When zooming into our bodies to an nth magnification, the movement of a highly specific amount of chemicals can control our entire body, which insinuates that biology is to some extent definite. However, how these exact reactions can create a fluid human being, is a complex and under discovered field in medicine, that I wish to further pursue through study and research.

As I delved into the world of biomedicine, I began to develop a fascination towards neuroscience and how much it governed our lives. Eager to understand further the neural processes that underpin human behaviour, it led me to taking the HarvardX Fundamentals of Neuroscience online course where I was enriched with the basics of neuroscience, from the resting potentials all the way to the different systems and neurological pathways.

What became like my nicotine was when I came across cognitive neuroscience, more specifically the connection between neurological impulses, to human thought, memory and decision making. It made me think, are our personalities controlled by the movement of specific ions just as in muscle contraction? How could human thought, the most capricious part of a human being, to some extent, be bound by the chemical movement across a membrane? After researching for hours on end, I began to familiarise myself with brain mapping and localisation, pondering further the dendritic connections and individual neurone stimulation that has been researched to play a part in memory storage and decision making. These early curiosities have sparked my interest in the vast and complex studies in neuroscience and biomedicine, growing into a passion in developing myself in the field of neurobiology and biomedicine.

Despite the global pandemic dampening my plans for a research internship at Indonesia International Institute for Life-Sciences (i3L), I turned to the Brighton and Sussex Medical School virtual work programme to get a more realistic view about a profession in biomedicine. In addition to that, I was also able to attend Hong Kong University’s International Symposium on STEM Education and I was able to lead my team to receive the Jumpstart Hustler Award with our project. Inspired by the stories on how the medical professors worked hand in hand with economists and engineers, it solidified my desire to study biomedicine in the UK and bring a contribution back to my country. The skills I gained in the symposium and online courses, integrated with the research methods I learned from the book “Bad Science” by Ben Goldacre has contributed greatly to my ongoing research paper on the maximal medicinal and nutritional use of coconuts and various nuts for people in rural regions of Indonesia.

My interests span outside of biomedicine, however they definitely have a significant role in my personality and skillset. I have attended several Model United Nations (MUN) such as Harvard Model Congress Asia and I am the Head of Substance of an online MUN. Through participating in these conferences, they have left me with an analytical mindset, teaching me to look at problems in the big picture but never forgetting to be precise. Additionally, I am well adept in mathematics and the sciences, proven in my academic record. Having participated maths olympiads since the fifth grade and in my high school years, I managed to acquire three medals and two distinctions in several international math olympiads.

Through participating in many cognitive activities, I believe that it has tremendous effect in maintaining my neuroplasticity. To bridge my love of the digital arts and my passion in biomedicine, I founded an instagram page dedicated to explaining the actuality in medicine related scenes in common media. I am also a proud member of the Prefectorial Board of my school and was the Vice-Head Prefect in my last year of duty, which allowed me to develop my leadership, communication and teamwork skills, all of which are important to becoming a future leader in the biomedical community.

With passion and curiosity in the medical field, supported by my ability to adapt, diverse skills and knowledge, through studying in the best universities in the UK, I aim to be involved in future advancements in the study of neurology and hopefully become a professor where I can share my learnings to the generations to come.