At the political scale, many leaders in the histories of the United States and the United Kingdom have been personal friends. As for the societies as a whole, they share an exceptionally strong bond as a result of similar values, military interests, and cultures. How will I use my studies and extra-curricular activities to strengthen the ties? In order to explain, I must describe my previous ambassadorial experiences…

"Joggling" is the sport of running and juggling simultaneously, and it has become an inseparable part of my identity. Not only has it been a way of challenging my body physically and mentally, it has been a vehicle for helping others in the international community. When I first heard about Rhotia Valley, Tanzania, and the project to begin using One-Laptop-Per-Child devices, I was immediately inspired to help out. From a cultural perspective, I found the idea of giving every student a laptop fascinating, as it would bring them into the 21st century and allow them to pursue their own interests. From an engineering standpoint, I was excited to see low cost, efficient, and well-designed technology be applied constructively to solve problems, as I studied electrical engineering as an undergraduate. I set out training for and breaking two Guinness World Records in joggling, dedicating the publicity to raise support and donations for this community.

After one year of believing I would never be able to break another record, I travelled to Japan and met victims of the Tohoku Earthquake in Minamisanriku. I had been studying Japanese language and society since my early childhood, as I found the culture captivating. The most memorable part of this trip was when one of the elder men in the town told us, in Japanese, “when you return to the big cities in America, do not forget about us. The media forgot about us but we are still struggling.” This moment galvanized me into taking action while conducting summer research at Rice University. I decided to attempt a third record to raise awareness and support for this Japanese community and spent countless hours training and assembling a team of coaches, media, and supporters. Although I was successful in breaking the 22-year-old record of “fastest mile while juggling five objects” with over a minute to spare, I had numerous character-building experiences along the way. One such experience was waking up to a phone call at 6AM to a British voice informing me, “the next voice you hear, you will be on live BBC radio with Vic Minett.”

Joggling has always given me the ability to connect with people from all backgrounds, cultures, and age groups. In abstraction, it has been a vehicle for promoting peace and education worldwide. While studying in the UK, my career will only expand as I build a larger international network of jugglers and athletes. My studies will fit hand-in-hand with the work I have already done, as neuromorphic engineering will be a powerful enabler of my goal of advancing personalized education. Although my work with Rhotia Valley was a step in the direction of proliferating education, it was only the tip of the iceberg around which I intend to build a career.