

Statement of Purpose



Collegepond
Your Future, Our Priority

Introduction

As the name suggests writing Statement of purpose requires you to state your “purpose”, in other words your “motivation” behind attending a particular graduate program. The more convinced you are about attending a specific program, the more persuasively you will be able to write your SOP.

There are two aspects of the application process:

- (a) Quantitative aspect and
- (b) Qualitative aspect.

The quantitative parameters are your academic performance, GRE and TOEFL scores. The qualitative aspect deals with you as an individual. The Admission Committee is trying to gain an understanding of who you are through your essays, recommendations, resume etc. Statement of Purpose is by far the most important document you will write for your application; and hence make sure that you put your best foot forward! Remember you will never get an opportunity to engage in face to face interaction with the admission committee; therefore “GRAB” this opportunity to speak to the committee “DIRECTLY”.

Statement of Purpose not only puts you in the “LIMELIGHT” but also gives you a “FABULOUS” chance to stand out, so guys go ahead and use your SOP as an ace up your sleeve to stand out from the rest of applicants who are equally capable and deserving as you!

Before you start writing your SOP, be mindful of the fact that you are writing this essay for seasoned members of the admission committee who can easily smell imitative writing and artificiality from a long distance. This makes it absolutely necessary for you to come up with an original and exciting story which the committee hasn’t heard before. The “TASK” is to write an essay which is not just an engaging read but also includes interesting facts that makes you come across as someone “unique and exclusive”.

Pointers

What exactly is the admissions committee looking for?

Well they are definitely looking for your interest and aptitude for the program but more importantly they want to ascertain whether you are absolutely clear about the below mentioned points:

- Why do you want to apply for this particular program?
- Do you have relevant academic background and aptitude for the program?
- What experience do you have in the field?
- What are your career goals and what do you plan to do with the degree once you earn it?
- Why are you applying for this program NOW?
- Why do think this particular university is the right fit for you?
- Why do you think you are right fit for the program?

These questions must be addressed and answered clearly in your SOP. While keeping all this in mind, your SOP must also endorse your potential as a committed and reliable person who “thrives” in challenging situations and is mentally “equipped” to face the rigors of the program.

Writing an impressive Statement of Purpose is not “rocket science” but definitely requires efforts, awareness and most importantly oodles of PATIENCE! And yes, it is imperative that you keep sufficient time for you to be able to write multiple drafts and refine your essay till you get a version you are absolutely pleased with.

Pointers

What should you know before you start writing your SOP?

You must have a clear idea about the program you intend to pursue. This includes the degree in question, curriculum, research opportunities, faculty, profiles of graduate students, opportunities for career expansion and achieving careers goals. Accordingly, you will be able to weave your SOP story around that.

How to come across as the right fit for the program through your SOP?

Just don't restrict yourself to demonstrating your knowledge of a particular field. You need to establish specific academic interests while projecting your academic journey and work experience. You need to convince the committee of your passion for this particular discipline. You must project yourself as an ideal candidate who can take on the rigors of the graduate program, work under stringent deadlines, can get along well with students from different nationalities and is committed to sticking to the programs come what may.

What NOT to Include

Be Selective. Do not repeat information that is already listed somewhere in your application. At times you would like to mention things you are proud of by way of your achievements and experiences; however, they may not add to your candidature for the program. Talking about your achievements during high school years or earlier is also not a good idea. You may only want to mention them when they are extraordinary achievements and have had a significant impact on your personal growth or shaped your career plans. Finally, do not talk about topics that are potentially controversial including Religion and politics. Any views that might be construed as outlandish or unconventional should also be skipped.

Factors

What factors will help you in writing a brilliant SOP?

