**UCLA Student Stroke Team Application: Fall 2020**

**Name:  Charles Hood                                Student ID: 005113394**

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**Major: Biochemistry                              UCLA GPA:   3.91                                  Age: 20**

**Transfer? No           Year in School: 3rd year     Year of Graduation: 2022**

**Career Goals:**  **MD/PhD** **City of Permanent Residence: Westwood**

**APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**Please respond to each question below. Save the application as a PDF file titled following the format “LastName\_FirstName\_App”. Please attach your application, an unofficial transcript (as a .pdf file), and a headshot of yourself (as a .jpeg or .jpg file) in one email. Complete application packets are due to sstapplications@gmail.com by Saturday, October 17th, 2020 at 6:00 PM PDT. No late or incomplete applications will be accepted. Your application will not be considered complete until both the Part I Google Form response and application packet are received.**

**PART ONE**

**Please fill out the survey at this link:** [**https://forms.gle/u7jZQV17gKoRtHHF9**](https://forms.gle/u7jZQV17gKoRtHHF9)

**PART TWO**

**Have you applied for this program before?   No            If so, when? n/a**

**Have you interviewed with us before? No            If so, when? n/a**

**What interests you the most about this program? (150 word limit)**

I feel that Stroke Team is the perfect blend of my passions for research and medicine. I want to be an MD/PhD so that I can pursue my love of innovation while still being able to work with and help people. Stroke Team stands out to me because the clinical research is exactly the type of research I’ve not only been doing but want to continue doing. Not only this, but Stroke Team seems to go beyond what other organizations on campus offer in terms of meaningful work. I’m at the beginning of my career path and I know that I’m not above any form of work in a hospital. However, I would like to spend as much time as I can around doctors and patients. Stroke Team’s emphasis on this is what makes the program so appealing to me and makes me want to be a part of it.

**What do you think you can contribute to the team? Make sure to support your claims. (200 word limit)**

Stroke Team lines up perfectly with my life goals. Researching stroke under an MD/PhD for the past year has shown me that I can pursue my childhood dream of being a “scientist” (whatever that meant to an 8-year-old) while also being a doctor and helping people directly. This newfound drive translated into my schoolwork and I have maintained a 4.00 since I started research in my second year. I would bring that same drive to Stroke Team. Moving away from academics, I love Public Speaking. In the organization where I’m president I’ve done a presentation workshop twice a year. Presentations are important in research and I would love to try to help my future teammates. Finally, I’m a fairly confident person. I’m firm when I know what I’m talking about, but will be quiet and listen when I don’t. When I started working at Chipotle, my interviewer asked if I would have a hard time following my coworker’s instructions since I was studying at UCLA and might see myself as “above them”. I said, “biochemistry is complicated, but it doesn’t teach me how to make a burrito”. I’m confident, but I know when I need to be quiet and learn.

**Describe one important event, experience, or activity in your life from which you have learned something meaningful. (250 word limit)**

In high school I worked as a YMCA summer camp counselor. It was my first job and by far one of the most educational, and fun, things I’ve ever done. When I started, it was my first experience having actual responsibility. So, I found myself in uncharted territory when one of the 8-year old campers started flipping tables in a laser tag cafeteria after losing a game of cards. They train you in the basics before you take campers on field trips, but they don’t exactly include mass cafeteria destruction in the handbook. I remember standing there looking at the older counselors and having just no idea what to do. I knew I didn’t have the experience to effectively deescalate the situation so I what I knew I could. I rounded up all the other campers and got them out of the cafeteria. Following that, the older counselors with more experience were able to calm down the kid until his parents came. It’s a funny story that I like to tell my friends now, but it taught me something really important. I feel like we’re taught being a “leader” is always knowing the right answer and spearheading the solution by yourself. However, being in a position just so out of my depth showed me the importance of simply doing what you can when you can. Instead of trying to do everything yourself it’s okay to step back let other people with more experience do what they do best.

**List and describe any research and extracurricular activities that you have been or are currently involved in at this point (italicize events you have participated in during college). Please note any leadership positions you currently hold.**

**Currently Involved:**

Carmichael Stroke Lab

* Dr. Carmichael is the head of neurology at Geffen and has a lab that focuses on neuroregeneration post stroke. I have worked at the lab for a year and done two SRP 99s and am currently doing an SRP 199 with emphasis on promoting axonal sprouting using ECM elements.

Phi Delta Epsilon International Medical Fraternity

* This organization provides a community for people who want to be premed while also providing opportunities for service and professional development
* I am the **current president** and am coming to the end of my term in November, it takes me about 4 hours a week

**Previously Involved**

TEACH at UCLA

* TEACH is an organization that works with elementary schools in underserved areas of Los Angeles. It’s an afterschool program where interns help kids with their schoolwork and teach them about various science and health related subjects through learning modules we prepare

**Have you taken any science courses offered here at UCLA? If yes, which ones?**

**I have:**

**LS: 7A, 7B, 7C, 23L**

**Chemistry: 14A, 14B, 14BL, 30A, 30B, 30C,** 153A (In progress)

**Physics: 5A, 5C,** 5B (In progress)

**Is there anything else that you would like to add to this application? (250 word limit)**

I’m extremely excited about the opportunity this program would give me to pursue my professional goals in neurologic research and medicine! I know that this would be my first time working in a hospital despite being a third year, and that I may not have the experience that some other applicants may have. However, I am a fast learner and a very hard worker, especially when I’m working on something that I truly care about. Thank you for your taking the time to read my application!