I grew up in rural Minnesota, where I learned at a young age how marginalized, under-represented, and under-funded such communities can be. My public education began in a town of 7,000 where I was lucky to have dial-up Internet, a good public library, and a community college. Despite the challenges, I was inspired to learn and I fought hard for my own education. I didn't let small town obstacles stand in my way. I took charge of my learning and advanced my knowledge independently, which involved taking part in extracurriculars ranging from math league to student government. In addition I took honors courses whenever possible. I gravitated to statistics during Carleton College's Summer Quantitative Reasoning Institute. There I was exposed to the statistical programming language STATA and began my independent study of statistics.

I graduated as valedictorian and set my sights on the best post-secondary education I could get—that took me 1,500 miles away to a small liberal arts school: Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Reed met my criteria of providing a personalized education where I could interact with professors and students in small groups. I wanted that education to provide rigor and demanded I step outside my comfort zone. I learned how to write research papers, design a randomized control trial, and numerous forms of statistical analysis. I graduated with a dual bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Economics.

I continuously challenged myself to learn and apply my statistical skills. At Reed, I joined Economics Professor Jeff Parker's team and did an internship researching European unemployment. Additionally, I applied text analysis to understand the efficacy of Pokémon battling strategies for a senior thesis. This work innovatively used statistics as an analytical tool to show that basically anywhere statistics can be applied to learn about the world and test hypotheses-even to a childhood gaming obsession.

College provided financial obstacles to overcome. I had to work nearly full-time to keep afloat while in school. My student job with the Alumni Association evolved to utilize my statistical expertise, as I went from call center fundraising to collecting and analyzing undergraduate caller statistics as co-student manager. I also challenged myself to take advanced courses such as Real Analysis and Econometrics while participating in and leading Model UN and men's rugby.

Directly out of college I was hired by Fisher Investments where I worked for over two years to support their market research efforts and develop statistics skills in the financial sector. Ultimately, I decided to leave Fisher to continue pursuing academic rigor and challenge myself further.

In early 2020, I went back to Reed College to audit upper level statistics classes which led to Professor Kelly McConville hiring me to work on research estimation methods with the Forestry Services. T I've continued to work on the manuscript, which is set to be published in 2021.

I am not only committed to pursuing a career in statistics, but I am also enthusiastic to continue applying my skills in ways I find meaningful.