

Sample Cover Letters

Student Enviro Eng
Environment St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

March 20, 2013

Joan Dough
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Dough

I am a 2013 degree candidate for a Master of Engineering in Environmental Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In addition, I received my Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University in 2009. Before pursuing my graduate studies, I worked as a consultant at Camp Dresser and McKee for three years applying my skills to a range of projects including sustainable technology assessments and management of multi-disciplinary, multi-consultant project teams. Based on my work and educational experience, and perhaps more importantly because of my interest and enthusiasm, I think I am well suited to pursue a career in sustainability consulting.

I have a keen interest in the field of global warming and greenhouse gas management. I am currently pursuing this interest through my thesis work: a carbon impact evaluation of proposed hydropower in Chilean Patagonia. During my time as a consultant, I was able to distinguish myself as a proficient and motivated employee. In particular I sought to engage in projects that focused on renewable energy, sustainable design, and energy efficiency. I was also involved in promoting sustainable practices within the company, and initiated an educational conference for public sector clients.

My experience includes: delivering a sustainable technology assessment to compliment a campus' low-carbon design strategy; evaluating the conversion of waste oils to biofuels at a local wastewater treatment plant; and conducting a cost analysis and carbon inventory for the design of a deep heat geothermal energy facility. Therefore, I am highly confident that I can use my skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to help businesses develop and implement sustainability initiatives.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with you further about potential career opportunities. I can be reached at (617) XXX-XXXX or EnviroEng@mit.edu.

Sincerely,

Student Enviro Eng

Jane Doe
XXX Memorial Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139
janedoe@mit.edu
(617) XXX-XXXX

Recruiter's Name
Campus Recruiter
Company Name
Company Address
Boston, MA 02116

June 24, 2013

Dear Campus Recruiter:

I am a senior at MIT majoring in biology with a concentration in management from Sloan Business School. I was extremely impressed with Deloitte's approach to consulting after speaking with Yelena Shklovskaya. Deloitte is unique in having the ability to form diverse teams to tackle all the problems a client may have. As a member of the Strategy & Operations group, I may have the opportunity to meet and work with a variety of people in this consulting group, in other areas of consulting, and outside of consulting as well. In particular, I like the amount of attention and dedication that Deloitte puts into working with its clients, not only by devising effective strategies to address the clients' problems, but also by often implementing the recommendations on-site. Therefore, I am writing to request an invitation to interview for a Business Analyst position with Deloitte.

In the past two years, I have been involved in strategy consulting, pharmaceuticals, and government affairs for a non-profit healthcare organization. This summer, I worked in strategy consulting for Putnam Associates. My 6-member team evaluated the marketing efforts for a major pharmaceutical company's organ transplant drug. Through my management of recruitment and interviews with 98 physicians, I obtained primary research and analyzed it on national and regional levels to recommend and help implement improvements in the client's marketing plan. I learned how to work in a deadline-oriented environment, held responsibility for large segments of a team project, and enhanced my quantitative skills through analysis of primary and secondary research data. In addition, I conducted independent research to form recommendations when launching a drug that follows a related product, and I presented these key considerations to all Putnam employees.

I have been a volunteer in public policy for 7 years with the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. I lobbied Senators at both the Massachusetts and California State Capitols, as well as on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Lobbying has taught me negotiation skills, the need for contingency plans, and the ability to make quick yet innovative decisions. Two years ago, I was appointed Director of Massachusetts Youth Public Affairs and asked to be a member of the state's Public Affairs Council. My responsibilities include developing, organizing, and implementing the Foundation's annual public policy objectives in an ultimately results-driven environment.

