**Brian Loughran**

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I am writing to express my keen interest in the Graduate Program with VW. I am a senior mechanical engineer at Lehigh University with real-world working experience in the mechanical engineering industry looking to build on that experience with a full time position upon graduation in May.

I play on the hockey team at Lehigh, and to be honest, I’m not exceptional. I play usually in the bottom 6 forward group, and while I may not have left my legacy on the ice, I have left one with contributions off the ice. My sophomore year of college the only off-ice leadership role was president, which was handed down to one of my best friends. Between the two degrees he was pursuing, he did not have the time to commit fully to the demanding position, and therefore struggled initially. I had the idea to help him delegate, and carved out a new role for myself from his existing responsibilities, calling that role “treasurer”. This delegation worked so well that we did it three more times, creating a “vice president”, an “equipment manager”, and a “secretary”. Now with a team of 5 off-ice leaders committed to managing the team, we as a group are able to do so much more for the team. In the last two years we have completely redone the uniforms, tripled the amount of banners in our home rink, added decals of our team beneath the ice and on the boards, rebalanced the budget to pay off a hefty deficit, and we have a good chance to make nationals (something Lehigh Ice Hockey has never done in its history). While I can’t take direct credit for all of our accomplishments as a club, I believe this shows that while I am a team player, I also have a competitive spirit to excel, and I hope to further show with a role at VW.

I believe the skills I have demonstrated make me a valuable candidate for the Graduate Program. I welcome an opportunity to meet and discuss my qualifications and candidacy in greater detail. In the interim, I thank you for your attention and forthcoming response.

Sincerely,

Brian Loughran