

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Spencer E. Pace
Electrical Engineering Major
Timbuktu Academy Scholar
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

Many of my peers are still in doubt with respect to many career issues. I have been blessed with clarity with respect to my career goals, and thus, I know the exact path I would like to take. I have exceptional critical thinking skills. Furthermore, I have a natural inclination to investigate unknowns. After factoring my mathematical abilities into the equation, my ideal career is self-evident. I am destined to become an engineer.

My entire educational career has been a preparation for what is now only a few years away: my obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. In the ninth and tenth grades I participated in the Engineering Magnet Program at Captain Shreve High School. During the summers between 1994 and 1996 I was a counselor and teacher's aide for the Miami University Science/Engineering/Math Program (MU-SEMP). In 1997 I attended the Timbuktu Academy's Summer Science Institute (SSI) at Southern University. SSI is an intense SEM academic program with the goal of encouraging perfection (especially on standardized test) via intense and rigorous practice. The following summer I returned to Summer Bridge Institute (which is designed to ease the transition from high school to college). I am currently a member of the Timbuktu Academy's Undergraduate Research Program.

I have taken courses while over the past few years to prepare for graduate school. For instance, I declared a minor in mathematics to prepare for the mathematics requirements of graduate level engineering education. Therefore, I have taken not only engineering courses such as Electromagnetic Field Theory, Electrical Machinery, Thermodynamics, Control Systems and Communications; but I have also taken math classes including Calculus III, Linear Algebra, Seminar in Mathematics, and Advanced Calculus. The aforementioned math classes are all classes that were not required by my curriculum. Still, I believe that I gained valuable knowledge and understanding of mathematical proofs, which will surely be needed for graduate study.

My dream had been to work as an engineer in the field of telecommunications. This field has interested me since I first became aware of the use of satellites for communication. However, now that I have more knowledge of electrical engineering, my interests are more specific. I am specifically interested in optimizing network design to increase transmission speed. Furthermore, I would like to investigate methods to provide increased Internet speeds without requiring expensive equipment. I am also interested in signal compression and reconstruction before and after transmission, respectively. However, I admit that I lack exposure to many areas of electrical engineering. I am interested in research in any area of electrical engineering because it will afford me the opportunity to access another area in my field. In other words, my options are still open to many possibilities in communications. But no matter what field I choose, I plan to share my knowledge in the classroom on a college level someday. This, of course, requires graduate study.

My life is a series of little goals which, when they are put together, will help me realize my ultimate goal. My ultimate goal is a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering. My Bachelor of Science degree is only a stepping-stone. I have worked diligently thus far in my academic career because I realize that my undergraduate education is only the foundation for much greater things to come. My goals are high, because I know that I have been prepared for a graduate level education.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Michael Baham
Physics Major
Timbuktu Academy Scholar
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I have been interested in the field of science for a long time. I have participated in different things that involved concepts in science from the science fairs in elementary school to interning at the Stennis Space Center during high school. In junior high school, I took all of the advanced science and math classes that the school had in their curriculum. I also was an active member in the Science club. In high school, I participated in an internship program where I took an internship position at Neptune Communications, a mechanical and electrical engineering contracting business that builds many parts for the United States Navy. Then, I took an internship position at Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, which led to a position during that particular summer. Also in high school, I participated in the Key Club, a community service and volunteerism club, which I was an active member.

At Neptune Communications, I used a three-dimensional drafting program to design many parts for instruments that they use and instruments that they are planning to build. I helped design some of the water buoys that they were planning to build for the United States Navy. Even though I chose not to pursue an electrical or mechanical engineering career, I learned how the job market works and how everyone in a working place must work together in order to get a job done.

I learned many interesting concepts from working at the Stennis Space Center, in Mississippi. I learned about how the government spends some of its money and how physicists, oceanographers, and people of other backgrounds work together on a single project. I learned about the aspects of mathematics and physics and their uses in the job that we were doing. Even though I went there with some knowledge of MATLAB, I learned much more about that program and others that I was using.

In the summer of 2002, I worked with the Southern University/LIGO Program. Over the summer I performed various tasks, which included deciphering different types of data and computer setup and maintenance. Our goal was to examine synthetic sapphire and its absorption properties. I learned of the many scientific breakthroughs that have happened in the last few years, and the science behind them.

