

Soren Lera

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Education:

Hamilton College, *Bachelor of Arts*, Clinton, NY; May 19th, 2027

Intended Major: Computer Science / Intended Minor: Mathematics / GPA: 3.87

Relevant Experience:

Undergraduate Researcher, **Prof. Dong**, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY; August 2025–Present

- Optimize Apache Flink distributed processing engine by testing CPU scheduler configurations in controlled Cloudlab environments, extending Boston University graduate research.
- Investigate machine learning inference layer integration to improve CPU scheduler performance

Undergraduate Researcher, **Prof. Morrison Smith**, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY; May 2025–Present

- *Drive Groups*: Led user studies with faculty and conducted reflexive thematic analysis using MAXQda to extend previous research publication.
- *Pectogram*: Developed Pectogram, a full-stack web application enabling nonverbal autistic PECS users to communicate with untrained peers; published demo at ACCESS conference.

Digital Initiatives Intern, **LITS Department**, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY; January 2025–Present

- Developed custom website for faculty showcasing interdisciplinary video essay work.
- Created VR experience in Unreal Engine recreating a historical Japanese silent film theater.

Hamilton Innovation Lab Fellow, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY; July–August 2025

- Selected for competitive three-week entrepreneurship fellowship (stipend: \$1,500) piloting innovation programming; developed concept from ideation through functional prototype.

IT Support Specialist, **Help Desk**, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY; October 2024–Present

- Provide technical support to campus community, troubleshooting hardware and software issues.

Qoom Software Intern, **QOOM**, Remote; Spring 2024–Present

- Developed various AI-based web tools to assist beginning developers in learning how to build their own IDE.

Web Development Coach, **Applied Computing Foundation**, South Korea; Spring 2024–Summer 2024

- Designed and taught original web development curriculum covering AI and web-based VR to middle schoolers at Branksome Hall Asia.

Team Lead, **Inspirogram**, Palo Alto, CA; Fall 2021–Spring 2023

- Managed team of six high school interns who taught web development courses to students in Tanzania; pioneered partnership with Arusha Girls High School.

Skills:

Languages: *JavaScript, CSS/HTML, Java, Python, C++, Scheme, Markdown, Prolog, Ruby, Rust, Clojure, Assembly*

Tools: *Aframe, VR, Atom, Eclipse, Jupyter Notebook, Command Line, Git, Unity, Godot, CSP, Photoshop, Vector graphics, MAXQda, Apache Flink, Cloudlab*

Machine Learning: *Generative Adversarial Networks, Linear & Logistic Regression, Naive Bayes Classifier, Unsupervised & Supervised Learning*

Research Methods: *Qualitative Coding, Reflexive Thematic Analysis, Affinity Diagramming, User Study Design*

Honors/Awards:

Global Finalist at the Conrad Challenge, April 29th, 2020

- Awarded Global Finalist with Team Lucidity, a machine-learning productivity manager, out of over 600 teams competing globally.

Aspirations in Computing: San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate Honorable Mention, March 24th, 2022

- Attained San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate Honorable Mention for demonstrating considerable interest and contribution to the Computer Science field.