# What are your post-MBA career goals? Share with us your first-choice career plan and your alternate plan.

When I was young, my dad suffered a series of mini-strokes that left him with a severe personality disorder. This experience made me determined to one day start a medical technology venture that gives hope to those suffering from neurological conditions. Post-MBA, I want to become a product manager in the healthcare/MedTech industry at a company such as Pfizer, Amgen, or a start-up. Experience as an "intrapreneur" will prepare me to become an entrepreneur. Alternatively, I will seek to become a project manager, as the experience of managing resources and forming teams would be crucial when I start a company.

# The 'Team Fuqua' spirit and community is one of the things that sets the MBA experience apart, and it is a concept that extends beyond the student body to include faculty, staff, and administration. Please share with us “25 Random Things” about you. The Admissions Committee wants to get to know YOU - beyond the professional and academic achievements listed in your resume and transcript. Share with us important life experiences, your hobbies, achievements, fun facts, or anything that helps us understand what makes you who you are.

1. All my life, I wanted a motorcycle. I knew I could only justify the purchase if it happened before my wife became pregnant for the first time. I finally purchased my motorcycle last March. Two weeks later, my wife got her first positive pregnancy test.
2. Every Sunday, I make a loaf of sourdough bread to bring to my grandparent's home for dinner.
3. Between high school and college, I served a 2-year full-time ecclesiastical mission in North Carolina, including Elon/Gibsonville, Winston-Salem, and Charlotte.
4. As a leader of 18 other missionaries, one of the most difficult challenges I faced was motivating other missionaries to work diligently. Proselytizing for 10-12 hours a day, six days per week, is *not* the most fun activity.
5. The smallest working unit on missions is the companionship: two missionaries who live and work together 24/7. One of my companions and I couldn't stand each other at first. We worked together to overcome our differences, and now we are best friends. We even ride motorcycles together regularly.
6. I'm a bargain hunter. When my wife and I were furnishing our first apartment, I snagged a brand-new couch for 90% off because one of the recliners was broken. I spent a weekend diagnosing and fixing the problem, and now the couch works just fine!
7. At work, I spend a week on call every three months, which means I'll sometimes need to get up in the middle of the night to resolve a software problem. I now have a much greater appreciation for all the on-call workers worldwide.
8. I've almost finished reading the Dune series. I started the series after watching the first movie a few years ago and have been consumed ever since. I'm almost free!
9. In my current church congregation, I help plan and execute group activities for the entire congregation.
10. In Tucson, I was a church youth group leader for young men ages 13-15. One of my favorite activities that I helped coordinate was making portable camping stoves.
11. My first employer out of undergrad was a contractor for the US intelligence community. I worked with many brilliant people but quickly learned that the government sector is not for me. I want to innovate and collaborate more than the nature of top-secret government work allows.
12. Last March, I severely strained my back while bench pressing 300lbs and have had to attend physical therapy for the last several months. I learned my lesson and no longer "ego lift".
13. Last year, my wife and I got a golden doodle puppy. To save on grooming costs, guess who had to learn to be a dog groomer? It was me.
14. As a research assistant at BYU, I programmed a robot to move its arm and pick up blocks to play a block dilemma game with a human opponent.
15. As a research assistant at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, I got to do a lot of nerdy and cool (to me) work in high-performance computing. During my time there, I wrote and published a research paper. This experience taught me to communicate complex topics and accept scrutiny with maturity.
16. Growing up, I played the French horn and was a member of several community symphonies.
17. During my free time in high school, I earned a trade degree in "Composite Materials Technology" (think fiberglass, carbon-fiber, Kevlar) from my local technical college.
18. This summer, I helped onboard a couple of engineers to my project and mentored an intern for a summer project.
19. I've worked primarily on one major project at Dexcom, but I helped take that project from concept to value-driving production service. I'm grateful to have gained much experience in the entire software product development lifecycle.
20. When I was 18, I watched firefighters escort my dad to be involuntarily committed to a psychiatric institution. This incident—an indirect result of his earlier mini-strokes—is a significant contributor to my motivation to help ease the burden of those affected by neurological conditions.
21. While I led my development team, I became overwhelmed trying to fulfill too many responsibilities. In my search to learn how to manage everything, I realized it's better to fulfill a few responsibilities well than to fulfill many responsibilities poorly.
22. One time, I worked 20 hours straight to successfully unblock my team from a critical piece of software that only one developer could work on. Would I do that again? No. That was dumb. But I learned that I had the tenacity to push through challenging obstacles. Afterward, I developed healthier work boundaries.
23. My team had an issue where developers often stepped on each other's toes. I reduced friction between engineers by giving each engineer a designated "code space" to work in.
24. Last year, my cousin came out as transgender. This event sparked in me the desire to develop a deeper perspective and understanding of the challenges those in the LGBTQ+ community face. So, I joined Dexcom's PRIDE employee resource group. By joining the group, I'm taking meaningful steps to become a leader who fosters inclusive communities.
25. As a kid, I started a small business making and selling doughnuts. I even led a doughnut-making demo in my city's courthouse and was featured in the [local newspaper](https://www.standard.net/lifestyle/2012/oct/08/young-entrepreneur-from-layton-perfects-the-raised-glazed-doughnut/).