I received my initial university decision at the beginning of 2020, and I committed to attending Rice at that time.

Due to the COVID lockdowns that same year, the US embassy in Argentina was interviewing a very small number of people who were applying for visas. My initial appointment was canceled and rescheduled for well after the start of classes at Rice. I had three options: arrive late and miss Orientation Week and the f<irst weeks of class, delay my start until the Spring Semester, or defer. I chose this last option because I did not want to miss such an important tradition of the university nor start late, and I didn’t want to be a semester out of sync with the rest of my classmates.

I therefore took a gap year and stayed in Argentina from my high school graduation, December 2019, until July 2021, before the beginning of the 2021 Fall Semester.