

PERSONAL STATEMENT

The beginning of my first show as drum major of my high school marching band was the most suspenseful moment of my life. I raised my hands, and the entire band stared directly at me from the field, waiting for me to begin conducting the show we had worked so hard all summer to put together. I began to conduct, and was struck by the sight of each individual person moving and playing their instruments to create something so powerful. Music has been a significant influence throughout my entire life, whether I was performing it, listening to it, or seeing how it affected others. I have always been fascinated by the way in which music connects others to experience something beyond themselves.

As I went through school, I discovered more and more ways to get involved with music. I joined my church chorus, began to play the flute in the school band, joined the school choir and orchestra and eventually the drama club in high school, where I was able to work with my peers to put on musicals. In my junior and senior year, I served as drum major of the marching band and was placed in charge of teaching the other students to march and play our shows. There was nothing I loved more than working one-on-one all summer with the other students on an awesome performance and having the honor of conducting the group on the field every Friday night. Not until later in my life did I realize that these activities I was participating in all had something very important in common.

As I came to the end of my high school career, I considered pursuing a music degree in college. I was often told by my instructors and music teachers of the struggles of being a music major, such as learning how to play every possible instrument or spending hour after hour locked in a practice room. It all seemed very solitary to me. After getting a taste of music theory my senior year, I began to realize that it was not necessarily the act of performing the music that I was so passionate about, but it was actually the experience that all of my involvements in high school had in common: bringing people together. Whether it was the joy of the first time we played an entire song perfectly in the orchestra or when the cast came together on the stage and held hands for the final bow, I fell in love with the way that people can come together toward a common goal despite their background or opinions. Connecting so many different personalities to make something bigger than just myself was something I decided I wanted to pursue for the rest of my life.

The discovery of this passion led me to choose a degree in Human Resources Management as I began my college career. Just as I loved helping individual students work together to create a play or marching band show in high school, I discovered I had a fascination with helping employees from all cultures come together to make a successful and well-functioning company. As I have moved through college, I have gone out of my way to work on projects and join organizations that let me study and get to know a diverse range of students. I made sure that Management Association, the organization that I serve as President for, is compiled of majors from all over campus so its members get as much experience as possible in working well with people that have different experiences and views from them. While I have done as much as I can

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at IUP in experiencing and absorbing the varying characteristics of others, I believe that it is extremely important for me to take it to the next level. Having never been out of the country, traveling to India this year will allow me to truly gain an understanding of different cultures and the way in which they can come together to meet a common goal, in this case, education. I know that I will use the knowledge and experiences I gain on this trip for the rest of my career to mediate between diverse employees in a company to create something groundbreaking.

BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

Market Value of Program		
Airfare	Round Trip Plane Ticket from Pittsburgh to Bangalore, India	\$1800
Room and Board	Cost of hotel accommodations for duration of trip	\$1000
Documentation Fees	Student Visa, Passport	\$245
Estimated Transportation Costs	Estimated cost of bus/taxi fees for travel during trip	\$300
Tuition Expense	Cost of 3-credit experiential course including a presentation and research paper on India	\$250
Other	Estimated cost of miscellaneous expenses including food, tours, & admission to tourist experiences	\$300
Total Cost		\$3895

Sources of Funding

Actual Cost	
Partner School PES University & Eberly College of Business Honors Program Discount	\$(1200)
Total cost after school discount	\$2695
Personal Contributions	
Personal Savings	\$200
Expected Income Available for Use	\$400
Total Financial Need after Personal Contributions	\$2,095

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PROPOSAL FOR USE OF FUNDS

The Eberly Business Honors cohorts are offered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend the Discover India trip, where we will spend 10 days experiencing and absorbing many components of the Indian culture. Not only will this be an amazing opportunity to learn as much as possible about such an interesting society, but it is an unforgettable bonding experience with my fellow peers. On this trip, we will get the opportunity to visit the Taj Mahal and other historically significant sites in Agra, Mysore, Bangalore, Jaipur, and Delhi.

