**Basic Information**

Full Name: Aidan Guessford

Title of Experience: GE Professional Development and Service Committees

Focus Area: Impact

Expected Start Date: 2/27/2023

Expected End Date: 5/19/2023

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| **Personal Connection**  **Section must include:**   * Explanation of why this experience matters to you * Explanation of how this experience will help you progress toward becoming a [global citizen scholar](https://www.uc.edu/campus-life/honors/about.html)   As a financial management program (FMP) co-op at GE Aerospace this semester, I have a unique opportunity to take a break from my education, freeing up some of my spare time to pursue new endeavors outside of class. I decided to take up two different roles outside of my work at GE and these included the Professional Development and Community Service pillars. These pillars, or clubs, allow interns and full-time employees the opportunity to develop as professionals and leaders in the community, while networking and getting to know others in different roles at the company along the way. This experience matters to me because it provides me with an opportunity to apply the skills and knowledge I have gained as a co-op to a real-world problem, and to make a positive impact on my community. By participating in these pillars, I have developed a strong commitment to continuous learning and community service, and I believe that this experience will help me take this commitment to the next level.  Furthermore, as a global citizen scholar, I aim to be an informed and responsible member of the global community who is committed to making a positive impact on the world. This experience will help me achieve this goal by providing me with opportunities to collaborate with people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives.  Ultimately, this experience will help me to grow both personally and professionally, and will provide me with a unique and valuable perspective that will serve me well as I progress toward becoming a global citizen scholar.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback |

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| **Abstract**  **Section must include:**   * Description of the experience and breakdown of how you will reach the 75+ hours requirement * Description of risks (if any) inherent in this experience and safety precautions you will take * Itinerary, including locations and dates, for any travel experience   The self-designed honors experience I am proposing involves participating in both community service events and professional development activities offered by GE Aerospace.  For community service, I plan to participate in a minimum of 5 events, each lasting several hours, for a total of around 20-25 hours of service.  For professional development, I plan to attend at least 10 meetings or networking/learning events, each lasting approximately 2 hours, for a total of around 30 hours. These events will cover a range of topics that will help me grow and develop as a professional (within or outside of the aerospace industry!).  I will set aside 10 hours to network with the stakeholders and contacts I meet at these events. I will plan on inviting each out to lunch as a chance to learn about their story and where they got to where they are today.  The final 15 hours will be put aside to read the book, Success Is in Your Sphere: Leverage the Power of Relationships to Achieve Your Business Goals, by Zvi Band. This book is centered around making connections and setting up valuable routines for success in your personal and professional lives.  I will also allocate time for reflection, analysis, and integration of the experiences I have gained through the community service and professional development activities. This will involve presenting my experiences to others within my program at GE in order to share what I have learned and how it has impacted my personal and professional development.  Altogether, this self-designed honors experience is expected to fulfill the minimum requirement of 75 hours for the honors program.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback: |

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| **Experience Mentor:**  **Section must include:**   * Experience mentor name and contact information * Description of why mentor was selected * Specific plans to engage with mentor   *Note: Experience Mentor(s) should have knowledge/expertise in an area related to the experience and be able to help you craft your experience goals. Honors advisors, undergraduate students, and family members cannot be mentors.*  D. K., a full time FMP (financial management program member), is my experience mentor for this semester. As my current full-time mentor at GE, he is well positioned for meeting with me on regular, bi-weekly intervals which we have previously established. Along with this, we have a good rapport, and I am comfortable sharing with him my experiences in these pillar activities and asking his advice on how to get the most out of these opportunities. His personal contact info is XXX-XXX-XXXX.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback: |

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| **Goals Related to Focus Area:**  **Section must include four (4) goals:**   * Experience Goals: two (2) specific goals related to chosen focus area(s) outlining the intended results/outcomes/achievements * Personal Goals: two (2) specific goals related to chosen focus area(s) outlining how you hope to grow as a result of this experience * List the activities that will help you progress towards your goals and how each relates to your experience   *Note: These goals should adhere to the SMART format. Please check out this* [*SMART goal video overview*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-SvuFIQjK8&ab_channel=DecisionSkills) *on YouTube for more details.*  Experience Goals:   1. To positively impact the community through meaningful participation in a minimum of 5 community service events, for a total of around 20-25 hours of service.   Intended Result/Outcome: To make a difference in the lives of those in need and to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by members of my community.   1. To advance my professional skills and knowledge through attending at least 10 professional development meetings or networking/learning events, for a total of around 30 hours.   Intended Result/Outcome: To stay current with industry trends and best practices, to expand my professional network, and to gain a better understanding of what it takes to succeed in my field.  Personal Goals:   1. To strengthen my leadership abilities through participating in community service events and professional development activities.   Intended Result/Outcome: To boost my confidence, to improve my team-working skills, and to gain a better understanding of what it takes to be an effective leader.   1. To broaden my cultural awareness and appreciation through participating in activities that bring together people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives.   Intended Result/Outcome: To enrich my perspective, to learn about other cultures, and to gain a deeper appreciation of the value of diversity and inclusiveness.  Activities that will help progress towards my goals:   1. Volunteering in meaningful community service events. 2. Attending workshops, seminars, and networking events focused on leadership, professional skills development, and industry trends. 3. Reflecting on my experiences and documenting my personal and professional growth through presenting my experiences to others. 4. Engaging in discussions and collaboration with individuals from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives during community service events and professional development activities.   Each of these activities aligns with my experience goals and personal goals, as they provide opportunities for me to make a positive impact on my community, to grow professionally, and to broaden my perspective and cultural awareness.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback: |

