Sam Irish

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Dear Hiring Manager,

As a graduate student at the University of Notre Dame graduating in May 2018 with a degree in XXXX, I am writing to apply for the Associate position at XXXX.

I am excited to use my problem-solving skills honed during studies to solve real world problems in a company such as XXXX. With its talented and hardworking consultants, XXXX constantly makes significant impact in the world by helping Fortune 500 companies excel and improving the world we live in. After talking with five XXXX consultants from different offices, I was fascinated by the possibility of applying my strengths and passions to contribute at XXXX, in a way that is personally challenging and exciting to me.

Professionally, I have three key proven skills that I would contribute to XXXX:

* **Analytical and problem solving skills**: In my graduate studies on organ development, I approach my research based on hypothesis-driven problem solving. I routinely identify problems, make hypotheses, conduct experiments and analyze results. Image analysis, data extraction and analysis, and data visualization are just a few of the skills that I acquired in graduate school. As a result, I have written 3 scientific papers and have been awarded multiple grants. This disciplined, logical, and analytical approach to testing hypotheses is a skill I am excited to offer to XXXX.
* **Leadership skills**: At Notre Dame, I became an independent researcher in the process of developing my own project from the ground up. In the lab, I have also served as mentors to five undergraduate students to help them succeed in research. To facilitate the discussion of research, I am currently leading a team organizing a departmental research symposium. During my undergraduate studies, I led a team of 10 people in an international bioengineering competition. I was also the President of International Student Ambassadors, serving international students and professors. My proven leadership skills make me an ideal candidate for XXXX.
* **Interpersonal and communication skills**: Throughout my academic career, I have coauthored 3 scientific papers, and I have communicated with the public about my research by speaking at prestigious national conferences. I have also worked in multicultural teams, collaborating with scientists and engineers from other fields. Outside of academia, I have worked with at-risk teens as a counselor, and I have taught English to classes of 150+ students. My communication skills and compassion for people will be valuable in working with clients.

My experience and skills make me an ideal candidate for the Associate position with XXXX. Accompanying this cover letter is my resume. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sam Irish