Student Spotlight

Eric Short - Environmental Engineering Technology Major

What is your best advice to current students?

My advice to current students is know how much time you have and the best way to manage it, if you are going to do something do it with your best effort. Get involved, join clubs, talk to professors, and never turn down an opportunity no matter how busy you are. Keep an open mind, challenge yourself, do as many things as you can, and listen to Everybody’s Free to Wear Sunscreen by Baz Luhrmann.

How does an environmental engineering technology degree fit into your life’s plans?

Earning this degree was a fairly spontaneous part of my life plan that I will never regret. It has supplied me with knowledge and subject matter that have never appeared to me before that I fundamentally enjoy. Additionally, it has given me the experience to take me anywhere going forward. Having almost completed this degree and learning that Master’s degrees are paid for in engineering has lead me to want to peruse my Master’s degree. After that to get a job in a field I want to be in, and then try to make a difference on a larger scale.

What has been your greatest challenge?

In my schooling, my greatest challenge was finding meaning in classes that were poorly taught, poorly designed, or both.

What is your plan after graduation?

After graduation I hope to be accepted into graduate school at Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in the United Arab Emirates or other graduate schools I applied to. Following that, or if I do not get accepted, I will find an engineering job possibly in Wisconsin. I plan on that job being a steppingstone to help me into a sort of entrepreneurship where I change the world.

"The people who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones who do" - Steve Jobs

Tell us something you are involved with here at UWGB? (honor society, etc.)

I am highly involved with Engineering Club and Rocketry Club as a leader and organizer for both. I have also been doing grant funded research, with Dr. Holzem as my advisor, looking at the optimization of activated sludge treatment at NEW Water and the use of portable probes in the water resource recovery industry.
What is a cause you are passionate about?
I am passionate about reducing the impact that humanity has on the ecosystem that we are a part of whether it is littering, wasting resources, or urban sprawl, and for humans to focus on how to be the most sustainable in every way to preserve the natural areas around us. I enjoy looking into how small life changes can make an impact, and to spread knowledge of best practices to people.