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| **Academic Resources Connected to the Goals**  **Section must include:**   * Two to three academic resources connected to your goals * Title and author of each resource * Description of how resources will help make progress toward the goals   *Note: Academic resources are professional/academic works that can be used to assist your understanding of the topic. Some examples are books, research journals, documentaries, or videos.*  Academic Resources:  "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen Covey  This resource is a classic self-help book that focuses on the development of personal and professional effectiveness. It will help me progress towards my personal goal of strengthening my leadership abilities by providing a roadmap for building strong leadership qualities and habits.  "Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace" by David Thomas and John Harrison  This resource is an insightful book that provides an overview of the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace and how it impacts business success. It will help me progress towards my personal goal of broadening my cultural awareness and appreciation by providing a deeper understanding of the value of diversity and inclusiveness in the workplace.  "The Power of Networking: Building Relationships for Personal and Professional Success" by Susan RoAne  This resource is a practical guide to building strong professional relationships through effective networking. It will help me progress towards my experience goal of advancing my professional skills and knowledge by providing tips on how to expand my professional network and maximize the value of each networking opportunity.  These academic resources will provide me with valuable insights and practical strategies that I can use to make progress towards my goals. They will also serve as a source of inspiration and motivation, helping me to stay focused and on track as I work towards becoming a global citizen scholar.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback: |

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| **On-going Reflection**  **Section must include:**   * Method for ongoing reflection * List 3-5 open-ended questions that you plan to ask yourself throughout your experience to gauge your growth, be aligned with your four goals, and demonstrate understanding of your selected focus area(s).   *Note: The on-going reflection should help you process the experience and progress toward the goals you have identified. Not every question will be applicable every time you reflect. Reflection questions can be related to specific goals; they do not need to be applicable to your entire experience. A variety of methods can be used for reflection. Some examples are videos, drawings, blogs, songs, and journals.*  My method for ongoing reflection will be through journaling. I plan to ask myself the following open-ended questions throughout my experience:   1. How have I applied the principles from "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" in my personal and professional life? 2. In what ways have I demonstrated my commitment to diversity and inclusion in the workplace? 3. What steps have I taken to expand my professional network and form new relationships? 4. Have I noticed any changes in my communication and leadership skills as a result of my involvement in professional development events and community service initiatives? 5. How have I challenged myself to think more critically about cultural differences and find ways to embrace diversity in all its forms?   These questions will help me gauge my growth and assess my progress towards my goals. They will also provide me with an opportunity to reflect on my experiences, reflect on what I have learned, and make meaningful connections between my experiences and my growth as a global citizen scholar.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback: |

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| **Sharing Your Learning**  **Section must include:**   * At least one method to actively share what you learned focused on growth connected to focus area(s) * A specific audience and why the audience was selected   *Note: While social media can be an effective platform for sharing, only posting on your learning portfolio or social media account(s) does not reach a targeted audience.*  I plan to share my experiences and growth by presenting my findings to my mentor, Duy Khanh. I will use any notes or pictures I take throughout my time with both pillars to help illustrate my experiences and the progress I have made towards my goals. Additionally, I will prepare a written report that summarizes my findings and highlights key takeaways from my experience.  Presenting my findings to my mentor will provide me with an opportunity to receive feedback and guidance from someone who has extensive experience in the field of professional development and community service initiatives. This will help me to further refine my understanding of these topics and continue to grow and develop as a global citizen scholar. Furthermore, presenting my findings to my mentor will allow me to demonstrate the impact of my experiences, and showcase the value of investing in professional development and community service initiatives for young professionals.  Another group to present my findings to would be some of the other interns I am currently working with at GE, within and outside of my program. This would be a great group of young professionals I can continue to network and grow relationships with, while also sparking new areas of conversation and connection.  Advisor Revisions/Feedback: |