This trip will serve as a study abroad opportunity as I will be taking a three-credit course over my ten-day stay in India. This course will involve studying Indian economics and international relations throughout the trip and showcasing the information I learned in a presentation to other students and faculty at the conclusion. I will also write a 10-page paper on these topics that will give me the ability to exhibit the knowledge I gain on the trip. This will act as my experiential course for the Honors College, fulfill my GMA requirement, and brings me to the 120 credits that are required for graduation. If I did not choose to attend this trip or could not attend because of lack of financial means, I would have to switch around my final semester schedule and may even have to stay an extra semester.

Another great feature of participating in this trip is that our sister school located in India, PES University, sends its students to IUP for a semester each year. I am constantly in contact with Eberly's Indian student population as a student worker in the Associate Dean's office, and I have already heard so many wonderful things about their culture. Each Indian student I spoke with lit up when I mentioned going on this trip, and highly encouraged me to go. Their love of their country and culture is so inspiring, and I would be so honored to have the opportunity to be a part of it for a few days. This trip would give me the ability to experience the connection of two very different cultures and study the results to use as I work with diverse individuals in the business world.

As a Human Resources major, it is important for me to get used to working with people from all backgrounds. Over the past two years, I have been extremely busy working to obtain my degree in three years as opposed to four for both financial reasons and anticipation of starting a career. I have worked with a very tight class schedule and would not have dreamed that I would have the time or money to be a part of a study abroad experience. I am so ecstatic that I may have this amazing opportunity to explore the culture of India and gain a stronger idea of diversity to contribute to my ability to understand the needs and potential of employees in my future career. This is the first and only time I will be applying to the achievement fund as I will be graduating in Spring 2019, and I would be extremely grateful and ready to give back to the Cook Honors College as soon as I am financially capable.

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STATUS OF ARRANGEMENTS

In the past week, I submitted my \$500 deposit to Eberly College of Business and Information Technology to secure my spot on the Discover India Trip and successfully applied for a passport that will be arriving in 4-6 weeks. I am **fully committed and accepted** into to this trip and will be paying full cost of the trip (\$2,300) by October 15th. I will then pay the additional \$250 for the Discover India course when we arrive at the first destination in Bangalore. The following arrangements have been made to ensure that I am fully prepared and informed on my attendance and commitment to the trip:

- On **Sunday, September 9th**, I paid a \$500 deposit and was approved by Dr. Prasanth Bharadwaj to attend the 2019 Discover India trip.
- On **Monday, September 17th**, I submitted my driver's license and passport information to JoAnn Britcher so that my flight may be booked and arrangements can be made for me to be transported to India at the proper time.
- On **Friday, September 28th** at 2:45 PM we will be meeting to discuss and finalize the details of the trip and begin the visa application process.
- We will depart from Pittsburgh International Airport on **January 8th, 2019, and return on January 20th, 2019**.

Without funding from the Achievement Fund, I will not have the financial means immediately available to pay for this trip. I am taking care of the cost of this trip myself with no outside source of funding beyond my own savings, so I will struggle significantly to finance the experience on my own. I feel so fortunate that I am part of a program where I have the ability to ask for help with such an important supplement to my education. If I do not receive the full amount I need (\$2,095), I will attempt to work as much as possible over the winter and spring semester, even though it may interfere with my class schedule, to hopefully sustain the savings I need to pursue a career in Pittsburgh after graduation. If I were to receive no financial assistance from the Honors College, I will have to consider taking out a loan or possibly losing the \$500 non-refundable deposit I have already placed to reserve my spot on the trip. I would be sincerely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of an experience that has the potential to be so life-changing and I will use the cultural knowledge I obtain on this trip for the rest of my personal and professional life.

