I am writing about the opportunity to join the University of Victoria Ocean Physics Lab. I have been looking into both the Biology and Earth and Ocean Sciences programs at the University of Victoria and was excited to see this opportunity. My long term career objective is to gain my PhD and work as a tenure track Professor engaging in physical oceanography research and instruction. It is my dream to become a Professor and I cannot imagine a more rewarding career. My background at Oregon State University includes completing two master’s degrees. During this time I have worked as a research assistant, instructor and teaching assistant.

There are a number of reasons I am drawn to the Ocean Physics Lab and your research. The first is your background and dual appointment in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences and the Department of Physics and Astronomy. I am confident your background would align well with my previous academic experience and my future goals of gaining a position in a Physics or Oceanography Department. The second reason is that the path to becoming a professor is very competitive and the expectations that you put forth for your graduate students align well with a successful academic career. Your emphasis on becoming an “expert” in your immediate field and the ability to think critically and engage as an independent researcher are very important to me.

My goals as a doctoral candidate include actively engaging in research, attending and presenting at conferences, grant writing and teaching. As you look over my background you will see it is a little unique. I am aware that there will be a lot to learn as I gain my doctorate but I am excited for the opportunity.