I bring a real genuine passion for the field of engineering and the University of Waterloo. I don't need to pretend that I like what I'm studying and where I'm studying, because I truly do. I love the people here, I love the school atmosphere, and just everything about it, and I want to be able to convey this passion to aspiring Warriors! I'll tell them that there are going to be hard assignments, quizzes, exams but I'll also tell them that for every one of those situations, there will be someone at this school, whether it's a T.A., Professor, or classmate, to help you through it. Just last week I was elected as one of the Academic Representatives for my class and I believe most people voted for me because of my communication skills. I like to talk to others, get to know them, and learn about them. I believe these communication skills will also help me tremendously as an ambassador.

My biggest reason for wanting to be a student ambassador is to help high school students. I understand how daunting the process of finalizing a post-secondary education choice is. I remember submitting my application on the day before the deadline; however, I know I made the right choice. I want to be able to make it clear to aspiring engineers how much of a privilege it is to study at Waterloo. I want them to realize that they will not find any other school with the same culture and people as the University of Waterloo. Essentially, I want to make their decision just a little bit easier. I have already given tips on applying to Waterloo, and have written about my experiences at Waterloo on my website/blog at http://jitindodd.com. In addition to answering students' questions on my blog, I would like to be able to do so right there in front of them, through real-life interaction. Being an Engineering Student Ambassador will allow me to take that next step!

There are three big reasons as to why I chose Waterloo Engineering - its reputation, the cohort system, and co-op. Waterloo Engineering has a huge reputation for fostering innovation and being the seed to startups; and frankly, I didn't want to miss out. In addition, the cohort system really inspires a family type feel in the program; this makes the transition from high school to University a lot easier. Last but definitely not least, the world-renowned co-op program makes life after graduation less stressful and really adds an extra dimension to the university life.

I wish I knew how helpful and supportive students at the school actually are. Coming into engineering I had the impression that it would be super competitive and that everyone one would be in it for themselves, but right after my first week here I found out this was not case. Waterloo Engineering really is a big family. No one tries to bring you down so they can look superior and no one hesitates in helping others out; everyone is in it together and looks forward to succeeding together!

I chose Software Engineering because I love programming and project management/design. I wanted to have a complete understanding of every step in the software life cycle. In other words, I didn't want to just learn about algorithms and programming languages, I also wanted to know about the piece of metal I'm typing this paragraph on right now. I wanted to be able to be thrown into any part of the software life cycle and know exactly what's going on. I found this program best provided this complete understanding of this whole cycle and so I chose it!

Outside of academics, I enjoy athletics, with a particular love for basketball! In 1A, I was on an intramural basketball team and looked forward to every single game! It was a great way to get my mind off studies once a week, and I'd also like to slip in the fact that we won!

I once beat Michael Jordan in a game of basketball. I'm just kidding, but really, I love basketball and I'm on the hunt to play against the best engineering ball player at Waterloo!

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I think the biggest misconception about this program (and most Engineering programs at Waterloo) is that it's like hell. This is not the case at all! Future students need to understand that if they've gotten accepted into engineering, the admission officers have recognized the hard working attitude in them, which is required here. I would like future students to know that they will have a life, that they will be able to do things other than study, and that they'll make great friends and meet like-minded individuals right away!

I heard about the Engineering Ambassador Team through a classmate (Bo Peng) who is already a part of it.

I am eager and look forward to having the opportunity to represent Waterloo and specifically Waterloo Engineering!