I have worked with computers through out my whole life. I built my first computer when I was in junior high. Then in high school, I helped setup and manage the school's computer network, and by my sophomore year in high school, I setup my own network in my house. I can work with many operating systems, such as Dos, Windows (98, 2000, or NT) and Unix. I also have worked with many programs, and programming languages. I can program in: MATLAB, HTML, Visual Basic and Basic, and Pascal. I have also worked with different kinds of computers. I can use the personal computer, networked based computers, and the super-computers that the government uses.

I am currently in my second semester of college at Southern University and A&M College, and I am currently physics major. I am currently taking many science and mathematics courses. Also, I am working with the physics department head in a research laboratory. After graduation, I plan on continuing my education and ultimately obtaining a Ph.D. in Astrophysics and Astronomy. I am currently looking for a graduate school to attend, but I am narrowing down the list of possible colleges. Furthermore, I plan on obtaining a position with the United States space program, or with the SETI program.

CAREER STATEMENT

**Kenya Thomas
Biology Major
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“Phenomenal woman, That’s me” (Maya Angelou). From days that have passed, to many days to come, that one line from Maya Angelou’s poem “Phenomenal Woman” has inspired me greatly. The reason it inspires me so much is that it reminds me of a woman who exhibits extraordinary strength and ability that I one day hope to possess. That woman Ms. Angelou is describing is my mother. She raised me in a single parent home, and when things started to get rough, she dared to run. My mother had me at the age of fifteen and things were truly rough on her emotionally and physically, but she stayed in school and graduated number two in her high school graduating class. She went to Southern University A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for one semester then unfortunately she had to drop out. She dropped out to raise her only child, me, and make sure I was taken care of financially the best way she knew how. That is why I owe every accomplishment in my life to her, that “phenomenal woman.”

In May 2001, I graduated first in my graduating class at Bossier High School in Bossier City, Louisiana. I was the first black Valedictorian in many years at that particular school. The title meant a lot to me, but I knew from that very moment I would have to uphold what it meant from that moment on. The title meant I was the best of the best, the strongest of the strong, and most of all, the fittest of the fit. I was beginning to measure up to my mother’s standards. While attending high school, I attended a summer program called LAPrep at LSU in Shreveport for two summers where I was taught how to think logically by working so many logic problems that finally I realized “hey, I better use this sometime in my life.” Likewise, I am. In high school I was a member of the student council all four years and also I served as Sophomore Class President, Junior Class President, and Senior Class Vice President. All of these leadership positions help mold me into the young lady I am now. I am now a first semester Junior at Southern University A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where I am currently matriculating a Bachelor’s Degree in General Biology with a minor in Mathematics and Chemistry. I am an Honor’s College Member, a Timbuktu Scholar, and a Thurgood Marshall Scholarship recipient. Some of the organizations I belong to are Honors Student Association, Timbuktu Academy, Alpha Mu Alpha (Foreign Language Honors Society), Beta Kappa Chi and NIS (both Science Honors Societies), and Physics’ Club. It is amazing that I am majoring in science now because in high school I hated science. I had horrible science teachers who made science boring. But I realized to reach my goal in life I had to do what I had to do. My goal in life is to continue my education after college and go to graduate school where I plan to obtain my Ph.D. in Biology. I was given the privilege of researching in the Material Sciences & Engineering Laboratory this summer at the National Institute of Standards & Technologies where they helped me enhance my research skills. In the summer 2001, I had the privilege of observing analytical procedures in North Oaks Laboratory involving Urinalysis, Microbiology, Blood Bank, Hematology, and Chemistry. My research interests are a broad range of anything that relates to Biology. The reason I am not limiting my research interests is because at this point in my life, I have an idea of what I would like to do with my degree in Biology but I am not exactly sure. In obtaining all the professional and research experience available to me I hope to be on my way to becoming the phenomenal woman that is my mother.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Joseph Cains, III
Civil Engineering Major
Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) Scholar
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

My name is Joseph Cains III, an intelligent, creative, versatile individual who is overflowing with the potential to make a profound and lasting positive influence in the field of Civil Engineering. I see the world and every minute that passes by here as an opportunity to better my life as well as the lives of others. Personally, the best way to describe life is not as a bowl of cherries, but as a bowl of mixed fruits; not every one of them are sweet, but each and every one has a purpose, and I must take every opportunity to utilize each one for my development and growth as a person.

