TO: Younghee Park
                Michelle Jones

FROM: David Luong

DATE: December 28, 2022

SUBJECT: Diagnostic (Individual)—About Me

This memo introduces myself as a way to share my writing capability with you.

Summary

This memo includes information about my family and educational backgrounds and work history.   The memo also explains my relationship with online learning and the writing process.

Discussion

I grew up in Daly City and San Francisco. My parents are immigrants from Vietnam and I have one younger brother. I have been married seven years to my wonderful wife and we have a four year old son. I currently live in San Francisco, and have lived in other parts of California including San Diego and Los Angeles. I have also lived out of state in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Connecticut. I studied Engineering and Economics at Swarthmore College near Philadelphia and also attended the University of California, Los Angeles where I received my Masters and Doctoral degrees in Mechanical Engineering.

Since graduating, I have worked for several defense companies. I am currently working at Lockheed Martin at the Sunnyvale location. Previously, I worked at General Atomics and The Aerospace Corporation. My roles at these companies have been in the Guidance Navigation, and Control domain. I enjoy working on important engineering products that have included launch vehicles, remotely piloted aircrafts, and defensive missiles. I love the teaching and mentoring aspects of my job. My hobbies and interests outside of work include cycling, skiing, dragon boating, swimming, and running. I also enjoy spending time with my family on hikes and in museums.

I enrolled in an online Masters program at San Jose State University to increase my knowledge and expand my skills in the field of Artificial Intelligence. I have enjoyed studying this field while working a full-time job. I found the courses useful because they introduce students to a wide variety of topics and allow students to complete short project in each course. Although I learned a lot, I found online learning more difficult compared to in-person learning. Classroom learning allows for more interaction between instructors and their students, resulting in increased engagement with the material and the lecturer. Additionally, instructors in the classroom are able

to gauge students' understanding better through eye contact and body language. This allows lecturers to explain or revisit topics in other effective ways as necessary.

CMPE295W is the second to the last course of the Masters program and I look forward to improving my writing. I do not write as much as I would like to, and usually write when necessary. This is because I feel I have more writing weaknesses than strengths. I find difficulty choosing the appropriate words and structuring effective sentences to express my thoughts clearly. This process consumes much of my time. However, I have felt accomplished at the end of the writing process when I am able to express my thoughts concisely and receive positive reactions from readers. In the writing component of the this course, I hope to improve my efficiency in the writing process so I feel I am not spending lengthy time on assignments.

Conclusions

I hope I have introduced myself clearly through this memo and have given you a glimpse into my writing and my relationship with the process. I enjoyed this writing assignment.

Thank you in advance for reading my memo and assessing my writing capability. I look forward to working with you in this course to improve my writing.