When I reflect on my academic and professional journey, I realize that each step has been a brick in the foundation leading me to pursue legal studies. I have navigated diverse academic disciplines, beginning from a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and English Linguistics at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies to my recent role as a Climate and ESG Research and Company Valuation Analyst at MSCI. Throughout this journey, I have come to a powerful realization that legal experts are at the heart of shaping and executing meaningful change, especially within corporate governance, sustainability and regulatory frameworks.

My continued academic pursuits after graduating at the top of my class during my undergraduate studies led to my time as a Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University’s Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (QMSS) program, where I honed my research methodologies. And the doctoral studies in finance at the University of Rochester broadened my understanding of the complexity involved in corporate governance and sustainability research.

It was the transition to the corporate sphere, in particular to MSCI’s research department, which was instrumental in providing me with a unique perspective on the impact of legal infrastructures on business valuations and investment decisions. In my role, I was able to lay the foundation for an array of important contributions to the company valuation process, helping companies to embrace a range of sustainable management practices.

My professional journey has entailed the engaging challenge of fathoming the panoply of global legal regulations and standards, including those developed by the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board, Climate Disclosure Standards Board, and Global Reporting Initiative, among others, to give meaning to risks and opportunities of financial consequence for corporations and the broader economy. A deeper understanding of the interplay of case law and these structures and applying the principles of law has been integral to shaping and refining the counsel I offer my clients, corporate executives, as well as policymakers and governmental bodies.

Now, after more than three years in the corporate realm, I face a critical juncture in my career. With all its apparent challenges and ambiguities, direct influence on the formulation and enforcement of corporate governance laws, not just analytical contributions, is far more intriguing and meaningful. As I contemplate my career, the recognition that legal professionals – legislators, regulators and lawyers – have exerted the greatest influence over my professional trajectory further validates the decision to apply to law school.

I am confident that a legal education will enable me to both dissect and construct the webs of corporate regulations that will govern the international economy of the future and I am drawn to the prospect of joining a community committed to shaping such a seismic development with the benefits of judicial foresight.

Upon admission to law school, I will concentrate on international, labor, corporate, and environmental law, as these not only mirror my academic and professional strengths, but will also enable me to deepen a complementary blend of financial and legal expertise as I work with professors from business school on such concepts as Corporate Sustainability, so vital given the inextricable link between the corporate lawyer and an ever-more sustainable business practice.

Fundamentally, my aspiration to pursue legal studies is grounded in my belief in the transformative power that a legal education can have on corporate sustainability initiatives. I am interested in immersing myself in legal doctrine, specifically corporate regulations, in order to contribute to a more responsible and sustainable way of conducting business. This is not an exercise in simply personal growth but an effort to grow a more sustainable and equitable corporate landscape.

When I reflect on my academic and professional path, I realize that every step was building block towards my foundation to pursue legal studies. From my undergraduate years to my current role as a Climate & ESG Research and Company Valuation Analyst at MSCI, my path was mixture of diverse academic disciplines. Throughout this journey, I became to a profound realization that legal experts are at the heart of shaping and executing meaningful change, especially with the corporate governance, sustainability, and regulatory frameworks.

When I reflect on my academic and professional journey, I realize that each step has been a brick in the foundation leading me to pursue legal studies. I have navigated diverse academic disciplines, beginning from a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and English Linguistics at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies to my recent role as a Climate and ESG Research and Company Valuation Analyst at MSCI. Throughout this journey, I have come to a powerful realization that legal experts are at the heart of shaping and executing meaningful change, especially within corporate governance, sustainability and regulations.

My academic achievements were marked by distinction, as I graduated top of my class during my undergraduate studies. This academic excellence continued as a Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University’s Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (QMSS) program, where I refined my research methodologies. My doctoral studies in finance at the University of Rochester further deepened my understanding of the intricacies involved in corporate governance and sustainability research.