*How will opportunities at Purdue support your interests, both in and out of the classroom? (Respond in 100 words or fewer.)*

I hope to take an *energy minor* at Purdue to investigate the possibility of increasing variable renewables in the electrical grid, which could play a major part in transforming our fossil-fuel-driven world. Purdue’s ECET 38100 course will enable me to explore the feasibility of re-designing the current electrical distribution system so that a bidirectional energy flow into ‘smart grid’ can be implemented.

Furthermore, as a musically-inclined student, I look forward to enjoying musical events at Purdue Convocations. It will be exciting to learn from listening to well-renowned jazz bands in person, and hopefully try some of the techniques out myself.

-----------

*Briefly discuss your reasons for pursuing the major you have selected. (Respond in 100 words or fewer.)*

After the 2016 oil price plunge, I revisited my childhood home, Brunei, and witnessed the once vibrant donkey pump now stagnant as a result of the downfall of petroleum. At this point, I knew that the rise of sustainable energy was imminent. I dove into researching the potential of the smart grid in search of feasible ways to increase the accessibility of variable renewables. This sparked my curiosity in integrating smart technology to increase the sustainability of our current fossil-fuel powered electrical grids. Pursuing electrical engineering will enable me to contribute to the transformation of our fossil-fuel-driven world’s energy reliance.

-----------

*Please briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities or work experiences. (250 words)*

Having been invited to the Indonesian student association during Summer 2020, I was exposed to the struggles of Indonesian university students in Oman who relied on their small scholarship funds to survive in a foreign country. Not only had they lost their part time jobs due to COVID, but they were struggling to strive academically due to their lack of English proficiency. This unnerving situation extended to migrant workers whose lack of English proficiency meant that securing a job during the more competitive COVID era got even more difficult.

Coming from an International background, my sister and I started a voluntary payment proofreading service, targeted towards migrant workers and Indonesian students. We helped revamp their CV and improve their essays to increase their chances of obtaining a job or overcoming their academic struggles.

By our fifth paper, we came up with a simple yet efficient system: I would print the documents out and do initial edits on paper, and my sister would then type up my edits digitally while giving her input and own edits digitally. Through this process, we were able to help Indonesian students get their works published in journals and acquire additional scholarships. This did not only benefit them financially, but also benefited me in a way I had not expected. Having been a notoriously careless learner, proofreading dissertations and academic journals has helped me become more attentive to details, whether it was as obvious as misusing *you’re* and *your* or as obscure as using dangling modifiers.