בס"ד

When I was younger, my dad taught me how to build wooden model planes, explaining the technical nature of the engineering in a way which satisfied my six-year-old self. As I grew up, the thirst for knowledge has been answered by long books, videos, and podcasts. As an 18-year-old entering college, I was unsure of how I would apply my ever-expanding curiosity to my studies, much less a career. I initially declared a history major, believing that the study of world events would be the key to understanding the world in which we live today. However, within days on campus, I shifted gears after learning about the business intelligence and marketing analytics concentration. Every course I took, from database management to data visualization, and culminating in a large Capstone project strengthened my interest in the field and I felt ready and excited to enter this area of the workforce.

Just days after graduation, I began my job as an investment analyst at a boutique real estate brokerage firm. My team handled a specialized type of investment, and after a short period of time, I became responsible for many of the deals the company was working on. In particular, I evaluated underwriting models and other client documents. After a little over a year, I received an offer to work for a leading third-party insurance company, where my coworker and I built the data analytics team from the ground up.

In this role, data analytics has helped me guide the company in several ways. I have assisted the finance department in streamlining reporting and tailoring data structures to the department’s needs to enhance efficiency. I also created methods of reporting in order to provide clients with crucial information relating to their insurance claims. Additionally, I created dashboards and reports for the company’s executive officers which relay information regarding company production and employee efficiency. As a constant learner, I believe my natural next step is to push myself even further in order to increase my value as an employee.  This is why I am interested in pursuing a master’s degree.

The Data Analytics and Visualization Master’s program at the Katz School strongly appeals to me due to the values it teaches. I am attracted to the hands-on curriculum, strength of faculty, intimate class setting and the strong alumni network that Katz offers. In my search and application to graduate programs, a top priority for me has been the experiential nature of the application training in data analytics skills, particularly that I would be involved in a project from start to finish. I believe I would thrive in the Katz Schools Master’s program in Data Analytics and Visualization. I bring two years and two industries worth of experience with me, where I have seen the flexibility of the use of data analytics in the professional world. I am constantly seeking to expand my knowledge to better myself and the academic, professional, and social communities around me. I hope to gain from the program refined technical and application skills, so that I can be an asset within my industry. I intend to exemplify Katz’s values in the workplace and take my knowledge and talents to new levels. I have already experienced the Yeshiva University undergraduate program (SSSB class of 2019), and I am now ready for the next chapter.