

February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

To the Seoul National University College of Medicine Alumni Association,

I hope this letter finds you well! Thank you once again for this wonderful opportunity to be a part of your scholarship community. Time truly flies: I can't believe that I am more than halfway through my first year of medical school! We are currently in our Endocrine and Reproductive Organs block, and have completed the Cardiology, Pulmonary, Renal, and Gastrointestinal organ systems. Something that is unique about our curriculum is that we have Health Systems Sciences and Medical Ethics courses built in longitudinally across all three years. As such, in addition to our traditional lectures and Anatomy labs, we also have interactive sessions in which we get to discuss highly relevant topics such as healthcare financing and decision-making for incapacitated patients. We also have a longitudinal Continuity Ambulatory Patient Experience (CAPE), in which we get to work with local primary care providers to take care of patients, and to learn more about the needs of the local community. Being one of twenty-four students in our school's first class, I am very fortunate in that I feel well supported by both the administration and my fellow students. This past month, we had a Wellness Day in which a mindfulness expert came to speak to us about practices we can incorporate into our lives as medical students. Next month, we will be going to see *Book of Mormon* on Broadway as a class.

With the funds from your scholarship, I was able to purchase medical equipment, including a blood pressure cuff, otoscope, and other physical exam basics. For each organ block, we get to go into the hospital to interview patients and to perform a targeted physical exam based on the organ system we are learning about. As such, these tools have been helpful not only in practicing with my fellow students and standardized patients, but also for these real patient encounters in the hospital and CAPE. I have also been able to purchase test prep books with the scholarship funds, which has been helpful in preparing for our school exams, and will undoubtedly continue to be helpful when it comes time for us to take the STEP 1 Exam next fall.

Something that I am really excited about is the Envisions Scholars Program that we started this year. This is a mentoring program for high school and college students in the area who are interested in the medical profession. Medical school volunteers are paired with one high school freshman and one college sophomore, and we have 1-2 sessions a month in which we help our mentees develop their personal statements and gain exposure to different fields within medicine. So far, we have had an OBGYN delivery and suturing session as well as an Anatomy 101 session. As someone who benefited from a similar program during high school, I am very excited to be able to help others pursue their dreams of becoming a healthcare professional. I have also started volunteering at our student-run community clinic, and I think it has been a great opportunity not only to practice my clinical skills, but also to be more engaged with our local community. As we start clinical rotations next year, I believe I will be able to contribute more to the care of our patients, so I am looking forward to this opportunity for growth.

It is through your support that I have been able to pursue these experiences freely, without additional concerns about financing my education. Attached below is a picture of my mother and I at my White Coat Ceremony. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity!

Sincerely,  
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