

Post-MBA Goals in Relation to My Past Experience

I aspire to pursue MBA in order to expand my career scope, as well as to acquire a better understanding in the field of my profession. I received a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Accounting and Finance from the University of London. This degree opened a lot of doors for me by allowing me to discover myself and my surroundings. I have worked in various reputable and credible organizations and institutions in my country. Some of these include Standard Chartered Bank, Pakistan Telecommunication Limited, GB Securities, Mitsubishi, and currently, Diversified Labeling and Solutions.

While at the University for my undergraduate, I was an active student who was well accomplished in sports and other extra-curricular activities. Although this did affect my studies and academics due to which my true potential cannot be represented through my transcripts. Having said that, sports helped me master my leadership and team building skills. After leaving the university, I began my internship, which set me on a clear career path. I recognize that I have learned a lot from my experience working for various companies. While in college, I found myself postponing things and having to do them in a rush. At the workplace, I had to adapt to the pressure of delivering quality products in a timely manner. Working under pressure is so important in real life. These two different stages of my life have taught me many lessons that I would like to apply.

Now, I have set my eyes on the ultimate goal, which is to become a successful professional. Acquiring an MBA would help me focus on becoming a thorough professional who is able to combine various skill sets to develop suitable ways that can be shared with others in the industry, thus, increasing efficiency at the workplace and making things better for everyone.

My Leadership Experience

Growing up as a child, I was reserved and did not have much interest in other people's business. This type of behavior was maintained until I began high school. I attended a boarding school in high school. Life was different in many aspects until one specific thing completely changed my life. It was the extra-curriculars in the school. In the very first year I started getting active in sports including hockey, basketball, soccer, and rugby. With the passage of time I was getting better at these sports and was elected as the sports representative of the school's student union. It was the first time I held any leadership position.

I loved the rugby game more than any other game. So as we proceeded into the senior classes, I joined the school team and became one of the students who became team captains before their final year. I led my team to victory many times, maintaining its reputation as a sports powerhouse.

This leadership experience taught me a great deal about life. It taught me persistence, resilience, focus, dedication and, above all, teamwork. I learnt that one can never outperform in isolation. I learnt that it is not about winning all the time; it is about how gracefully you lose. It taught me how to take criticism constructively and learn from mistakes. These are not just "look good" pointers but life-long lessons for which, I owe to my leadership experiences. After all, life is a journey and every day we should aspire to learn more and improve yourself.

I am passionate about...

I am passionate about making a difference by giving back to society. I believe we are all sent in this world for a reason and the sooner we realize this fact, the better it is for everyone. I have always been more interested in the journey instead of the end result. Final outcome is obviously important but the process and the journey is the essence. Actual learning and exposure take place in the process as I have personally experienced it in my life.

Having said that, life itself is a journey which becomes enriching if you are one of those fortunate ones who make a difference by serving humanity. With this in mind, I started off with my social venture *Jazba*, which provides free education to kids in poverty stricken areas. Basic education and awareness is lacking globally, particularly in my country, and the only way we can tackle other issues is through education only. I have also been an active member of SOS Village, which is a charity organization working towards education and shelter issues. No matter where I go and what I do this passion of mine will remain with me forever as this is my driving force. I will continue to try and make a difference and hopefully this world will become a better place for all of us and for generations to come.

Noteworthy Fact about Me

I am a strong believer in kindness, humility, and generosity. I love music, hiking, reading novels, and traveling to new destinations.

A risk you have taken in your life and its impact on your life

If we contemplate our society, we would witness extreme emphasis on academics. Although the dynamics are changing now and people are getting increasingly aware of the significance of other areas as well such as extra-curriculars and community service, but the conventional idea of books and grades and academics is still considered the key to everything. In this society, amidst these mindsets I believe I took a risk of shifting my focus on sports. It should be noted that I am not using this essay topic as an excuse for my underperformance in academics. I genuinely believe that I should have balanced well and performed much better as I do have the capabilities. But I did not and hence, ended up with unfavorable results.

Having said that, the risk I took by focus more on other areas impacted my life in many different ways. The exposure, the learning and the experience I got can neither be explained in words and nor can it be compared to anything on this planet. I do not think I would have discovered so much about my own strengths and weaknesses through anything else. Most of all I got to know about life and its realities. Theories are not the reality and I do not regret my journey of life simply because it gave me a reality check. It helped me practice the bookish terms such as crisis management, conflict resolution, team work and sportsmanship in real life. In a nutshell, some risks are worth taking and I am sure mine is one of them.

