Nick Hanson

Madison, WI 53714

nick@nickhanson.me | github.com/ArchILLect | linkedin.com/in/nick-hanson-sr

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OSPO Internship Selection Committee

University of Wisconsin–Madison

Open-Source Program Office (OSPO)

**Dear Selection Committee,**

I am excited to apply for the OSPO Internship Program at UW–Madison. As a second-year Web Software Development student at Madison Area Technical College, I have a strong passion for open-source software and collaborative development. I was honored when my mentor for my college’s Honor’s Project personally encouraged me to apply for this internship, knowing how closely aligned my work has been with open-source contributions and community-driven projects.

Through my Honor’s Project, I gained hands-on experience contributing to open source by improving educational content and curriculum documentation. I collaborated on a GitHub-hosted repository, using pull requests, version control, and markdown editing to enhance the clarity and accessibility of technical resources for new developers. This experience not only deepened my appreciation for open-source communities but also gave me practical skills in Git, GitHub workflows, semantic HTML, CSS, and JavaScript fundamentals. I developed a strong appreciation for the collaborative nature of open-source development and the importance of clear, accessible documentation.

Beyond my Honor’s Project, I have been independently building projects with React, Tailwind CSS, Node.js, and Bootstrap, which I plan to fully showcase on my personal website at nickhanson.me as I continue developing and refining them. In the meantime, these projects can be explored on my GitHub profile at github.com/ArchILLect. I am eager to apply these technical skills while learning from the OSPO team, contributing to meaningful open-source initiatives, and further developing my understanding of software development processes. I am also thrilled at the opportunity to work under the guidance of Perry Govier, a former instructor who had a profound influence on my learning and continues to inspire me to engage with open-source software.

I am drawn to this internship not only for the technical learning opportunities but also for the chance to contribute to the larger open-source ecosystem and support others on their learning journeys. I am confident that my background in project collaboration, commitment to continuous learning, and enthusiasm for open source make me a strong fit for the OSPO Internship Program.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to the OSPO team and learning alongside passionate developers and educators.

Sincerely,

Nick Hanson