Melissa Zavez

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Education

Swarthmore College

September 2016 – May 2020

Major in Computer Science with a minor in Statistics

- Relevant Coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Statistical Methods II, Data Science, Calculus II, Computer Animation, Bioinformatics, Networks, Linear Algebra
- Skills: C++, R, C, Python, GDB, Valgrind

Leadership and Work Experience

Research Assistant – Department of Statistics at Swarthmore College

Summer 2018

- Wrote R code to estimate the duration of the Cambrian Explosion
- Utilized a revised dataset of fossil occurrences to estimate earliest and latest originations
- Title: Estimating the Duration of the Cambrian Explosion, Authors: Madison Shoraka, Melissa Zavez, Harsha Sen, Steve Wang
- Presented at Sigma Xi Poster Session, and will present at the Geological Society of America Annual Conference in November

Robot Engineering Intern – Jibo

Summer 2017

- Developed, designed and executed tests for the Jibo robot
- Conducted user study with 60 + people, collected data on accuracy of computer vision software and facial detection

Calculus Teaching Assistant – Swarthmore College

Fall 2018

- Encouraged collaboration amongst students, feel more confident about own math/problem-solving abilities, Fill in knowledge / understanding gaps
- Lead weekly help session, attend weekly meetings with faculty

Grader – Computer Science Department at Swarthmore College

Fall 2018

• Wrote automated tests using Python to grade labs

Student Academic Mentor – Swarthmore College

Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

- Orientation leader, assisted freshmen with transition to academic and social environment in college; acted as a liaison with faculty and deans
- Residential hall leader and academic mentor, helped residents develop time management and organization skills, study strategies and other academic skills

Technovation Challenge - Team AMEKA

Summer 2015

- Designed, built and pitched an application, along with a business and marketing plan, to compete in the Technovation competition
- Placed third world-wide, presenting at a week-long San Francisco conference

Activities & Interests at Swarthmore College

Varsity Field HockeyFall 2016Offbeat A CapellaFall 2016 – PresentTOPSoccer CoordinatorSpring 2017 – PresentClub Ice Hockey President (former treasurer)Spring 2017 – Present