Personal Statement: Career Goals and How They are Connected to Georgia Tech.

Education is one of the fundamental building blocks of a successful person. For the achievement in one's career, the entire foundation is based on success in school, along with moral values, character, personality, and innovation acting as the pillars of support. I completed my undergraduate Accounting and Finance degree in 2012. I have had the opportunity to work for various organizations between then and now in internship and official duty capacities. These companies include Mitsubishi, Diversified Labelling Solutions, GB Securities, PTCL and Standard Chartered Bank.

I love doing what I do - waking up every morning to interact with my colleagues at work and ensure that we make life better for our customers. Many of them have even become friends. In my quest to deliver better service to my customers and to be a worthy representative of my employer, I strive to achieve the pinnacle of success in mundane tasks, as well as those that require pre-planning. I love knowledge sharing and getting insight on various topics, whether they are related to my profession or not. In some cases, I find that the best ideas are the ones that emerge in conversations and interactions. However, I lack the ability to develop those thoughts into something meaningful that can be sold. I believe that the educational training at the Master's level is an enabling factor in this area.

Career progression means more to me now than it did when I left the university in 2012. I understand that excellence in one's quality of work propels him or her into success. It is a fact that one's environment determines their capacity to be great, and in most cases, influences their direction in life. Georgia Institute of Technology is a highly reputable institution in the United States of America, which is credited for producing many successful professionals in our society. They include Presidents Jimmy Carter (USA), Juan Carlos Varela (Panama), Mike Duke (Former

CEO at Walmart and Businessman), John Salley (Sportsman), John F. Brock (Chairman and CEO of Coca-Cola), Gill Amelio (Bell Labs), and John Young (Astronaut) among many others. These individuals are associated with the institution, which influenced their greatness. I have conducted enough research to assure me that being at Georgia Institute of Technology will serve in my best interest not just professionally but socially and ethically too.

Excelling in examinations is an important aspect of education as it indicates the fact that a person is attentive and serious in life. Unfortunately, this bit of my life is not at par as my concentration was more towards other areas. However, I recognize my capacity to perform better, regardless of the amount of pressure exerted on me. I may have made some mistakes in the past but I have learned from them. For instance, after three years of working in various capacities as stated before, I am confident in my multi-tasking ability. I am an improved version of who I was. I am committed to excelling at this level of my education. Time and accessibility are important factors if one is to attend classes, which will allow them to pass. Georgia Tech is within my locality, which makes it easier for me to attend classes on time. This factor will enable me to achieve better grades in exams. I seek continuous improvement for myself as an individual and as a professional who has a duty towards employers and to the general public.

In seeking an MBA, I will have one additional achievement in my list of credentials, which will effectively increase my chances of employability in the coming years. I intend to have top managerial positions as my long-term goal. Considering the amount of research and the level of consultation in seeking advice, I believe that a degree from Georgia Tech is highly appreciable in the job market, and will enable me to fulfill my goals and purpose.

Optional Essay

A careful review of my application would exhibit the fact that my academics are not up to the mark. Yes, I agree that my Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is not what it is supposed to be but the importance of being a well-rounded person should not be underestimated. I have always been very active with my extra curriculums. As I stated in my personal statement, I have been an active sportsman since high school. This exposure has taught me more than any course book. One of my key learnings is the ability to focus on my passion and goals.

Determination, persistence, and resilience are integral traits in athletes and this will help me throughout my life tenure. My focus has always been on bigger picture and long-term life goals.

The idea of giving back to society is engraved in me and I have been an initiative taker instead of just a dreamer. My small contribution to society in the form of NGO Jazba is a living example of it. I wish to carry on everything I am passionate about so that I can continue trying to make a difference. Although I have my share of mistakes but those are experiences, which helps one learn life-long lessons. Out of each adversity, I retreat into my thoughts and afterwards, I emerge a stronger person than I was before. No academic transcript can ever exhibit these traits.

Due to active involvement in all the above mentioned areas, my studies got neglected but my learning has not. This is the reason I do not regret as hard skills can be learned later also but soft skills (which can only be mastered through these extra exposures) can really make a difference and set you apart from others. I believe, I am a more well-rounded and complete person now with big dreams and the courage and skill set to transform them into realities.