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Dear Sir/Madam,

I trust this letter finds you well. I am Polla Franck, a dedicated student pursuing an undergraduate degree in Computer Information Systems at Near East University in Cyprus (north Cyprus), with an anticipated completion date in September 2024. As I stand on the brink of concluding my academic journey, I am eager to transform my theoretical knowledge into tangible experience. The ISTernship Summer Program at your esteemed institution has captured my attention, offering a distinctive opportunity to refine my skills and gain invaluable exposure in the dynamic field of Computer Science.

During an insightful conversation with a friend, we delved into the profound impact of technology and artificial intelligence (AI) on our lives, an exchange that significantly fueled my interest in the ever-evolving landscape of Computer Science. We explored the transformative potential of AI and how it is poised to shape our future in the next five years. This discussion illuminated the vast possibilities that technology holds, raising questions about its ethical implications, societal changes, and the need for responsible innovation. The exchange not only broadened my perspective but also reinforced my commitment to understanding and contributing to the advancements that will define the technological landscape. This dialogue served as a catalyst, motivating me to seek opportunities like the ISTernship Summer Program, where I can actively engage in cutting-edge research, gain hands-on experience, and contribute meaningfully to the ongoing technological revolution.

My academic journey has been significantly enriched by completing a comprehensive Full Stack Engineer training on Codecademy. This immersive experience provided me with a profound understanding of both front-end and back-end technologies, fostering expertise in web development, programming languages, and the multifaceted realm of software engineering. For instance, I successfully developed a web application during the training, showcasing my ability to apply theoretical concepts to practical scenarios.

In addition to my academic pursuits, my commitment to excellence is underscored by the three certificates of honor I have earned, with the anticipation of receiving the fourth in March. These accolades not only reflect my dedication to academic achievement but also highlight my consistent ability to excel in challenging coursework.

My aspiration is to transcend theoretical boundaries and apply my knowledge in a real-world setting. The ISTernship Summer Program aligns seamlessly with my goals, particularly due to its emphasis on basic research in diverse fields such as data science, scientific computing, and mathematics within computer science. The prospect of engaging in collaborative research with esteemed faculty members or lab mentors on a short-term project is particularly enticing. For instance, my exposure to data science during my academic coursework and its application in a real-world scenario through a research project has enhanced my analytical and problem-solving skills.

The opportunity to immerse myself in a research-intensive environment, culminating in a poster session, aligns perfectly with my objective to enhance my practical understanding of computer science. IST Austria's commitment to fostering a global community of researchers resonates with me, and I am eager to contribute to and derive benefits from this vibrant academic environment.

Looking ahead to my long-term career goals, I envision myself as a seasoned professional in the field of Computer Science, specifically as a Senior Full Stack Developer. Over the next five years, I aim to leverage my experiences, both academic and practical, to become a proficient and innovative developer. I aspire to contribute to cutting-edge projects, lead development teams, and actively participate in shaping the future of technology. The ISTernship Summer Program serves as a pivotal step toward realizing this vision by providing me with the necessary foundation and insights to excel in the ever-evolving landscape of Computer Science.

My academic background, complemented by hands-on training in Full Stack Engineering, positions me as a strong candidate for the ISTernship Program. I am confident that this program will provide me with invaluable insights, mentorship, and exposure, catalyzing significant growth in my professional journey within Computer Science. I am particularly interested in pursuing a research program in algorithms under the guidance of Professor Monika Henzinger. Her work on sublinear algorithms and graph algorithms has greatly inspired me, and I am eager to learn from her expertise and contribute to her research.

In conclusion, I am genuinely excited about the prospect of contributing my skills to your esteemed institution through the ISTernship Program. I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to discuss my application further, exploring how I can make a meaningful contribution to the program and aligning my goals with the dynamic environment at IST Austria.

Thank you for considering my application. I am enthusiastic about the potential to embark on this transformative journey at IST Austria.

Sincerely,

Polla Franck