- The most important thing is to understand one's real motivation for choosing a particular program. If you are not sure of the reasons, how will you convince the committee of the same.
- Second important thing is to be yourself. Honesty is important; do not try to project yourself as someone you are not. At the same time, you may not want to reveal upfront anything negative about your application such as poor grades, etc.
- Do extensive research and try to come up with a unique idea for your introduction. Sidestep any overused idea and come up with a story that is uniquely yours.
- It is important that your SOP is an interesting read and is not a boring statement of your academic journey. Your SOP is much more than your grades and degrees.
- Please ensure that your SOP flows like a story and the transition between the paras are smooth.
- Do not just focus on the milestones and achievements – it is also important to explain the motivations, takeaways and learning.
- Conclusion should express your determination to excel in the program, how you can add value to the program and grow on to become an exemplary brand ambassador for the institution



Sample 1

Sample SOP for Pharmacology

Looks matter! There are an umpteen number of studies which show that a charming personality, which for most people is reflected in good looks, offers substantial advantages in finding dating partners, getting your opinions heard, and to some extent, even increasing a candidate's employability. Take the case of my roommate -- an intelligent, decent-looking girl, but because she was overtly worried about her acne condition, she consciously avoided socializing. As a result of this, sadly, the effervescent girl was beginning to show signs of loneliness. Being conscious of my own upkeep, I decided to help her out of the situation. I took her to a dermatologist who recommended an ointment to be applied on the affected areas. Within few months, her acne issue was history. I saw major transformations in her personality after this treatment. By overcoming her mental blocks, not only did she gain in confidence that was further reinforced by her enhanced social noticeability, but also her performance in class improved a notch.

Witnessing this episode play out right before my eyes, I realized the importance of effective cosmetic solutions. As someone who keenly follows the world of fashion, a career in the field of cosmetology naturally appeals to me. After graduation, I aspire to pursue my Ph.D. where I hope to undertake research related to dermal and facial receptors and blockade of acne causing factors. In the long run, I hope to work in the research and development teams of high-end cosmetic brands like L'Oreal and Maybelline and contribute towards the development of innovative skincare products. An MS in Pharmacology with specialization in Receptor Studies from Northeastern University would be a giant stride towards realizing these career aspirations.

My proclivity towards biology, right from my schooling years, and a family background involving both parents working in the pharmaceutical industry for over 30 years, led me to pursue my Bachelors in Pharmacy from Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The program exposed me to a multifarious range of courses. The courses on Anatomy and Physiology helped me learn relevant concepts like working of enzymes, and mechanisms involved in the functioning of cardiac, respiratory, circulatory and nervous system. The course in Pharmacology introduced me to core topics like pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, drug-receptor interaction and discrete drugs like anti-hypertensives, hyperlipidemic drugs, anti-diabetes drugs, and anti-convulsants. I also look forward to studying about anti-psychotic and anti-cancer drugs in the upcoming semester.

My growing interest in pharmacology motivated me to undertake my final year project in Quercetin analogues as possible anti-cancer agents. The project involves investigating the effects of test molecules on cell cycle, possible anti-cancer activity in breast cancer (MCF-7 and MDA-MB231 cell lines) and Hela-cervical cancer cell lines. I have performed cytotoxicity studies of the test molecules on the cell lines (by MTT assay). I have also undergone training in cell culture techniques that includes seeding, sub-culturing and maintenance of cells and treating drugs. We handled laboratory animals like Swiss albino mice, wisteria rats, etc. as a part of the in-vivo screening of the drugs during the project.

In addition to the above project, I have also undertaken a literature review on Cathepsins in the management of cancer. This project involves evaluating the studies conducted so far on cathepsins in relation to cancer therapy, its efficacy, and side effects. The analysis will also focus on the anti-inflammatory activity of the molecules. Working on these projects has enhanced my research and documentation skills and provided me experience in performing ethical drug-testing on live animals.

Sample 1

My proclivity towards skincare and dermatology led me to undertake a 2-month internship with Ranbaxy in the Dermatology Department. Here, the main objective of my internship project was to study and analyze the already launched combination of levocetirizine and montelukast, which is an anti-allergic drug treating urticaria. I performed competitive benchmarking for the combination followed by physical tablet examination. On the basis of insights derived, I proposed innovative marketing strategies for the brand. The project saw me involve in six weeks of extensive field work during which I interviewed pediatricians, ENT specialists, and dermatologists regarding the combination drug. The survey was carried out through an exhaustive questionnaire that I designed. On the basis of my interaction with close to 200 doctors during the field-study stage, I also proposed certain pharmacology-based manipulations in the drug. The proposals included the introduction of bilayer technology into the tablet to improve the dissolution rate and thus ensuring quicker results; introduction of caffeine as an excipient to prevent sedation caused by the drug; introduction of antibodies into the tablet for immediate action; and insertion of vitamins and minerals for skin revitalization. Working at Ranbaxy not only introduced me to the entire corporate functioning and policies of a company but also made me realize my deep interest and acumen for research work.

