

Interview:

How would you describe your area of study to your grandmother?

Business is the mechanism that allows the world to function. An MBA is a means to expand my “toolkit” to meet the demands of this ever changing global environment.

What is your primary motivation for persevering through graduate school?

I am intrinsically motivated to get an MBA. It has been a personal goal since high school.

Do you think there is any value in social networking with other graduate students in non-related fields?

Yes. As a business professional, I know that most innovation for new ventures comes from other academic disciplines. To that end, this could create a win-win situation for both parties.

What is your favorite stress-reduction technique?

I like to hike the Appalachian Trail around Roanoke with my family.

What is the last book you read strictly for pleasure and how long ago was it?

I finished the “Emperor of Ocean Park” about a year ago. With that being said, I do not get much time to read for pleasure. Most of my free time is spent with my family.

Please describe your most meaningful academic relationship.

From my experience in Roanoke, I have established a robust personal, professional, and academic network with my classmates. I believe they are the greatest asset to this program.

What surprised you the most about graduate school?

The professors have been very flexible with my working schedule.

If travel to Mars happens in your lifetime, would you want to be one of the scientists on board? If yes, what would you contribute to the mission?

I would absolutely go on the mission. To that end, I would contribute an adventurous spirit to the mission and be the first to volunteer for most any activity (i.e. space-walking).

What is your favorite comfort food and why? How often do you consume it?

Is beer a comfort food? If not, I like potato chips because they are a salty indulgence. I usually eat them at least every other day. I especially like the salt and vinegar variety.

If you hadn't been admitted to graduate school, what do you think you would be doing right now?

I would still be working full time at Stryker Medical.

When do you expect to complete your degree?
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