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Dear Members of the Pforzheimer House Resident Tutor Selection Committee,

I am a PhD candidate in Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Harvard, and I am writing to express my interest in joining the Pforzheimer House community as a Resident Tutor. My professional background is as a researcher and mentor. My personal background is as a stroke and cancer survivor. These experiences have imbued in me a unique perspective that will allow me to support the students at Pforzheimer House in their academic and personal growth.

I have developed an expertise in the practice and communication of science. I have spent most of my life as a researcher in quantum chemistry; this field is highly interdisciplinary, with a foot in physics, chemistry, computer science, and applied mathematics. Additionally, I am able to operate outside my area of expertise. As a member of the Harvard Energy Journal Club, I have given presentations on the energy demands of AI, carbon taxation, and climate tipping points; as a Teaching Fellow for Physical Sciences 11, I have learned to relay complex chemistry concepts to students from diverse academic backgrounds. These experiences have prepared me to mentor students pursuing all kinds of scientific disciplines at Pforzheimer House.

I am uniquely qualified to support students in their personal journeys. After I suffered a stroke four years ago, I could not move in my hospital bed, but now I am pursuing a PhD at Harvard. This would not have been possible without learning how to strike the balance between academic ambition and self care. Every week, I interpolate my work hours between programming and doing physical therapy exercises. This experience has prepared me to support students in achieving their personal definitions of success.

I am drawn to Pforzheimer House due to its rich history. Among its notable alumni is Mark Takano, who happens to represent a nearby congressional district in my home state of California. Growing up, my family would often drive up to Northern California and we once stopped at Manzanar, a former Japanese internment camp during World War II. Mr. Takano's family was relocated to one of these camps during the War. As the child of immigrants myself, who fled persecution in Poland, I can relate to the adversity that Mr. Takano faced due to his identity and hope to support students at Pforzheimer House hailing from diverse backgrounds.

Thank you for considering my application and I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience and values align with the House's mission.

Sincerely,
Patryk Kozlowski