Apart from academics, I have also actively involved myself in extra curriculum activities like sports and cultural events. I have been the recipient of the Best Footballer award in college, for my performances in the Centre Forward position. I have also captained the women's cricket team of my college. Apart from winning in team-sports, I have also won several tournaments in badminton and table tennis and was adjudged the best player in college for the latter. Along with this, my passion for traveling led me to organize several class trips. In addition, I have been part of the student body council of my college as a cultural representative. In this role, I successfully conducted various intercollegiate events related to dance, debate, painting, and clay modeling. Moreover, an eight-year training in Speech and Drama from Trinity College of London during which I completed grade 4 (intermediate stage), has enabled me to win several elocution and debating events. Such engagements have helped me learn leadership skills like managing expectations and differences in opinions, effective task-delegation and getting work done within deadlines.

On the back of my academic and internship experiences, I believe this is the opportune moment for me to pursue graduate studies in the field of pharmacology and Northeastern University seems to be the perfect destination. The well-designed curriculum that includes courses related to Receptor Pharmacology and Drug Design, Evaluation, and Development is in perfect alignment with my career interests. The erudite faculty and state-of-the-art research facilities would be immensely helpful as I look to broaden my knowledge and skill-set in the domain. I am particularly keen to assist Professor Ralph H. Loring in his research work in Ligand-gated Ion Channels as it would help me learn how the receptors react to novel cosmetic formulations. In addition, I hope to actively contribute to the functioning of various student organizations at the University which would also help me forge a long-lasting relationship with fellow colleagues. I hope the Admissions Committee shares my enthusiasm and recommends an affirmative reply to my application. I eagerly look forward to being a part of the incoming class of Fall 2016.

Sample 2

SOP for CS

This a Statement of Purpose of a student who got admitted to Columbia for the Masters in CS program.

Perusing through various online business and technology publications, I have realized that global commerce is premised on rapidly accessing data like consumer buying behavior and preferences, analyzing this data to draw trends and predictions and then utilizing the insights to build future strategies. A study by the Aberdeen Group vividly demonstrates that financial service companies such as banks that use predictive models have increased their attractiveness to new customers by 10 percent while realizing a 167 percent increment in cross-sell and up-sell of revenue compared to those without predictive analytics. All major companies around the world have recognized the potential of data analytics and are in a race to incorporate the same into their system and avail the benefits that accrue from it. It is an emerging field, and I view myself working as a Data Scientist for one of the forerunners in the IT field. As a Computer Engineer, studying database related subjects and delving into new advancements in the area via my internship, I have developed a keen interest in this domain. Hence to gain a comprehensive understanding of the discipline, I have decided to pursue my Masters in Computer Science with Data Science as my specialization.

My interests in mathematics and computers were kindled since a young age, as both my parents are bankers. They often discussed how innovation in information technology has revolutionized the banking industry. My fascination with computers coupled with my strong mathematical and analytical skills motivated me to pursue engineering. My undergraduate program helped in developing my expertise in areas of statistical analysis and programming. Courses like Databases Management and Distributed Databases enabled me to gain an understanding of concepts like fragmentation, relational databases, query optimization and instilled a passion for the same in me. My focused efforts during my undergraduate engineering tenure resulted in me securing a 4th rank in a class of 74. This earned me the J.R.D. Tata scholarship for two consecutive years. Along with the university prescribed curriculum, I have completed a course on R-programming offered by the Coursera platform wherein I learned statistical computing. I am also a certified Microsoft Technology Associate in Web Development.

