Dear Sir/Madam,

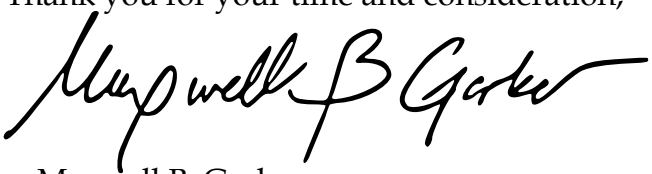
My name is Max Garber and I recently graduated from the Computer Engineering program at the University of Pittsburgh. I am applying to be a Software Engineer at Philips because I am acutely interested in the intersection of computing, electronics, and scientific devices and instruments. Specifically, I am interested in embedded systems that must analyze and respond to biological systems with limited time and resources. I am particularly interested in Philips because I want to work with a company that values interdisciplinary and international engineering efforts.

Although my first degree is in chemistry and molecular biology, as I started into a research career I found what drew my interest was the instrumentation and computation that my research increasingly hinged on. I wanted to know more than just the basics of their operation, so I set about a new educational goal to satisfy that curiosity and gain the skills to devise my own.

Scientific research instilled in me a philosophy of rigorous empiricism which demands one analyze the tools used to acquire data as much as the data acquired. It also taught me to improvise to build new tools out of the limited components and funds available. I was tasked with making extremely precise and specific analyses of the fantastically complex systems of living organisms, uncovering root and underlying causes, and manipulating them to produce or perform as needed for experiments.

What I also began to learn in the sciences, and built upon in my engineering education, were the skills to communicate clearly, completely, and concisely the bases, methods, and analyses of both research and engineering, usually to audiences unfamiliar with the work or the topic. This forced me to hone my skills exchanging technical information. In addition, my time learning and immersing myself in foreign languages has given me a deeper understanding of how people exchange information across domains of knowledge, language, and culture. It also taught me that in order for work to be useful or helpful to others, it must be accessible, clear, and approachable.

Thank you for your time and consideration,



—Maxwell B. Garber