

Applicants to The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, please tell us what from your current and past experiences (either academic or personal) attracts you specifically to the field or fields of study that you noted in the Member Questions section. (300 words or less)

My passion for aviation and aeronautical mechanics began in the 8th grade. Early that year, Mrs. Veronica Goodridge took me under her wing. She was an exceptional algebra teacher. For the first time, I knew what to do in math and why I was doing it. In her algebra class, I began to excel. Over the course of the year I earned A's on all of her tests and gained self-confidence. My newfound success in algebra made engineering attractive. Mathematics' practical applications were my newest obsession.

As a naturally curious student, I delved into numerous engineering projects involving civilian planes and getting more familiar with physics. Since the eighth grade, I've applied my knowledge to build an unsinkable cardboard boat, design catapults, and put together robots. I enjoy the research side of engineering as well. I spend my free time in my room looking for the next great project. My current project? I'm working closely with my Physics and Pre-Calculus teachers, ensuring that I receiving ample mathematical and scientific skills before departing for college. The mathematics and sciences involved, the practicalities of using it in the real world, and most importantly, creating new inventions are three main factors that continue to motivate me to study.

I plan on majoring in Mechanical Engineering to get a broad foundation in how the world and machines work, from one of the best universities in the world. I can never get enough new information and this pushes me to work extra hard. I know my work ethic would fit in perfectly at Columbia. I thrive in small groups of capable, talented students. Columbia's student to faculty ratio of 6:1 would encourage me allow me to get to know my professors and make significant contributions to class discussions.