Projects as part of the curriculum helped me understand the application nuances of textbook learning to real-world applications. One project that I worked on was the 'Stock Market Portfolio Management System' that enabled users to track the performance of stocks that they hold on a timely basis. For this project, we first laid out the design of the system and the database schema using UML tools and diagrams and subsequently implemented the database using SQLite. Also, we created the GUI using Java Swings and JFrames and finally integrated all the components. Working on the project was a fulfilling experience since we got to implement the entire Software Development Lifecycle for the first time.

During my sixth semester, I enrolled for a course in ASP.net and Cloud Computing offered by Microsoft IT Academy. As part of the course, I worked in a team-project on the development of a Blood Donation Agent System. Our initial deliberations were on the various features that would make it easy for a person in need to find a blood donor and the kind of data required to support this endeavor. On the basis of this, we designed the database using Microsoft SQL Server and programmed the application using C#. The web-pages were created using the ASP.NET framework. Our portal enabled users to search for nearby donors and sort them location-wise along with many other features such as nearby blood bank locations, FAQs regarding donations, etc.

Sample 2

My final year project, which is in the field of Data Mining, involves analyzing enormous amounts of clickstream data to predict a user's tendency towards purchases. To perform this task, we will be extracting and selecting features to train the system using learning algorithms, thus enabling the system to predict whether a user will purchase an item during the session as well as what items he will buy. I have also published two papers in the data mining domain. The first paper focuses on analyzing student skills required for securing a job. The paper explores Formal Concept Analysis and is published in the International Journal of Innovations and Advancement in Computer Science. The second paper is a comparative study of data mining techniques for classifying spam email and is published in the International Journal of Emerging Technology and Advanced Engineering.

An internship at Reliance Industries Ltd. helped me gain an insight into the importance of data in the industry. During my internship, I worked on the development of an Android library to store the usage patterns of users, including frequently visited pages, session durations and crash reports in case the application experienced a sudden forced close. For implementing the system, I used Shared Preferences, which is a data storage method in Android that enabled me to permanently store the page count and Timestamp of the user. Using this data, I generated text files with the required parameters that were then uploaded to the server for further analysis. The internship also helped me in getting a glimpse of the corporate world and how software is developed in the industry.

Apart from academics, I also took an active part in extracurricular activities. During my second year, I was a member of the logistics team for the Computer Society of India student chapter. My performance saw me get selected as the Head of Department of Logistics for the International Conference of Advanced Computing Technologies and Applications that our college organized. Leading an 8-member team, I was involved in decision making on critical issues like deciding budgets, event flow, venues, etc. In addition, I was selected by J.P. Morgan to be a part of their Code for Good Challenge 2015 wherein I developed a website for Happy Hearts Fund, a non-profit organization, which helped the donors measure the impact of the schools they constructed. Besides these endeavors, I have a passion for learning new technologies beyond the constraints of the syllabus and hence I have attended a number of workshops like Android Application Development at Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay, Google Developer's Group Seminars, Ethical Hacking, Blender and Adobe Photoshop workshops.

Based on my research and interaction with students, I have realized that the Graduate program in Computer Science with a focus on Information and Data Management at UCLA is the perfect next step to broaden my academic horizons further. UCLA fits my aspirations as it provides a perfect blend of academic rigor, research facilities and a diverse environment to interact and learn from. The curriculum at UCLA is very well designed and offers me opportunities to explore new frontiers. Learning and working with distinguished faculty like Prof. Richard R. Muntz and Prof. Carlo Zaniolo will provide me various opportunities to excel in my field. Also, UCLA has thriving student clubs and communities that I would love to be part of.

I assure the Admission Committee that I will endeavor to surpass the expectations set forth for an incoming student and uphold the noble ideals that have been the cornerstone of this hallowed institution. I look forward to being part of this acclaimed university next fall.

Sample 3

SOP for Immunology

This a Statement of Purpose of a student who got admitted to Harvard for the Masters in Immunology program.

