May 21, 2016

Greetings,

Re: Recommendation for Cindy Rockwell

I am thrilled to write this recommendation endorsing Cindy Rockwell's nomination for the 2016 Women of Influence Award. As an early career mentor, Cindy took me under her wing, offering invaluable support and guidance at a pivotal moment in my post-graduate life. The opportunity to endorse Cindy for her continued commitment to excellence in all areas of her life is the least I could do.

In my senior year of college, I interviewed with a number of potential employers and ultimately made the choice to join CREW212. As an ambitious soon-to-be graduate, I wasn't ready to settle for just any launching pad to my career. The opportunity to join CREW212 as a STEM consultant immediately felt like the right fit, providing expert guidance and mentoring with Cindy and the CREW212 senior leaders alongside the opportunity to step into the corporate arena as a project coordinator. CREW212 truly provided the best of both worlds: continued learning through mentorship and exposure to high-profile corporate America. I'm honored to say I was a CREW212 member, and it's exciting to see how the program continues to foster new leaders under Cindy's strategic lead.

Throughout my time with CREW212, Cindy and I developed a strong mentor-mentee relationship, which has grown into a genuine friendship. Throughout the crucial first year in a new-to-me role as project coordinator, Cindy constantly served as a sounding board for any issues, questions, or ideas that arose. Having Cindy's vast knowledge of the IT world, years of industry experience, and impressive network behind me was instrumental to my success as a CREW212 member and a budding businesswoman. When the opportunity arose to convert from a CREW212 Project Coordinator to a permanent Project Manager role with Keyot client Wells Fargo, Cindy was my first call, and she was the first one cheering me on to take the position. It marked an important move in my career, and one that could not have happened without Cindy by my side.

Even beyond the workplace, Cindy is always on the go, looking for the next opportunity to help others in their journeys. She is truly a master of gaining, engaging, and maintaining relationships, both personally and professionally—a skill of hers I hope to emulate one day. Whether Cindy's serving as a board member with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, partaking in her church's Capital Campaign Committee, raising five daughters, or making time for a quick phone call with me, she seems to effortlessly do it all.

When I think of the word "influence"—whether it's influence in the community, influence in the project management industry, influence amongst peers, or personal influence—Cindy Rockwell most certainly is at the top of the list. Cindy would wholeheartedly embody the title of a 2016 Woman of Influence.

Sincerely,

Rachel Landes, Project Manager Wells Fargo