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HONORS 100

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### Autumn Quarter Reflection

Walking into UW, I had few expectations. I anticipated sitting through lectures, spending hours on homework, drab and dusty dorms, poor dining options... For the most part, each expectation was exceeded. While dorm dust and late homework hours always haunt my sleep schedule, much of what I achieve daily is not so consistent. For the most part, each hour is scheduled according to my availability—how I use my time is subject to how I choose. As such, I was a little surprised to realize how busy school work keeps me. While, in high school, most assignments were completed without a second thought, coursework at UW is considerably more challenging. Perhaps this is part of why I was surprised at how little I took advantage of extracurricular opportunities. While merit exists in that adjusting to a college environment could never come without hardship, I often fell asleep wondering what more I could have done in a day. With so much more freedom in my day than I had grown accustomed to in high school, the responsibility of allocating my time became intimidating. My time at UW is one of my most valuable resources—beyond any material belongings or financial holdings. I will thus always remain a little uncertain as to whether I am making the most of my time here, be it engaging with the Honors program or UW in general. Fortunately, I received guidance on how to make the most of my opportunity at UW—courtesy of fellow students, including some in my Honors section! One particular discussion with an Honors peer reminded me about leveraging an existing extracurricular service work as an experiential learning opportunity. Another UW peer

introduced me to a few of the entrepreneurial-oriented RSOs at UW—where I have applied and am currently participating. This latter interest, in particular, is something I would like to explore further at UW, perhaps because of how invested I have grown in this subject's community at UW. Be it through person-to-person bonds I formed through overnight retreats or through greater awareness of the startup environment's opportunities around the UW area, I look forward to how I might cultivate my entrepreneurial interest into a tangible product. Perhaps I might find classmates from my intended UW Honors courses to partner with my existing startup. Perhaps I might launch a fully-fledged product by the end of my time at UW. While I am not entirely sure what I might achieve or pursue at any given time, I am confident that, as my interests develop, I will make the most of the opportunities I am aware of. As I strive for greater exposure across areas of entrepreneurship in extracurriculars, computer science in coursework, and any other academic area of interest, my only worry will stay the same—wondering what more I could do in a given day. Yet, I see this worry not as a negative; this concern can compel me to make the most out of the opportunities afforded to me as I come across them—never rushing any experience but always embracing anything that comes my way.