

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Hector Romero, and I am a junior studying Economics, and Business Analytics. I would love to work in an academic institute such as the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. I have previous Finance, Marketing, and Leadership experience, being head of recruiting for the University of Cincinnati Rowing Club, an analyst on the Lindner Investment Banking Club, and on the executive board of the Economics Society. I would love to leverage those experiences for an opportunity to be a part of something that can have real world applications such as the research that is being conducted at the Bioinformatics Institute.

My interest in economics began early in my college career. Although I started out studying behavioral biology, entering my sophomore year I decided to switch to economics. I wanted to be a doctor, but I switched when I gradually started to realize that economics can have much more of an impact in the day-to-day lives of people than Medicine. Simply because there are so many aspects outside of healthcare that can have such a large and impactful effect on a person.

In my experience growing up in a Chicago inner city neighborhood as a low-income minority, I had a first hand view of the sheer scale of people who are economically illiterate, and what life would be like if I did not further myself. Fortunately for me, I had a mentor who taught me the value of hard work and importance of having a solid understanding of the finance world, which ironically enough started with me working at a large banking building as a janitor. I was metaphorically and physically at the bottom of the building/hierarchy but I knew that if I dedicated all my efforts to learning everything I could about economics, one day I could possibly achieve what my peers only dreamed of. Thus I worked to make ends meet, while attending class to feed my craving for economics. When my hard work paid off, and I was given the chance to attend college, I knew where I wanted to go with my future career endeavors.

The strong analytical background that stems from my previous science background in behavioral biology, and my quantitative focused major combined with my marketing work experience would bring together two areas that one person does not usually merge. Furthermore, the skills I have developed in the Lindner Investment Banking club such as financial modeling, valuations, and marketing research could be leveraged for the research that occurs at the Bioinformatics Institute. I do believe luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity, and an opportunity like this would be instrumental in helping me further my intellectual desires. I would like to thank you for considering me for this position, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,  
Hector Romero  
University of Cincinnati