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FOUR YEAR PLAN

Senior Year

Fall 2018:

- Continue working on college-wide projects as an assistant to the Associate Dean in Eberly, including the establishment of a Young Alumni Business Advisory Council to connect recent graduates of IUP
- Provide fantastic professional development opportunities for the members of Management Association, the organization for which I serve as President
- Focus on completing 17 credits for the semester including Honors Core Units G & H, 3 Business Honors courses (Operations Management, Intro to Marketing, Finance), and an International Business Management course
- Arrange community service opportunities for the members of Phi Gamma Nu Professional Business Fraternity as Philanthropy Chair for the organization
- Experience and reflect on four fine arts events throughout the semester for the Honors College
- Finalize my resume and begin applying for full-time positions in the Pittsburgh area

Winter 2019:

- Work at Eagle Lake Community Association to help them continue to establish a Human Resources Department
- Attend the Discover India trip and complete the 3-credit experiential course required for my graduation in Spring 2019

Spring 2019:

- Secure a full-time position beginning in Summer/Fall 2019 within the HR division of a company in Pittsburgh to gain entry-level experience
- Continue working as an assistant to the Associate Dean in Eberly to save money for post-graduation plans
- Work on organizing the second annual Women in Business Leadership Panel of successful women in various industries to present to female business and ROTC students
- Maintain a GPA of a 3.87 or above
 - Take my final Business Honors class, Management 495, along with 12 other credits of business management courses to complete my major
 - Work with new potential officers of Management Association to ensure the organization continues success after current officers graduate
 - Graduate from the Cook Honors College and Eberly Business Honors Program with a double major in Human Resources and General Management

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Post-Graduation (Year One)

Personal Goals:

- Make accommodations to move away from home such as purchasing my first car and renting an apartment near my place of employment
- Move from my home in Scranton, PA to my first apartment in the Pittsburgh area and spend 1-2 summer months adjusting to living in the city

Career Goals:

- Begin a full-time position as an HR generalist or recruiter for a company in the Pittsburgh area that has a culture that matches my personality and vision for my future
- Build on my network of other professionals around the Pittsburgh area and beyond to strengthen connections for future career endeavors
- Become a member of the Pittsburgh Human Resources Association (PHRA) to establish relationships with other companies in the area besides my place of employment

Education Goals:

- Apply to University of Pittsburgh's one-year MBA program in Organizational Behavior and Human Resources in order to supplement my career and provide a gateway to new employment paths in the future
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Post-Graduation (Year Two)

Personal Goals:

- Stay involved with IUP and reach out to alumni relations programs within the Cook Honors College, Business Honors Program, and Phi Gamma Nu Professional Business Fraternity
- Begin to establish connections with non-profit organizations in the area in order to eventually pursue my ultimate goal of working in a company that is making an effort to give back to the community

Career Goals:

- Work on establishing myself with my place of employment to show that I am a promising and hardworking individual that is open to new opportunities within the company
- Spend time as an HR recruiter for the company where I work, hopefully traveling to different colleges and working with students that can potentially become employees

Education Goals:

- Begin classes at the University of Pittsburgh in pursuit of an MBA in Organizational Behavior and Human Resources
- Become involved on the University of Pittsburgh campus in organizations that can add to my career and personal goals

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Post-Graduation (Year Three)

Personal Goals:

- Become involved with the Young Alumni Business Advisory Council (YABAC) based out of Eberly College of Business to ensure my involvement with students at IUP
- Hopefully begin planning to move into my first house or a more well-established apartment that allows me to create a home for myself in the Pittsburgh area

Career Goals:

- Use two years of experience and a master's degree to either move to a higher position in my current company or pursue opportunities in a new location
- Become involved in or establish a project within my company to leave an impact and improve the ability of employees to work together and create a positive work environment

Education Goals:

- Graduate from the University of Pittsburgh with an MBA in Organizational Behavior and Human Resources
- Begin taking classes in Lean Six Sigma Training, in pursuit of a certification in lean management to supplement my career goals

Dominique M. Sgobba

4470 Dawn Acres Drive
(570) 903-3750

Madison Township, PA 18444
dmmsgobba@gmail.com

Education

North Pocono High School, Gouldsboro, PA

- Received High Honors every quarter
- Member of National Honors Society
- Outstanding AP Scholar Award

Diploma Received: June 2016

Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP)