Through my experience with Putnam Associates and the March of Dimes, along with my modeling work in the MIT Sloan Business School, I used my management skills to negotiate and consult with others, analytically design a successful plan, and execute my ideas. I am confident that I can bring my strong, diverse technical and business background to best fit the current needs and future ventures of Deloitte.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with you about my qualifications and ways that I can contribute to Deloitte. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Jane Doe

Jane Doe

School Address:
105 MIT Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

BIOLOGY STUDENT
bio@mit.edu
(XXX) XXX-XXXX

Address:
47 A Street
Suburb, MA 0XXXX

January 21, 2013

Merck Future Talent Program Coordinator
Merck Corporate Headquarters
1 Merck Drive
P.O. Box 100
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889-0100

Dear Merck Future Talent Program Coordinator,

I am a junior at MIT pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. I am writing to express interest in the Merck Future Talent Program for interns in biology. I am well-qualified to conduct research and I am interested in exploring the pharmaceutical industry to expose myself to possible future careers. I heard about Merck at a campus recruiting event and was extremely impressed with Merck's approach to global healthcare. As a biology major at MIT, I have great background knowledge of biology and chemistry in addition to extensive research experience. I am eager to expand and broaden my knowledge of research, biology, and pharmaceutical development through participating in Merck's internship program. Based on my research and educational experience, and possibly more importantly because of my interest and enthusiasm, I believe I am a strong candidate for an internship at Merck.

After over a year and a half of working at the Vander Heiden Laboratory at the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, I've gained skills in research, teamwork, and problem solving all while learning how to take initiative. As a part of my lab, I collaborate closely with graduate students, technicians, and Professor Vander Heiden to discuss project directions and goals. By writing research proposals and presenting a project in a lab meeting I have learned to effectively communicate at a scientific level. Also, I am experienced in a variety of laboratory techniques. One particularly challenging project I worked on independently was expressing pyruvate-phosphate dikinase (PPDK), an uncommon and non-commercially available enzyme found in corn, from corn cDNA. To clone PPDK, I designed over 30 cloning and sequencing primers for a variety of published PPDK sequences and cyclophilin as a positive control. This project was challenging due to the fact that the corn cDNA did not contain most of the published PPDK sequences. By applying different cloning techniques, I was able to successfully clone and express PPDK.

I am passionate about research, have an extensive knowledge of biology, and have excellent communication, teamwork, and organizational skills. Most importantly, I am extremely excited about Merck and the pharmaceutical industry. Please contact me at (XXX) XXX-XXXX or bio@mit.edu. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Biology Student

7 Consultant Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) XXX-XXXX
tppstudent@mit.edu

Navigant Consulting
125 High Street
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Navigant Hiring Committee:

I am a second year master's student in MIT's Technology and Policy Program (TPP) writing to apply for a consulting position in Navigant's Emerging Technology & Business Strategy group. After speaking with John Smith at the MIT career fair, I realized that Navigant's values of excellence, continuous development, entrepreneurial spirit, and integrity align with the principles that guide me every day and that have driven me throughout my career. Moreover, I believe that my knowledge of the energy sector, passion for data analysis, polished communication skills, and four years of consulting experience will enable me to deliver superior value for Navigant's clients.

As a graduate student in MIT's Technology and Policy Program, I spend every day at the cutting edge of the energy sector. In my capacity as an MIT Energy Initiative research assistant, I use statistical analysis to investigate trends in public acceptance and regulation related to emerging energy technologies. Graduate classes in data science, energy economics, energy ventures and strategy, and technology policy have prepared me to help Navigant offer the expert services that set it apart from competitors. Furthermore, I will bring Navigant the same leadership skills that I used as the student leader for the MIT Energy Conference's Technology Commercialization roundtable and as the mentorship manager for the MIT Clean Energy Prize.

Even before MIT, my four years of work experience in consulting—first at LMN Research Group and then at XYZ Consulting—allowed me to develop the skillset that Navigant looks for in candidates. As a science writer and policy analyst at LMN Research Group, I developed superb technical writing and visual communication skills, as well as an ability to communicate and collaborate with clients at federal agencies such as EPA and DOE. As a research analyst at XYZ Consulting, I developed an in-depth understanding of data analysis, program evaluation, and policy design.

I take pride in my skills and experience in several domains: critical thinking and analysis, communication, and leadership. I note that Navigant values these same ideals, and I very much hope to use my abilities in service of the firm and its clients. I look forward to speaking with you when you visit the MIT campus on October 10th.