The reason I chose to become a Civil Engineer may be attributed to my love to design and build things. Every since I was a child, creativity was always my forte'. My imagination was always in play, being that I was the only child. Although unaware at the time, I was always using my creativity and imagination to solve problems that presented themselves before me. In high school I debated whether to be an architect or an engineer, but it wasn't until my senior year that I made the decision to become a Civil Engineer. I will never forget my favorite Physics teacher Mrs. Courville. I finalized my decision to become a Civil Engineer in her class. Also, I must recognize my parents and mainly my grandparents, who knew somehow all along that I was something special. Their prayers and support have made me the hard-working, disciplined, and persistent individual that I am today.

Education has always been primary in my life, despite my other abilities and extracurricular activities such as bowling and music. I have continuously been on the Dean's List since my freshman year in college. The classes that stand out the most are physics, calculus, and structural analysis, which by the way assured that I had made the right decision to become a Civil Engineer. My involvement in the American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter here on campus has also made me proud to become a Civil Engineer. I attended the ASCE National Conference in Houston last year, and it was very encouraging and enlightening as far as my future was concerned. This year I will be involved in the ASCE regional conference competition with other universities' ASCE student chapters. These experiences will prove helpful and also give me advantages that I know will only help me in my search for a position in the Civil Engineering field.

After graduation and receiving my Bachelor's Degree, I will continue on to pursue a Masters Degree and then a Doctorate specializing in structural analysis and design. I plan to have these goals accomplished within the next five to six years. When it is all said and done, and I, Joseph Cains III, Ph. D, P.E., will look back on my life and the numerous positive contributions made to society are evaluated, only then will I be satisfied and able to call my life a complete success.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Genese Knox
Electrical Engineering Major
Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) Scholar
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Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

Growing up, I have always been a curious child. From lamps, to cars, I was always getting something; mostly trouble. My mother was the first to bring to my attention that I should look into becoming an engineer. Of course, I added this occupation to my long list of other employment opportunities, such as being a fireman, teacher, or any other occupation I saw on Sesame Street. However, somehow, out of all of the different avenues I could have taken, I chose to take the path that led to me getting an education as an engineer.

During my high school years, I decided to dig deeper into what being an engineer was all about. I joined many organizations while in high school to develop my leadership abilities. The one organization that had a tremendous affect on my outlook of the profession I was interested in was the Technology Student Association (TSA). In TSA, I was exposed to all the prestige and honor that came with mentioning that you were an engineer. I learned to build bridges, robots, and how to write programs just to name a few. Needless to say, I continued to be a member of this organization, eventually running for presidency and succeeding. My next step upon graduation was figuring out what area of engineering I was interested in. I had been exposed to so many different types, so I had a good idea about each of them. I had to do my own research on each of them. Under the influence of many trial and error projects I tried to complete to see what field of engineering I was interested in, and the persuasive insight of a few family members, I decided to look into becoming an electrical engineer.

I must say that dreaming of becoming an engineer is one thing, but actually studying to become one is very different. As each year passes, freshman, sophomore, and so on. I am one step closer to fulfilling my dream. To aid in my effort, I took it upon myself to find an organization to help keep the interest burning within me to pursue my dream as I did in high school; this organization would become known to me as the National Society of Black Engineers, or N.S.B.E. This organization has awarded me numerous opportunities, as its mission states- "become a more culturally responsible black engineer, who excels academically, succeeds professionally, and positively impacts the community." I have been to some of the biggest and best career fairs, where many companies flock to recruit the best.

