**In 500-1000 words, write an essay addressing ALL the following topics:**

* Why do you want to major in BYU Marriott Information Systems?
* What should we know about you that goes beyond your grades, including any grade irregularities in your academic record?
* Please review the BYU Marriott vision, mission, and values at <https://marriott.byu.edu/our-story/mission/>. After reviewing the BYU Marriott vision, mission, and values, share an example of how you have exemplified one of these values in your leadership or service to others. How can you incorporate the BYU Marriott vision, mission, and values into your experience within the Information Systems Junior Core?

Since a young age, I have been interested in solving complex problems. Math was one of my favorite subjects, and in my free time, I enjoyed solving logic puzzles. From these interests, my fascination with information systems has developed.

My allurement to information systems began my senior year of high school during the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to the online learning environment of my senior ye, I decided to take online college courses of interest through BYU-Idaho , BYU, and Florida Virtual School. From these classes, I found I enjoyed my Java, finance, and Excel courses. After completing these courses, I started thinking about studying something involving computers. I debated computer science but was unsure if it was the correct major for me.

One day, I called my older sister, a civil engineering major at USU, to tell her I really enjoyed my Java class but was unsure if I wanted to study computer science. She told me that if I did not want to study computer science, I should explore information systems. She mentioned she had many friends studying information systems who loved it. Having never heard of the major, my interest was sparked. When looking at the Marriott school’s requirements for Information Systems, I saw they included programming, business, and spreadsheet classes. From the Java, finance, and Excel classes I had taken, I knew that Information Systems would be the perfect blend of all the classes I enjoyed.

After coming to that conclusion, I took a break from school to serve a mission assigned to the Mexico Merida Mission. Up until the last three months of my mission, I had not met anyone who had studied computer science, information systems, or a related field. A few weeks before heading home I was transferred to the wealthiest part of the mission, which was somewhere I had never visited. While there, I met various Expats and Latinos who worked virtually for American tech companies. I remember especially looking up to one member who told us stories about his travels worldwide to improve international banking systems through technology. As I got to know these individuals and their careers, the more I thought information systems would be a good major for me.

After praying one Monday, I called home to tell my mother I was thinking of studying Information Systems, but before I had the chance, she started talking about a new technology I had not heard of called 'Chat GPT' that would revolutionize the world. Hearing about this was my final confirmation that I needed to study Information Systems. Since then, I have enjoyed each of the Information Systems classes I have taken at BYU, and my interest in learning more has increased.[[1]](#endnote-1)

As a student in the Information Systems program, I will strive to magnify Marriott's vision, mission, and values. One value I have developed has been respect for all. Upon returning from my mission last summer, I was able to exemplify this value through my interactions working for a lawn care company. In the business, we worked in two-man crews, and because the company did not have enough people with driver's licenses to drive the trucks, I was assigned as one of the drivers. Every individual I worked with did not have a driver's license due to homelessness, criminal records, or drugs. The individuals I worked with allowed me to develop greater respect for those from different backgrounds. Working with them, I gave them rides home, shared food, invited them to church, and became their friend. Because I respected these men without judgment, they, in return, respected my values. Without even asking them, most of the individuals I worked with told me they would stop swearing and smoking when around me because they wanted to show respect for my values. This experience reaffirmed to me an important lesson: if we want others to respect us, we must first respect them.

These last few weeks, I have further practiced respect for all as I have worked for the Alaskan Native Science and Engineering Program. Working with Alaska native high schoolers from rural villages across the state, I have helped them learn more about STEM degrees and programs. In return, they have taught me about their culture and background. From this experience, I have developed a greater sense of respect and cultural awareness for those of different backgrounds who are interested in STEM.

In the Information Systems Junior Core, I will incorporate BYU Marriott's vision, mission, and values into my experience as I focus on character-building experiences in addition to hard skills. For example, rather than complete group projects independently, I can work with my team and ensure each member understands the project and that we learn together. I will also put God first by studying the scriptures before anything else to develop greater faith. This focus on God will help me look for ways to use what I am learning to bless other people rather than focus on what will benefit me the most. As I put the things of most importance first, my integrity will not be compromised by the world's temptations. When I enter the Tanner Building each day for class, I will let the words of Elder Tanner resonate within me, acknowledging, "There is strength in humility and weakness in pride."

A respected mentor of mine once said that my chosen major should be something I enjoy, am good at, and can make the world a better place. After reviewing different majors, I have found that Information Systems completes these objectives more than any other. In pursuing Information Systems, I am poised to excel in my passions and talents while maintaining excitement about contributing to the Marriott vision, mission, and values. In doing so, I will gain invaluable experience that will enable me to change the world for the better.

1. Beyond my transcripts there are no significant irregularities in my academic record. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)