Sincerely,

TPP Student

February 18, 2015

Raytheon Company
Integrated Defense Systems
50 Apple Hill Drive
Tewksbury, MA 01876

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am a recent graduate of MIT with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in Engineering Management. I recently spoke with a Raytheon recruiter at MIT's xFair in February to discuss potential mechanical engineering related opportunities. I admire Raytheon's commitment to defense and security through the use of innovative technologies. With the combination of my engineering and management educational experiences, in addition to my work experience, I believe that I would make a great fit for the Systems Engineer position.

During my internship with Airbus working with fluid mechanic technology I evaluated wind tunnel and flight test data in order to reduce external airframe noise emissions. The analysis that I conducted involved examining data under varying flight conditions and extracting useful information. At the conclusion of my internship, I was able to provide my group with recommendations for improving the model scale testing in the wind tunnel to make better predictions for the flight test outcomes. My work was part of the group's task to provide continual improvements to the company's commercial aircraft. I would be excited to use my analytical skills to improve hardware systems, especially early in their life-cycle at Raytheon, when recommendations can have a high impact and positive result for the end user.

In addition to work experience, I have also practiced systems engineering in my coursework. Through my Optimization Methods in Management Science course I collaborated on a group project to optimize the constraints of a utility company in order to make residential demand response for the utility company a cost-effective tool. I specifically helped evaluate how transmission and distribution costs would incur through the implementation of a demand response program. This position helped me improve my communication and teamwork skills while delivering a project in a timely manner.

I am very excited about the work that Raytheon and welcome the opportunity to speak with you further about career opportunities at Raytheon and how I can contribute. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

MechE Student

Sample Faculty Cover Letter

Your Name
000 Memorial Drive, # 0000
Cambridge, MA 02139

August 25, 2013

Professor XXXX
Search Committee, IT 989
Department of Mechanical Engineering
University of XXX
Address
City, State Zip

Dear Professor XXXX:

I am responding to your advertisement for a faculty position in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at University of XXX. I graduated from the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics at MIT in June with a doctorate, and am currently working as a Postdoctoral Associate at MIT in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics. My thesis work is in the area of active structural acoustic control using smart structures technology, and my specific research topic is the development of a new wavenumber domain sensing method for active structural acoustic control. My thesis advisor is Professor X in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics at MIT.

For my Ph.D. dissertation, I have worked on the development of the structural-acoustic control algorithms and their implementation for the reduction of radiated noise from vibrating underwater vehicles. The Office of Naval Research, with an objective of developing “smart” underwater vehicle systems so that the enemy cannot detect their attack in advance, has funded this project. My responsibility in this project is to develop the new technology to reduce the radiated noise from vibrating underwater vehicles. In order to accomplish this, I have developed a new wavenumber domain sensing method and applied it to the real-time estimation of acoustic power and the design of feedback controller for active structural acoustic control of the general complex structures. Furthermore, I have designed and experimentally implemented local and global controller architectures with different configurations to find the best controller configuration for the new underwater vehicle system.

I would like to continue my research on active structural control and active structural acoustic control for complex systems, including aerospace systems (aircrafts, helicopters) and underwater vehicles (submarines, torpedoes). I will carry out research on structure/fluid/control interaction phenomena and advanced sensor/actuator development using smart structures technologies. Also, I will extend my research to the development of advanced control design techniques for noise and vibration reduction of complex systems.

My ultimate research goal is to develop “intelligent structural systems”, which will contain arrays of sensors and actuators, and embedded devices for controls and decision-making algorithms, so that those systems can coordinate large numbers of devices and adapt themselves to uncertain environmental changes in an intelligent manner. I believe my extensive research experience and specialization in structural dynamics and controls will allow me to continue my research in those areas.

I have enclosed my curriculum vitae with a list of publications, and a list of references. If you have any questions or would like to talk with me, I can be reached by phone at (617) XXX-XXXX or email at sample@mit.edu. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Your Name