FIRST DRAFT of the SOP given by the Student:

I was just 5 years old when my school taught us about sharing and how it made everyone happy. I decided to put it to use immediately and went to my grandmother with a chocolate. I offered her half the chocolate but to my surprise she turned it down. As a child, the fact that someone could refuse chocolate was enough to drive me crazy. But then she explained to me that she had an illness called diabetes and because of this she could not eat any sweets. This is when I began to notice that she did some very strange things. While the very thought of needles and injections would fill me with dread, she would prick her finger on a "machine" and often go to the hospital to take injections of "medicine". This made me feel very sorry for her and made me think that maybe such medications could be given in different ways without causing so much discomfort to the patients. Although I did not know it, this would be the main reason for me to enter into the field of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The fact that my grandmother was a doctor, my aunt a microbiologist and my uncle a pathologist, meant that I would constantly hear some or the other discussion about biology and chemicals. The jargon usually made no sense to me and drove me to my books for answers. Besides biology, I quickly developed an interest in chemistry. So, as a student in standard 10, I had already decided that I wished to pursue a career in pharmacy. Without further ado, I began my Bachelors in Pharmacy from Dr. Bhanuben Nanavati College of Pharmacy (BNCP), one of the top institutes for Pharmacy in India. As a student I have been consistently getting an A grade in every semester. The syllabus compiled by the Mumbai University includes a thorough study of a variety of topics. In my time as a pharmacy student, I have studied about different routes of administration and formulations like tablets, emulsions, suspensions; the pharmacology of a number of drugs and the pharmacotherapy of different diseases; procedures for analysis of a myriad of formulations and medicaments; chemistry of drugs used in different diseases; microbiology; biochemistry and even the aspects of pharmaceutical jurisprudence in India. I learnt about the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs, about various formulation aspects to be considered, structure activity relationships in drugs and so on.

The practical aspect especially interested me, and I have always excelled at practical work in every subject, be it pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, pharmacology, pharmaceutical analysis, microbiology or any other subject. I take every precaution necessary and make sure that I am accurate when carrying out laboratory work. To further my interest in the practical aspects of the field, I interned at Sunsheen Cosmetics, a company near Mumbai which specialises in the preparation of creams and lotions, where I had a myriad of duties. I was placed in the packaging department at first. Here I got to monitor the packaging line and make sure that none of the containers was left unsealed and that nothing was damaged in the process. Then I got the opportunity to work in the research department. This is where I saw the amount of thought that goes into the formulation of a single product. Due to a problem that was presenting itself, I also learned the valuable lesson that everything that works on a small scale need not necessarily work on a large scale. I too participated in the discussion that ensued on this topic and made a few suggestions, which although not fruitful, did give me valuable experience. I also went on a number of Industrial Visits organised by the Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA) to Goa and visited the plants of companies like Unichem and Merck. I am also working under a Ph.D student who is guided by Dr. Lokesh Bhatt, in order to gain experience in animal

Sample 3

handling and analytics. I, along with a classmate, have also conducted a comparative study on mouthwashes for their action on 2 microorganisms commonly found in the mouth. During this study, we faced a number of problems due to the unavailability of the nutrient mediums and the microorganisms. However, I made sure that we wrote all the applications to the different institutes that could provide us with these and made sure the study was completed. Besides this, I have presented a review paper on Adeno-Associated Viruses at the Paper presentation competition in the festival organised by the IPA and secured second position in the same.

Although the syllabus is very important, I believe in learning about the field in a broader aspect. So, I also took courses on Coursera on “Introduction to Pharmacy” by the University of Ohio and “Clinical Terminology for International and U.S. students” provided by the University of Pittsburgh. I received Statements of Accomplishment with distinction in both. I am also pursuing a 10-hour certificate course on Pharmacovigilance to broaden my horizons. Also, a course on Soft Skills provided by my college has helped me improve my communication, presentation and overall personality I am also well versed in Microsoft office, basic Java and C++ programming. I also am fluent in English, Hindi, Marathi, and am learning Spanish in order to be able to interact with people of different countries and cultures.

