NEO HLUMBENE

Final Year BSc in Information Technology Student

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am excited to have been given the opportunity to apply for this Internship program. This program aligns with my career goals and who I want to be in the future. The opportunity to be part of a dynamic team of professionals who design and build innovative technologies in a large distributed computing environment and help lead fundamental changes in the industry would be a dream come true for me and would also mean I have achieved my first advanced career goal.

By pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology majoring in Computer Science I have gained a diverse skillset in both technology and business knowledge areas. My academic background has equipped me with the ability to offer a unique blend of expertise in the workplace, which is expertise from my Computer Science modules as well as expertise from my commerce modules. I also have soft skills that I have gained from my role as a student assistant which has helped improve my interpersonal and communication skills.

I am eager to gain new experience and to apply my technical skills and knowledge in a practical setting. My significant academic improvement from 2022 to 2023 is proof of my ongoing resilient spirit to learn and how passionate I am about all things tech. The fact that I still have the opportunity to work on projects that address actual challenges in the world and in companies like I have always envisioned is exciting to me, which is something younger me from first year would have never believed.

During my undergraduate degree I was exposed to several group projects which greatly improved my ability to work and communicate in a team. I was also the group leader in a Computer Networks project where I was responsible for ensuring there is effective communication and active listening among our group members and from this my willingness to be helped by others improved, even thoughI was selected as the group leader, my group members helped me realise the importance of asking for help when it is needed, no matter what your role is in the group.

During my second year for a System Analysis and Design project I was part of a dynamic group of female students where we had to choose a system to develop and our system was called *Tawanda: Home of Love* and it was an orphanage system. During the development of this system my team and I realised how much positive change South Africa still needs and how technology can have an impact in that. Especially since we all grew up in disadvantaged backgrounds and one of us particularly grew up in an orphanage. This project increased my value for creating tangible products that have a value in people's everyday lives and play a role in bridging the digital gap in South Africa, no matter how small or big.

I am also passionate about promoting more diversity and inclusion in technology as a woman in a typically male dominated field. I believe that diverse perspectives and experiences are essential for driving innovation and growth. I am also aware of the women who have paved the way for women like me and I hope to do the same as well, especially for girls that are growing up around me. I cannot wait to contribute my skills and knowledge to a team that shares my passion for innovation and positive change, and I am confident this opportunity would be an excellent fit for me. Thank you for considering my application.

Kind Regards, Neo Hlumbene.