Expected May 2019

Eberly College of Business & Information Technology (*AACSB-International Accreditation*)

Bachelor of Science: Human Resource Management & General Management

Cumulative GPA: 3.87/4.00

-Cook Honors College

-Eberly College of Business & IT Honors Program – Cohort Leader

Job Experience

Assistant Human Resource Director / Management Intern

Eagle Lake Community Association, Gouldsboro, PA

Summer 2018

- Collaborated with Director of Operations to begin the establishment of a Human Resource Department within the company
- Transferred employee information and application for employment to online system
- Attended executive board meetings to coordinate community-wide events
- Supervised recreational staff and handled employee conflicts and concerns
- Filed and organized employee and resident information

Student Worker

Eberly College of Business Assistant Dean's Office, Indiana, PA

March 2018 – Present

- Contributes to college-wide projects such as internship applications, promotional videos, travel expenses, and other ventures to ensure the smooth operation of the business program
- Addresses issues and concerns among employees and students within the college

Recreational Staff Assistant

Eagle Lake Community Association, Gouldsboro, PA

Summer 2017

- Assisted with organization and facilitation of children's day camp
- Coordinated several community events including family craft nights, festivals, and youth trips and activities
- Handled issues with residents to ensure satisfaction with community activities

Media Desk Attendant

IUP Campus Library, Indiana, PA

Jan 2017 – May 2018

- Managed activities at Library Media Desk by checking out media equipment to patrons such as laptops, cameras, DVDs, etc.
- Worked with various library computer applications to check out equipment, book study rooms, and navigate library systems

Circulation Desk Clerk

North Pocono Public Library, Moscow, PA

June 2013 – August 20

- Provided customer service and technical assistance to patrons in locating, ordering, and checking out library materials, paying fines, and signing up for programs and events
- Planned and carried out several community service events such as blood drives, summer reading programs, and festival

Volunteer Experience

Cook Honors College Orientation Leader, August 22nd – 26th, 2018

- Worked with incoming honors college freshman to plan and enhance their orientation experience
- Gave tours, facilitated team-building activities and book discussion, and ensured that all students in orientation group felt welcome and ready to begin the year

Philanthropy Chair of Phi Gamma Nu, Spring 2018 - Present

- Plans community service opportunities for members of the fraternity to participate in
- In the process of planning the Turkey Bowl, a flag football event held by Phi Gamma Nu where half of the proceeds will go to the Susan G. Komen Foundation
- Participated in Into the Streets for 4 consecutive semesters, worked with the Indiana County Humane Society, worked with St. Thomas More church on their annual book sort

Community Service Chair of Management Association, Spring 2017 – Fall 2017

- Provided community service opportunities to members in the Indiana community
 - Planned and recruited for multiple blood drives through the Red Cross and Geisinger
 - Established a relationship with Beacon Ridge, where members can visit and play bingo with residents during the week

Usher for LivelyArts, Fall 2016-Spring 2017

- Assisted in ushering LivelyArts performances including Rodger's and Hammerstein's Cinderella and 42nd Street

IUP Mini-THON Fundraising Committee, Fall 2016

- Created and participated in fundraisers in order to hold a successful Mini-THON event on the IUP campus

Activities & Involvements

IUP Management Association, President

Fall 2016 – Present

- *Manages operations of organization & provides professional experience to members*

Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM), Member

Fall 2016 – Present

- *Builds upon skills in Personnel Management through participation in club activities*

Phi Gamma Nu Professional Business Fraternity, Philanthropy Chair

Spring 2017 – Present

- *Organizes community service events for fraternity members to attend*

Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society

Spring 2018 – Present

- *Top 10% of AACSB-International Accredited Schools*

Outstanding Presentation Award at Undergraduate Scholar's Forum

Spring 2018

- *Collaborated with a group on a development plan for "Civita", a mobile community service app*

Leadership in a Multicultural Society Certification

Spring 2017

- *Six week training experience on managing diversity in the workplace*

Executive Leadership Series – Six Week Certification

Fall 2017

- *Six week training experience on effective leadership in modern society*