

Scholarship Essay

There are many things that I am certain about myself and three of them are my unquenchable thirst for learning, my passion for “podiatry,” and my mission of making significant difference in the lives of others. During my early years, I was awakened to the realization that one’s life can only be made worthy through service to others. There were some people in my past whose sufferings I witnessed because of an illness. Even at a young age, I cried for them and vowed to find the ways by which I would be able to do something to help. I saw people who were close to me bearing the pain of having diabetes particularly concerning the worse condition of their feet. It was as if their pain was mine and more so because I could do nothing about it. I knew then that my life would only be worthwhile if I could be of service particularly to those who are experiencing the effects of diabetes in their feet. Every human being deserves to live life to the fullest. Each one of us has been endowed with so much creativity and dignity that makes life as the most valuable here on earth. And it is always my fervent wish to be part in the caring for the world’s greatest treasure and in contributing to the advancement of humankind specifically in the field of physical health. One way of reaching this goal is by embracing the science of medicine specializing in podiatry. This I have done wholly with all the fervor of a man in a mission. Following the motto “*Omnium artium medicina nobilissima est.*”(Medicine is the noblest of all arts), I have embarked faithfully on my quest. I have been much too willing to learn the art and technology of the science of podiatry as well as willing to impart the same knowledge to others. There were no second chances, I have to tread carefully and diligently. So I have to be on my best, there is no room for mediocrity. Mastering the intricacies and complexities of medicine world is the way that would make me realize my dream. In this intent, I have gone through diligent studies and welcomed every opportunity and

challenge to broaden my knowledge, to sharpen my skill and to enhance my confidence that comes my way even in the midst of hardships and conflicts. I have toiled to obtain knowledge. I worked while in school doing work-study because my family never had enough to provide for me while growing up. I used to work for more than 40 hours as a Nach-o Fast owner/manager from 19989 to 2001. So I learned to be very efficient and hardworking. These have brought me to where I am today. Right now, I am a fourth year podiatry student with the following accomplishments: 2001 Deans list NOVA; 2002 Deans list George Mason; and Deans list George Mason. I have also been actively involved in various extracurricular activities such as Tae-kwon-do (where I earned 2nd degree black belt training and 3rd degree black belt instructor in a DEMO team); Sports medicine; Surgery club; Hallux helpers; AAWP. I have also experienced being Class representative in Biomechanics, Histology, Radiology and Sports Medicine; as well as participating in worthwhile activities such as volunteering at Special Olympics 2005 and 2006; MS Walk 2004-2006; and Diabetes Walk 2004-2006.

Now, I am giving all the best that I can in every situation where I could be of great help. For examples, I have welcomed the opportunity to coordinate CME's, conferences that bring fellow podiatrists together to learn innovative ideas and treatments. It was with honor and privilege on my part when I coordinated foot screenings project around Philadelphia and my hometown community to make the public better aware of foot disease and proper foot care. It somewhat fulfills me to enable others understand the importance of keeping their feet happy and healthy.

I envision myself inventing some equipment and products to aid podiatric surgeons to better facilitate surgery and post-op healing with greater ease. It is my goal to contribute in making the field of podiatry well-known not just in this country but all around the world as there

is increasing threat against the well-being of many patients that involves foot health, the complications of diabetes in particular. Indeed, I am hoping for a broader scope and way of serving others. This would be realized once I would be able to complete my residency. I am seeking for the means to continue this noble pursuit without having to add to my parents' burden of working hard having two to three jobs to sustain the family's basic needs.

A chance to get a scholarship would be a great help, not only to my own career growth, to my family's honor, to the field of podiatry, but to the betterment of society in general in the best way that I could.