like this encompass four entire sub-disciplines within the software development industry. And he's gained those skills. As a result, Sinclair's skill set has grown exponentially along the way; he has built mid-level experience equivalent to someone who has been working in the field for three to five years, and he's done it while keeping to an accelerated class schedule that will let him graduate early.

Part of this is raw aptitude, of course, but the bulk of it is from pure grit and motivation. It seems like Sinclair is always brainstorming and diagramming and whiteboarding a new challenge each time that I see him. And correspondingly, each time he's smiling. That's how I know he's exceptional.

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