My interest in my chosen field of engineering has proven to be very rewarding. This past summer I was given the opportunity to intern with Proctor & Gamble Folgers Coffee Company in New Orleans, Louisiana. There, I worked in their Instant Coffee Production Department. My role there was to complete validations and maintain strong vendor support to ensure the installation of some flow meters needed for production. I see myself doing that, if not something similar for a career. To make myself a little more competitive in the work place, I have decided to strive for my Masters in Science degree with a concentration in power generation. The Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) program, has greatly help me to understand the importance of going to graduate school. In this very competitive field, it is always good to have something that will enable you to shine above all the rest. For me, a higher degree of education is that key to success.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Divine Kumah
Physics Major
Timbuktu Academy Scholar
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“Science is the knowledge of many, orderly and methodically digested and arranged, so as to become attainable by one. The knowledge of reasons and their conclusions constitutes abstract, that of causes and their effects, and of the laws of nature, natural science.” -- John Frederick William Herschel (1792–1871).

It is my love for the reach and power of science that has influenced my choice of Physics as a major in college and inspired me to pursue graduate work in Solid State Physics.

My post-college education has been centered entirely around the scientific world. Back in Secondary school in my native Ghana, I majored in Science and was awarded the best student in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Additional Mathematics for three consecutive years. In the 10th grade, I was part of a group of students who investigated simple electrochemical cells. This experience sparked my interest in physics. I had the opportunity to attend high school in El Paso, TX as a foreign exchange student where I took college-level classes in Physics and Calculus.

My academic career so far at Southern University has been immensely enriching, and I have become fully convinced that I am taking the right path in life with choosing science as a field of study. My first semester was quite a challenge since most of my classes were second year level classes. But my determination and focus earned me a 4.0 GPA, a position on the Dean's List and a National Collegiate Mathematics Award. I was awarded a Physics Scholarship and an Honors College Scholarship. The assistance and support I received from my professors was just as important as my awards and honors.

In my research project in Lithiated Complex ion cells, currently under the direction of Dr. Rambabu Bobba, I am gaining firsthand research experience by conducting experiments to compare the viability of various transition metal ions in the production of miniaturized Lithium ion cells. This project has cemented my decision to venture into postgraduate studies. It has always been my dream to develop renewable, efficient and environmentally- friendly alternate energy sources particularly, solar cells.

Besides my keen interest in the field of physics, I am also interested in the world of Computer programming and hence my decision to minor in Computer Science. Computers are a powerful tool in the study of science when employed for computation and experimental simulation. I plan on applying the programming and multimedia skills I am learning in enhancing my future research interests.

My academic background, my firmly established research skills and strong determination will enable me to succeed in the highly demanding program I have chosen. Finally, the excellence of your program, together with my abilities and motivation, will enable me to achieve my goals.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Rachel McKinsey
Physics Major
Timbuktu Academy Scholar
Southern University and A&M College
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Theodore Roosevelt once quoted, "A man who has never gone to school may steal from a freight car; but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad." In today's society, education has become one of the most important elements of life. Many years ago people were able to get by without an education and still live in a comfortable manner. It has been asked if the type of education one receives makes a difference in the student's survival of the real world. According to Roosevelt, a college education will provide many assets in life.

Southern University has a great reputation for successful physics graduates. Through the lecture and laboratory settings, I have gained an intellectual account of the fundamentals of physics. Discovery in Physics and Intermediate Physics I & II are three of the most fundamental and demanding courses for physics majors. They covered all fundamental physics in mechanics, waves and oscillations, fluid statics and dynamics, heat and thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, electromagnetic theory, electromagnetic waves and optics. Experimental Physics allows me to take all that I have learned in theoretically and apply it experimentally. Also, I have taken Biology and was enlightened about human life. Through these courses I have gained an interest in Medical Physics. Through challenging myself to understand my undergraduate courses, I can willingly share my knowledge of these concepts and apply them to real-world scenarios. This way, I will be able to help others as well as myself. There are too many people in this world dying from cancer. I am inspired to try and make this situation better. Choosing a career path in Medical Physics will help me achieve my goals by giving me a chance to participate in research and development.

