Personal Statement

“Decisions”

I first attended pharmacy school and was enrolled in a “0-6 year” program. The pharmacy curriculum was challenging because it was a professional doctorate degree program, Pharm.D. Also, my interest in health care and pharmacy was gradually diminishing. After a rough 4 semesters, I transferred from pharmacy school to my current university. The experiences in pharmacy school taught me the lesson that my own voice should be the most important factor when making decisions in significant matters such as major selection and career path.

I had not decided on my major when I first came to my current university, so I took courses from various fields such as biology and an introductory computer programming course. I did well in the computer programming class, and most importantly, I enjoyed learning new concepts such as using Java programming language to solve problems. Shortly after this transfer, I took a leave of absence in order to complete mandatory military duty in South Korea. My major was still undecided at this time.

“Patience”

During my two years of military service, I was very concerned about my future career path and major selection. While I patiently waited until the end of service, I had much time to carefully think this over. Actually, the military service was my life-turning point because it not only inspired me to work hard and live patiently, but also encouraged me to select computer science as my major. After completing the service, I changed my major from pharmacy to computer science. It was a perfect choice because I loved computers, wanted to use them to find interesting ways to solve real world problems, and I was listening to my inner voice.

“Passion”

Working with computers, I know I could contribute to creating practical applications to help people and society. While at Pitt, I used my time and efforts wisely to learn and develop a solid foundation of basic programming concepts under an object-oriented programming early-focused curriculum. The curriculum gave me invaluable experiences such as learning the basis of data structures, assembly languages and using Java to manage prospective real world problems. My grasp of the fundamental knowledge and good academic standing prove that I can successfully move on to upper-level courses.

“Objectives”

As a prospective student, I seek specific challenges and rich resources in my transfer school. I am going to fully utilize the opportunities and resources offered at the Purdue University. I am eager to gain a sophisticated understanding of computer science knowledge such as courses that are essential for the design and development of software products in software engineering track. I want to explore other unique opportunities from various research centers and institutes like software engineering research center.

Not only academic interests are important, but student life is also significant. I have competed in Algorithm competitions, and I take part in the student Robotics club at my current university. I want to actively join in self improvement student clubs or activities like Purdue robotics and Capture the Flag student group. By doing so, I will adapt to my new environment, understand the culture of the university and eventually become an active part of the student community. It is a very valuable experience to become a member of a community of competent students and alumni at the Purdue University.

Briefly discuss your reasons for pursuing the major you have selected. (Respond in 100 words or fewer.)

As a computer-loving and passionate student, the field of computer science is very inspiring. I want to accomplish more meaningful than playing games, typing on Word document, and watching movies on the computer. Majoring in computer science will definitely help me to acquire the skills which are needed to design and develop beneficial mobile applications and software products. I believe learning programming languages by myself is not sufficient but also need to learn a theory of computer and discipline as a proper computer scientist.

* **Topcoder ‘17 Algorithm Competition Regional Event** 2017

The event was held in Google at Pittsburgh and participants came from many various countries. All participants were given only two hours to solve tasks in the competition. I was not awarded the first place or special recognition. However, I enjoyed the event because I loved coding and had the invaluable opportunity to discuss with other skillful programmers how to implement algorithms and solve practical problems.