

2012-2013 Statistics & Actuarial Science Endowment Award

These awards are presented to students in the major/honor program with high academic standing.

Bo Chen writes:

My name is Bo Chen and I'm an international student from China. This is my second year studying at SFU in the Statistics & Actuarial Science Department. It is my honor as a statistics student of SFU because I obtained the practical knowledge and learning skills from our respected professors. I also enjoy the time spent with my friends to explore statistical knowledge, to figure out the difficult questions and to build life-long relationships. I am sure that statistics is my direction of study and career. Therefore I desire to apply for the Statistics and Actuarial Science Endowment Award to prove I have the ability to pursue the highest honor as a student.

According to my study experience at SFU, I really believe our professors and TAs are knowledgeable and professional. I benefited from most of my professors as they have provided an active influence to determine statistics as my career. The most impressive example is the lectures of Dr. Tim Swartz. Typically people hold an idea that the accurate science area has nothing to do with personal opinion. Dr. Tim Swartz introduced the theory of Bayesian Statistics where by information from data is combined with subjective belief. It not only refreshes and improves my original understanding but also eliminates the misconceptions about statistics. Finally I can use both a subjective and objective approach to solve practical problems. I also remember the charm of Prof. John Hu. She is the professor who inspires me in the area of statistics. Because of her patient attitude and precise explanations, my fundamental knowledge was stabilized. Thus I trust the professors at SFU as my career directors and I am willing to contribute my valuable study life to statistics.

In the current semester, the high level STAT courses challenged me. I spent much time working out the problems in those courses. Sometimes my friends and I spent lots of time in the library to solve issues together. After I understand the skills and knowledge, I am also willing to share my experience and time to help the people who suffer the difficulties of learning statistics. With my high academic standing and attitude I am chosen as a TA in the Statistics Workshop. I will attempt my best to advise and assist the students who seek help to learn meanwhile I will also maintain high academic standing. In the future, I plan to get the honor degree in Statistics and apply for graduate studies and the A.Stat accreditation by the SSC.

If my application is approved, it represents that I have the capabilities to climb the peak of academy. My confidence of study will be also encouraged. Overall I want show my sincere wish and grateful honor to have this opportunity to apply for this award throughout this brief.