Many opportunities have already come forth through the Physics Department. Currently I am a NASA Scholar, and I was given the opportunity to do research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. During these two summers, I experienced weeks of strenuous work that enhanced my research and development skills for my future career path. At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, I designed and tested a prototype for accurate/repeatability for a kinematic coupling. I studied the analytic model of an alpha prototype, implemented the model on computer for easy control, built the alpha prototype, and tested its performance. At the National Institute of Standards and Technology I characterized a second-generation water calorimeter. This wonderful experience has also encouraged me to have a career of research. After receiving my Bachelor of Science degree, I will further my education by enrolling in a Medical Physics graduate program and receive my Masters or Doctoral degree. I am confident that with my ability and determination, I will be successful in life and make a contribution that will help all.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Latasha Henry
Electrical Engineering Major
Timbuktu Academy Scholar
Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) Scholar
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

I, Latasha Daniell Henry, have worked hard to get where I am today. As a high school student I strived hard to exceed in my studies. Throughout my high school education I stayed on the honor role and received numerous awards. In an attempt to become a well-rounded student, I stayed active in many organizations that served the community as well as the student body. I served in many appointed positions within the organizations to gain leadership experience. I have taken my experiences in high school as a source of encouragement while attending college. I try to maintain a balanced lifestyle while seeking a higher education just as I did in the past in secondary school. Maintaining balance is very important because it allows me to stay grounded and ensures my continued success in pursuing a higher education.

I plan to put forth a major effort in being a good student while attending Southern University and A & M College so that I may be fully prepared for my entrance to the workforce of Electrical Engineering. Although I am majoring in Electrical Engineering I also aspire to gain a strong background in Economics. I am interested in the field of Economy because it is a very important part of our lives. I chose Electrical Engineering as my major because it is very interesting and challenging. It is also something that the world always needs. Also, new discoveries and innovations are made in the field everyday making the hard work worthwhile. While in school, I would like to obtain an internship or co-op position during the summer months to instill in me the experience I will need to be good at my job in the future. That is a very valuable asset that I hope will accelerate me into my chosen field of study. The reason for this is because I would like to be fully trained and ready to enter the workforce when I finish my graduate studies. Fortunately, I have participated in one summer research assignment. I would like to now obtain placement in industry so that I may acquire work experience along with research experience.

Upon the completion of my Bachelor of Science degree I plan to pursue a Masters degree also in the field of Electrical Engineering in the interdiscipline of communications. I feel that the added instruction that I will receive will help me in obtaining competitive and full-filling employment. I then plan on securing an Engineering position in a technology-based company where there is room for advancement preferably in the research and development area. Although I am willing to work from the bottom I have no intention of staying on the bottom forever. My long-term goal is to supervise an entire department. My main concern is that I will be happy with my job and feel good about the choices that I have made in life. To ensure that I achieve this ultimate goal, I frequently correspond with my mentors and counselors, which will facilitate in the decisions I need to make in regards to my future.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Shannon Chambers
Civil Engineering Major
Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) Scholar
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

Throughout my life I have always looked up to my mother as my role model. She always told me that with persistence and hard work there is nothing in life that I cannot do. She made sure I knew that when she was my age she strived to be the best at all times, in which most cases she succeeded. She graduated from high school as valedictorian of her class and six years later graduated from college with a double major in electrical and mechanical engineering while maintaining a job and a family with three children. Knowing that she was able to accomplish all this and balance all other aspects of her life, it led me to do nothing more than admire her for all of her achievements. So of course it would only be natural for me to want nothing more but like her.

While I was in elementary school my mother instilled in me the same aspirations that she had when she was growing up. So in everything I did, it could clearly be seen that I wanted to come out on top of everyone else. I received numerous awards in school for straight A's, good citizenship, and perfect attendance. It was during this time I developed a love for math and science. I knew these subjects were the basic fundamentals for being an engineer that I kept in mind for what I wanted to be when I grew up. I slowly saw myself following the path of my mother. I became valedictorian of my class in May 1993. In middle school I maintained my excellent academic status and was awarded at the Academic Honors Program each year.

