**MY RETREAT**

I am a graduate student, who also has a habit of collecting hobbies and new skills. My hobbies fall in a wide spectrum between rock hounding, music, Japanese and juggling. I love diverse kinds of music and am a self-taught pianist and guitarist. I also love colors and art which helped me create paintings that put my imagination on canvas! Digital photography is a hobby that goes with my travel bug to capture interesting moments and share with those who tend to appreciate it! I love books that inspire, teach or make me laugh, but I end up reading almost anything I can lay my hands on. I am an outdoors person. I like spending summer days running, climbing, biking and swimming around Washington’s beautiful trails, mountains and lakes. I prefer staying dry during Pacific NW winters!

My other long-term interest, since my days from high-school biology, are living things (plants and animals) and their evolution to near-perfection. This, in part, led me to my current field of research at the University of Washington. I started graduate school in the USA in 2011. Initially I worked on nanoelectromechanical systems – building nanometer scale mechanical systems for sensing and computation. While this was fun, my old passion for building things and fascination for Biomed tech. soon caught up with me and steered me towards the Sensor Systems Lab at the UW Seattle. As a part of this lab I have continued working on the topics I am most passionate about, with a very tolerant and encouraging bunch of colleagues.

Apart from making wireless sensor interfaces that can measure body signals (physiological sensing), I picked up some circuit development and wireless tech. design skills that have helped me along the way. I am also working with the Medical Devices Group at Microsoft Research, building low-power devices for physiological sensing. It has so far been a fun time working on great projects with great people.

To end this introductory ramble with one of my favorite lines from Robert Frost’s poem “The road not taken”:

*“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference”*

Although, I say it NOT with a sigh since I believe that ***difference*** is the element of surprise and excitement!

