APPLICATION EXAMPLE 1

Previous Research Experiences:

Currently the only research experience I have has been working with Dr Coutrakon this current spring 2017 semester learning/reading about introductory medical imagining and radiation oncology.

How will participation in undergraduate research help you achieve your academic and personal goals?

Participating in undergraduate research will help me achieve my goals while completing my education at NIU because it will give me hands on experience that I can correlate to my studies. Thus, giving me a better understanding of core concepts and how to apply them. By actively participating in undergraduate research, it will allow me to pursue my passion for research in the science field. The more involved I become in regards to the research programs offered by NIU, will expose me to explore vast career fields and can lead to a successful researching career in my future. Not only will Undergraduate research provide opportunities for me in my field of studies, it will also build up and shape me into the best student I can be at NIU. I know that by participating in an undergraduate research program, it will highly impact my education and my educational potential at NIU. Allowing me to grow and benefit in research design, data collection, analysis, and communication as well as personal development. I also hope to become apart of learning community and establish relationships with mentors and peers that will help me stay on track to achieve my goals while at NIU.

Describe your research interests as well as the skills you possess that will be useful in your research:

A very special and specific research interest I have is in Proton Radiology. When Dr. Coutrakon first mentioned and introduced me to this research, immediately I became interested and stimulated to explore this research. I was hooked on proton radiology the very first day and was driven to learn more about this research opportunity.

Skills that I have that will be useful in my research include but are not limited to:

- Fast Learning and adaptivity
- Understanding and learning the research context
- Computer skills in excel and word
- Self management/time management
- Analyzing data
- Problem solving
- Communication/interpersonal skills
- Math skills
APPLICATION EXAMPLE 2

Previous Research Experiences:

No previous experience in research.

How will participation in undergraduate research help you achieve your academic and personal goals?

Participating in undergraduate research would be an exciting opportunity for me and would help me achieve my goals in many ways. One very important goal for me is to gain enough experience in my undergraduate years to be competitive in applying for graduate school. Ideally, I would be accepted into the Speech Pathology program here at NIU; however, the program is very competitive. Gaining undergraduate research experience before applying for graduate school would give me exactly what I need to be accepted and to be successful in my future career. In addition to gaining experience for graduate school, I would love to research this summer to broaden my knowledge in my area of study. I am passionate about what I do and about learning, and there is no better way to learn more about my area of study than to do hands on research. Conducting research is something I've been eager to get into this school year, but nothing has worked out for me yet. Being given the opportunity to research this summer would be extremely beneficial for my own personal gain and would open many new doors to my future as a Speech Pathologist.

Describe your research interests as well as the skills you possess that will be useful in your research:

My research interests in the area of Speech Pathology include: child language development, disorder prevention, early intervention, and/or language development in children with autism. Skills I have that would be useful in my research are good interpersonal skills, computer competency, knowledge about statistical programs, and good communication skills.