At the political scale, many leaders in the histories of the United States and the United Kingdom have maintained personal friendships. As for the societies as a whole, they share an exceptionally strong bond as a result of similar values, military interests, and cultures. My studies and extra-curricular activities as a participant in the Marshall program will certainly strengthen these ties. My previous ambassadorial experiences are a testament to my potential as a Marshall Scholar.

"Joggling" is the sport of running and juggling simultaneously, and it has become an inseparable part of my identity. 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. I found the idea of giving every student a laptop fascinating, as it would allow each child to pursue his or her own interests with some of the 21st century technology I spent my undergraduate career studying. I set out training for and breaking two Guinness World Records in joggling, dedicating the publicity to raise support and donations for this community.

One year after breaking these records, I travelled to Japan and met victims of the Tohoku Earthquake in Minamisanriku. I had been studying Japanese language and culture since my early childhood, as I found the country intriguing. 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 that we are struggling like the media did.” This moment galvanized me to take action that summer. 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,” 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. It has been a vehicle for promoting peace and education worldwide as an individual American. While studying in the UK, my career will 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. Upon returning to the US, I will be able to attribute my work in advancing neuromorphic technology to my experience in a UK institution.