The philosopher Aristotle had said- “Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all”. I have received this “education of the heart” through my family. My family has supported everything I have done and motivated me to work with diligence and persevere in everything I do. Whether it was providing me with the appropriate environment to study, by reinforcing my desire to work hard by taking me to see Stanford University or encouraging my participation in extracurricular activities, my parents have been the greatest support in my life. This support has helped me excel in sports too. I represented my school at state level and my junior college at district level in swimming and have won a number of accolades. I have also represented my current college in the aquatic meet organised by the Mumbai University and secured second position in backstroke. I am also training in Kickboxing, Jiu Jitsu and Eskrima under Shihan Hemal Sheth and Shihan Sanjay Patel at Fighting Fit, India. I am a member of the Editorial Committee of my College and have participated in intercollege football and the fashion show in the intercollege festival organised by IPA. All of these activities have helped me learn how to manage my time and have made me a better team player.

Sample 3

Becoming an exceptional pharmacist and a well-rounded individual is my most important career goal. The University of Pittsburgh will give me the opportunity to work in the field of Pharmaceutical Sciences with exceptional professors like Dr. Sant, who is doing ground-breaking work in nanotechnology as a novel drug delivery system, and Dr. Lisa Rohan, who is working on an extremely enticing topical drug delivery using microbicides. On my part, I will definitely work to the best of my capabilities to give back to the college more than what I receive. I will not only work hard in my academics but will also participate in the community programs of the college. I am also interested in working on the college magazine as I have gained some experience from being on the Editorial Committee of BNCP. So, I believe that my admission to the University of Pittsburgh for the Masters in Pharmaceutical Sciences will be mutually beneficial.

Sample 3

SOP for Immunology

This a Statement of Purpose of a student who got admitted to Harvard for the Masters in Immunology program.

FINAL DRAFT of the SOP created by the Counsellor:

As I listlessly laid down on the hospital bed after being diagnosed with dengue, my mind was plagued with defeating thoughts of no treatment for this illness. The death toll due to dengue in Mumbai was on the rise as this deadly disease was caused by not one but four individual viruses that made the development of vaccines and medicines a herculean task. As my platelet count dropped to life-threateningly low of 30 thousand, I resolved in my heart to fight back to life and find fundamental solutions for terminal diseases such as this. My career goal is to use my knowledge and expertise to improve treatment for epidemics like dengue, Ebola and diseases like AIDS that cause the entire world to panic. To this end, I wish to pursue Masters in Microbiology and Immunology from prestigious Johns Hopkins University. Sample SOP for Immunology

My undergrad education in Pharmacy from Dr. Bhanuben Nanavati College of Pharmacy successfully introduced me to the realm of microbiology and biotechnology. During my entire undergrad program, I consistently ranked in the top 5% of my class in these subjects both in theory as well as laboratory sessions. My coursework also enhanced my understanding on subjects such as pharmaceuticals, microbiology, biotechnology, pharmacology, pharmaceutical analysis, etc. While the undergraduate coursework has been highly enriching, I believe that to achieve the aforementioned goal, a concentrated Masters program in Microbiology and Immunology is the next best logical step.

To develop germane skillsets and garner relevant experience, I interned at Sunsheen Cosmetics, a company near Mumbai, which specialises in the preparation of creams and lotions. This assignment necessitated me to work in the production department, where I was in charge of monitoring and helping solve any problems during the production process. Here I gained first-hand experience of witnessing the amount of efforts that goes into the formulation of a single product. I also went on Industrial Visits organised by the Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA) to Goa and visited the plants of companies like Unichem and Merck.

In addition to this internship, I began working alongside a Ph.D. student guided by Dr. Lokesh Bhatt and gained pertinent experience in animal handling and analytics. I undertook a project to study the action of three different types of mouthwash on *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida albicans*. This project helped me learn about the different spreading techniques, different ways to obtain a zone of inhibition and use of machines like the laminar air flow chamber. I used a method called agar well diffusion method to obtain the zone of inhibition of the mouthwashes and found which mouthwash was most effective. I have also presented a review paper on Adeno-Associated Viruses in the paper presentation competition organised by the Indian Pharmaceutical Association and won the second position in the same. While executing these projects, I learned to manage my time and balance work and academics effectively.

