Interview Notes

**Why did I apply?**

I first heard of the fellowship from Sam Albert, a fellow from last year’s class. We connected a few years ago as we were both members of SEDS. I saw some of his posts about the program, and inquired on the program. He could not speak more highly of it. I then researched the opportunity and became inspired by Matthew’s life, and what this fellowship is meant to do for the future of commercial space. Reading the information I could find about him, he is one of those people who you wish you met… his passion for everything space was infectius, just to read about, I can’t imagine what he was like in person. I actually decided I wanted to apply to it as soon as I read about the man that it was created for, Matthew. Not to mention, the companies that host the fellows are the exact ones I have been applying for ever since I knew I wanted to join the commercial aerospace community, SpaceX, Blue Origin, Virgin Orbit,Lockheed, Xprize, all of them I knew and each one of them would let me join the movement of commercial space.

**Career goals?**

I knew I wanted to work in the commerical space sector when I witnessed the first SpaceX booster landing in the ocean, and to that day my motives everyday altered to get the experience that would allow me to work with th best. I was often asked why? Why work so hard for something that you might not like in the end? And the first time I was asked that I thought of anything else that I was capable of to do good? I wanted to be able to go to work everyday inspired to work, and I just can not think of a more exciting place to work where the overarching goal is to progress space technologies, to allow people to wake up, start their day on another planet. So my career goals are fairly simple, to do the one thing that I can not get my mind off of, help people go where we have never gone, because progress is made by exploring.

**Questions to ask**

Although my goal has been to work with these private aerospace companies in an engineering organization, will I also get experience regarding the business side of the companies? I read that you studied aerospace engineering in university, but are now the business devlopment and government affairs manager at Virgin Orbit. Why did you make that transition to the business side of commercial space?

What I love about this program is that it isn’t just an internship at one company, but you are paired with a mentor and are part of a class of other people whos passion are the same as mine. Do you mind telling me a little more about the assigned mentor’s job over the summer? I find this fellowship so unique as its based on Matthew’s excitement for commercial space, which I am expecting every fellow would admire and naturally replicate.

**Freshman Year**

1. FIRST Robotics
   1. What I realized from that experience
2. Lunacats
   1. First expeirence working in a college engineering grou, how it helped with SEDS
3. UNH EOS
   1. Inroduced myself to coding python, basic logic
   2. Analyzed the gamma ray polarization from solar flares from the COMPTEL
4. Books
   1. How to win friends and influence people
   2. Why doers do
   3. Motivating the Middle
   4. Space Books
      1. Steven Hawking
      2. Neil DeGrasse Tyson
      3. Kip Thorne

**Sophomore Year**

1. Physics Minor
   1. Why I wanted to take it, the books inspired me to learn more
   2. Classical Mechanics, Euler-Lagrange quiz story
2. NIST
   1. The lessons learned from being in a reasearch environment
   2. More python, data analysis
3. Research
   1. Got time on the mill making tensile specimens
   2. Work with a graduate specimen to help shear compression disks
4. Observatory
   1. Get to spend time running the university observatory
   2. Get people excited about space, stars

**Junior Year**

1. Attended SpaceVision
2. UNH SEDS – Hybrid Engine
3. TURBOCAM
4. Thermal Systems Project – Jet Engine and Thermal Management System

**Misc.**

1. Baby crib car
2. Student Astronaut
3. Chainsaw trike
4. Drone

SEDS USA

Rocket Lab

Additive

Tooling

Transparency

Reality of people’s level of importance