I went into high school knowing that how I performed and what I got involved in would reflect what kind of student I would be upon entering college. My primary goal in high school was to graduate at the top of my class as valedictorian and receive a full academic scholarship for college. While in high school I participated in numerous extracurricular activities. I wanted to shine and stand out from all the rest of my peers. I was a member of the student council, beta club, and student government association. I participated in various quiz bowls, science fairs, essay contests, and mock trial competitions. On top of all that, I was a member of the varsity volleyball team and became editor of the school newspaper. The goal I set for myself since the day I started high school came true. I graduated with honors at the top of my class in May 2000 as valedictorian. This achievement by itself showed that all of my hard work paid off. I received a full scholarship with the Honors College at Southern University and A&M College. This made me feel good inside because I had made not only myself proud but also my mother. That was what I had also set aside to do. I wanted to really make my mother proud of my tremendous accomplishments. She showed me that she was very proud of me and that really made me happy.

I entered college with a good head on my shoulders and decided to major in Civil Engineering, in which I had gained a great interest in after talking with civil engineering recruiters in high school. I started with a positive attitude and worked to continue my high performance of academic excellence. After my first year of college I had obtained a 4.0 grade point average and received the Highest GPA Award in the Honors College and Junior Division at the Awards Day Program. I was encouraged by many upper classmen to join an organization related to my discipline. I followed their advice and became an active member of the American

Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). I am also a Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) and Center for Energy and Environmental Studies (CEES) scholar at Southern University and A&M College. I have always remembered to strive to be the best. Being to stand out and be recognized among hundreds that are also in engineering displays the good character, hard work, and diligence that I possess. During my tenure at Southern University and A&M College, I have had the opportunity to participate in research affiliated with my major which is civil engineering. The research deals with the development and use of a dissolved air flotation system. This system is basically used in industry to aid in purifying and leaning contaminated or dirty water.

I am proud of all that I have managed to accomplish during my time in school. Upon graduation I intend to further my education by going to graduate school. In all that I continue to do I will always keep with me lessons of life my mother taught me. I now understand that these values I hold dear to me have definitely made me into the person that I have become today. I realize that by attending graduate school and continuing to do research will provide me with the educational foundation I will need to fully reach my professional and personal goals when I enter the work industry.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Symoane Mizell
Civil Engineering Major
Timbuktu Academy Scholar
Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) Scholar
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge, LA 70813**

My name is Symoane Mizell. I am a senior majoring in Civil Engineering and minoring in Mathematics. I am extremely active on campus. I am involved in athletics, student government, and other organizations on campus. I am currently a member of the Student Government Association, Honors College, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the University's Softball team. I enjoy being active and working hard for the progress of my university in various aspects.

I am quite curious about the many facets of Civil Engineering. I knew that civil engineering had four basic components upon entering the program. I was initially attracted to this field because of the structural aspect. I was and still am quite curious about how buildings are constructed and how it is known which material will work best under certain circumstances. Many ancient structures provoked my curiosity and caused me to wonder how they have withstood the test of time. This past summer I did some research and analysis of soil grain properties. This experience helped expand my knowledge to another part of Civil Engineering. My course work for the past two semesters has peaked my interest and raised other various questions that I would like to investigate. Most of my course work up to this point has dealt with structures and it has encouraged me to want to learn more in the area dealing with structural dynamics and soil properties. My research interests are now in both geo-technical engineering and earthquake engineering. I was initially interested in earthquake engineering for building structures mostly but also curious about all the facets of soil properties as they relate to earthquakes in general.

I have many plans for the future; the most immediate ones include going to graduate school for Civil Engineering with a possible Masters degree focused on the construction management applications of earthquake engineering. I definitely want to pursue a research-based Ph.D. in earthquake engineering either the soil or structure side. Immediately after graduation I would like to pursue a post doc position, possibly to earn tenure at a university. With these degrees, I also plan to get a job where I can get hands on experience by working in the field. After this I aspire to own my own Civil Engineering firm. I hope to build a company that specializes in aspects varying from homes to dams. I have chosen this route because I feel that it is the best means for me to earn true freedom and independence.

Research is an important part of my matriculation through my Civil Engineering program. I plan to go to graduate school, and research experience at the undergraduate level has been vital to my success on the path to the next level of study. I am open to learn at all times which makes me unable to be any more specific about my research interests, and future plans because I am anxious to learn everything in this field. I feel that the research that I have done the past three years has been the best means for me to learn and narrow or specify my area of interest for graduate school. These experiences have also been beneficial in my preparation for graduate school.