**What I bring them**

**What I hope to gain**

**Questions to Answer**

a. Think “skill sets”. Use direct examples of past research.

b. Show familiarity with what research faculty are actually doing here at OSU/CEOAS.

c. Name specific names or research areas you’d be interested in working with/within.

d. Mention your larger goal in the context of graduate education, if you know that at this point.

e. Shortcomings in scores or term-GPAs can and should be addressed/acknowledged in the Statement.

**My Response**

I am writing about my interest in pursuing graduate study in the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University in the field of Physical Oceanography. My long term goal is to become a tenure track Professor engaged in research and instruction. Currently I am working as a software engineer and gained a master’s degree in Radiation Health Physics where I was engaged in research designing detection software as part of a Nuclear Regulatory Commission Grant. I hope to utilize my background and passion for computational methods and data analysis as a foundation for my research.

Besides my research experience I have worked as an Instructor and Teaching Assistant at both Oregon State University and Linn Benton Community College. I realize my background is unique but hope that my skills in computational based research, physics and statistics would allow me to contribute right away to my research group and the College as a whole.

**My Interest in Oceanography Research**

I recently just finished reading the Golden Compass and fell in love with the fascinating and complex world of scientists and explorers. When I realized I wanted to pursue becoming a Professor the research in The College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences immediately stood out to me. I began to meet with faculty including Kim Bernard, Tuba Ozkan-Haller and Larry O'Neill and was struck by their kindness and was fascinated by the research they were engaged in.

Through their guidance and my background I realized Physical Oceanography would be the strongest fit for my background.

When I realized that I wanted to pursue becoming a Professor I began to explore what research interested me. I knew I wanted to include computational methods and physics into my research. and I began meeting with faculty like. Through them and my own research I realized that this was an exciting field with a major impact.

In the College I am interested in

**Skill Sets**

I realize how important it would be for me to make the most of my time in the college and I hope to actively engage in research and fill in the areas of my background that are lacking. I will briefly discuss the skills I feel I could bring that would make me useful right away to my graduate adviser.

As far as quantitative skills I already have a research based master’s degree where I conducted research into and designed radiation detection software. I am currently working as a Software Engineer and have experience utilizing Python, C, Java, R, JavaScript, Git and a number of other languages and frameworks. My research involved statistical analysis in order to develop models of the spectroscopic output of radioactive decay of select isotopes. I also recently took Statistics 511 and 512 at OSU.

As far as

My goal is to leverage the areas of my background in research methodology, computational methods and statistics.

There are a number of skills I would be able to bring to the University.

* Soft Skills
  + Passion
  + Ability to work independently
  + Communication
    - Instructor
  + Project and Time Management
    - MBA
* Hard Skills
  + Data Analysis and Large Data sets
    - Novel ways to process and handle data
  + Statistical skills
    - RHP Thesis
* Simplifying large data sets
  + Cambia
  + Transportation Services
  + Student Life
* Background
  + MS
  + MBA
  + Software Engineer
  + TA and Instructor
* Personal
  + Get involved in College

Being an instructor has allowed me to think more deeply about subject matter and returning as a student I feel I will be able to do better.

My goals for attending include

**Goals**

* Goal Timeline
  + MS
    - Summer
    - Year 1
    - Year 2
  + PhD
  + Post Doc
  + Assistant Professor

Become an intergral member of the college (PhD, Post Doc or Professor)

Focus

My background reflects a first generation college student with little guidance.

**Long Term Goals**

My long term goal is to become a tenure track Professor. I realize that to pursue this goal I must be focused and productive from the very start of my master’s degree. My hope is that by the end of my degree I have engaged in research, have found research I can carry forward into a PhD and have worked as a co-author on a publication or multiple publications. I also hope to actively look at potential funding to apply to on my own as I have already co-authored and was awarded a research grant.

* Goals
  + Publication
  + Research
  + My Own Research Lab

My short term goal would be to gain my master’s degree and become an integral member of the college.

My career path would be to hopefully gain my master’s degree and move immediately into a PhD program. After this I would pursue a post-doc or a position as an entry level professor.

If selected my plan would be to spend the summer beginning research, literature review and prepping my background for the courses I would be taking the first year of my degree.

I realize my background is rather unique and if selected to start my master’s I would plan to stop my current job in June and spend full time in Corvallis beginning my research.

Some strengths I bring include recently completing Statistics 511 and Statistics 512.

I realize coming in that I will have some work to catch up. While I hope to avoid this I have done this before including my current role as a software engineer and teaching radiation biology.

**Skills**

6)  Please upload a PDF of your Statement as it’s a lot easier to read than the webworm-feed on this end. You can do this in the ‘additional documents’ segment of the web app. Keep your **Statement of Interest** brief—one page is best. It should be approached as an exchange of benefits—what you bring to us, what you expect to have gained when you graduate.

a.      Think “skill sets”. Use direct examples of past research.

b.      Show familiarity with what research faculty are actually doing here at OSU/CEOAS.

c.       Name specific names or research areas you’d be interested in working with/within.

d.      Mention your larger goal in the context of graduate education, if you know that at this point.

e.      Shortcomings in scores or term-GPAs can and should be addressed/acknowledged in the Statement.

Numerical and Computational Modeling

a.      Think “skill sets”. Use direct examples of past research.

b.      Show familiarity with what research faculty are actually doing here at OSU/CEOAS.

c.       Name specific names or research areas you’d be interested in working with/within.

d.      Mention your larger goal in the context of graduate education, if you know that at this point.

**College**

The College prepares students to seek out new ideas and innovative approaches to the complex issues of planetary-scale science. With its focus on innovation and exploration, the college builds upon a strong tradition of analytical and computational technology, allowing students to create and integrate new observing systems and numerical models, pursue real-time and mobile applications, collaborate locally and globally, and build new approaches to research, teaching, and publishing. It has over 100 faculty and 200 graduate students.

**Questions**

Please refer to the website of the program or major to which you are applying to identify concentrations or subfields or tracks of study that are of interest to you. \*

Please indicate the names of faculty members that you have identified as potential mentors. This identification should be based upon similarity in academic or research interests and does not require you to have established contact. If you have not identified potential faculty mentors at OSU, please leave this question blank. \*