

Personal Statement

My name is Zhifang Zeng, a senior student of the Engineering School, EECS Department. Since I was in high school I was hoping to become an engineer, the one who can make some real creations. I like robots and drones, so I joined a drone club since I was a freshman and participated in many drone related projects, like controlling the drone with Kinect. By the time I become a sophomore, I then first learned about computer vision, and I was deeply fascinated by its power. So I started learning it from every source I could found on the Internet, and even participated in a related research when I became a junior student.

And now, with everything I have learnt so far, I have a strong desire to do some real engineering and combine all the knowledge I have to create something new — a system that can actually help the others and make a difference. In addition, the experience of developing a big project like this will also have a very positive influence on my future career, showing that I am a real capable engineer.

The idea of starting this project originates from the project Amazon is currently developing – the drone delivery. Deliver parcels by drones can significantly accelerates the shipment and cuts down the cost on delivery. However, building a drone delivery system will just be too big for us, so we decided to start from something with a smaller scale, one that only needs to handle very few requests at a time, doesn't need to carry something heavy but still can help people a lot, and that came into our Medical Drone Project. The project can help people at their emergencies and doesn't need to devote too much resources on it, the only device we need is an aircraft. However, as we view safety issues significant, instead of building our own cheap drone, we want to purchase one with reliable quality and mature basic flight controls integrated in, which is the DJI product we plan to purchase, so that we can focus on our own project.

In the end me and my group members are devoting great efforts on this project and we really need the funding from UROP to make it succeed.

Zhifang Zeng