To fortify my understanding of pharmacy, I completed courses from Coursera on "Introduction to Pharmacy" conducted by the University of Ohio and on "Clinical Terminology for International and U.S. students" conducted by the University of Pittsburgh. While I earned Statements of Accomplishment with Distinction, I am also pursuing a 10-hour certificate course on Pharmacovigilance and an online course on "Tropical Parasitology: Protozoans, worms, vectors and human diseases" by Duke University to broaden my horizons. Also, a course on soft skills by my college has helped me improve my communication, presentation and overall personality.

Sample 3

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all” – Aristotle.

I have received this “education of the heart” through the value system inculcated by my family. My parents, my aunt, a microbiologist, who has authored many books on microbiology and my uncle, a pathologist, have always served as a source of inspiration to enter the field of microbiology. Spreading my vistas beyond academia, I represented my school at the state level and my junior college at the district level in swimming and have won a number of accolades. I have also represented BNCP in the aquatic meet organised by the Mumbai University and secured the second position in the backstroke. I am also a green belt holder in kickboxing and jiu-jitsu under Shihan Hemal Sheth at Fighting Fit, India. In addition, I am a member of the Editorial Committee of my College and have participated in intercollegiate football and the fashion show organised by IPA. I have also participated in blood donation camps and rallies to spread awareness about diseases. All these activities have instilled qualities of time management and made me a conscientious citizen. As a sportsman, dealing with asthma, I indulged in effective practices such as meditation and breathing techniques that empowered me to overcome my bodily limitations.

Given my career aspirations, pursuing Masters of Microbiology from the Johns Hopkins University would be the ideal stepping stone. The pioneering work of Dr. George Dimopoulos, whose team is working on the genetical modification of mosquitoes to make them immune to the malarial parasite, is intriguing to say the least. The research of Dr. Alan Scott, who is working on defining genes that affect pulmonary inflammation that can help treat asthma, a problem I suffered from, completely resonates with my interest. Also, Dr. Gary Ketner’s work on adenoviruses that I came across while preparing for my review paper has the potential to help solve a number of serious diseases like breast cancer, and I would like to be associated with the same. The rich curriculum will deepen my knowledge on virology, immunology and practical techniques and fully equip me with the necessary tools to make my mark in the industry. The university life will also allow me to grow beyond academics. I intend to participate in community events, work for the John Hopkins Public Health Magazine and be aligned with the J.B. Grant Society and SOURCE, so as to exchange rich insights with the international community.

I will work assiduously to carve a niche for myself in the field of Pharmacy and strive tirelessly to uphold the reputation of the University. I look forward to being a member of the Fall 2016 incoming class.

Services

1

Career & School Selection

Students are prone to following a herd mentality and tend to overlook their strengths and weaknesses. Collegepond works with each student to determine their student's forte, dreams and aspirations and accordingly recommends career opportunities suitable for them.

2

Assistance in building credentials

An impressive credential is indispensable to the selection process and Collegepond aids its students in putting their best foot forward, magnifying their academic achievements and amplifying their leadership skills in extracurricular activities.

3

Visa Counselling

Collegepond brings your dream of studying abroad to fruition by helping you cross the last hurdle with ease and equanimity through our professional Visa counselling and mock interviews. We boast of 99% success rate in helping students acquire a student visa.

4

Test Preparation Coaching

Our test prep classes are designed by industry experts who know the secret to cracking standardized exams like GRE, TOEFL, GMAT and IELTS. Our effective teaching methodology coupled with personalized and flexible coaching makes the preparation experience enjoyable and enriching.

5

Essay and application assistance

The essays and recos is an opportunity to showcase and market yourselves to the Admissions Committee. Collegepond assists students in writing personal statements, scholarship essays, leadership essays and also modify them according to different schools' requirements.

6

Financial planning

Collegepond conducts free in-house seminars from time to time for its students & parents to help them ease out their financial worries. We not only go through your documents at every stage, but also smoothen the process by providing you with best tie ups.

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