

Grace Reimer  
831 19th Ave SE  
Minneapolis, MN, 55414

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 23, 2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field via two internships and, as of now, a full-time job.

I was an undergraduate student in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities and graduated in May 2020 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2018, needing a local internship with some flexibility, I applied for an internship at Wanner Engineering in Minneapolis, MN and was delighted to accept their offer of a job that summer.

Before my internship, I'd been unsure of whether I wanted to work at a small company and more unsure of which area of engineering I wanted to work in. As I gained experience at Wanner, I began to realize that there were many aspects of working at a small company that I really enjoyed and hadn't anticipated. I had the opportunity to work on projects in multiple areas of engineering, an opportunity generally found only in smaller engineering departments like Wanner's. The projects I worked on were directly fed into the company's products, another benefit that is sometimes absent when interning at larger companies. In 2019, I returned to Wanner, working on a completely different project in another area of engineering, another welcome opportunity to explore my interests.

After I graduated in 2020, I was hired as a full-time Mechanical Engineer at Wanner Engineering. Job offers were very hard to come by at the time, and without SciTech I am not sure that I would have been able to find a full-time engineering job in a timely manner. Thanks to SciTech, I was able to build a relationship with this company and to gain valuable real-world engineering experience.

These internships truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to get the full-time job at Wanner Engineering. I wholeheartedly support the SciTech Internship Program and recommend it frequently to other students. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Grace Reimer  
Mechanical Engineer  
Wanner Engineering, Inc.

Leonardo Pruneda  
814 Pacific Ave  
Stephen, Minnesota, 56757

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date: 2/24/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This wonderful program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and expand my knowledge in the manufacturing field.

I was an undergraduate student in Mechanical Engineering from the University of North Dakota and graduated in May 2020 with my Bachelor of Science. I applied for multiple jobs and internships in the Spring, right before graduating.

I was struggling to find a job due to the fact that I did not have any experience and it was also difficult due to COVID. I always knew that I wanted to end up in the manufacturing industry because in college I always excelled in those courses and I also enjoyed them. I just did not know what type of manufacturing industry I would go into and enjoy.

Then a friend of mine introduced me to SciTech. I started to browse through SciTech to see what it had to offer. I typed my zip code in the website to see if there were any internship in the area so I didn't have to travel that far from my home town. A couple of companies popped up, so I applied to them. The thing that stuck out about SciTech was that it helped small Minnesota companies and residents.

A week or two later I heard back from Terog Manufacturing, asking for an interview and a plant tour. I was really excited about this interview, since their main manufacturing product line is agriculture. One of the department leads gave me a tour of the plant and I saw a lot of familiar components that I had to replace on the farm implements at the farm at one point. This made my interview go a lot smoother, since I had knowledge about their product line.

A couple days later I got a phone call back stating that I got the internship, the following week I started working. I was so nervous the first day because I did not know what to expect. The first three weeks the plant manager and engineer had me observe and kind of run the machinery to understand how they work. This method gave me a good foundation on what Terog is capable of and how I can also improve on my mental and physical abilities.

My first project was to modify or redesign a silencer kit for the new Case IH combines. The company engineer, plant manager and I went to an implement dealership to see what Terog had to work with. We started to brainstorm ideas and branching off each other till we found a solution. The other problem we ran into was how the silencer kit can be mass produced without affecting efficiency.

Throughout the whole internship the coworkers helped me out with any questions I had without any hesitation. I never felt out of place when I was working on new machinery or ideas. I learned a lot about writing procedures, safety, communication and also machining products. I didn't know that communication was going to be a big factor in the manufacturing industry till I had to talk to several different people every day from ordering parts, to talking to foreign companies on how to trouble shooting machinery.

After my internship, I was hired as a full-time Manufacturing Engineer at Terog. This was possible due to developing rapport with other employees and having knowledge in the agriculture industry. Since I have started working at Terog, I have learned something new every day while also enjoying it. I see a long term work relationship with Terog and my critical thinking expanding.

Acquiring my first internship and full-time job right after graduating college was possible through the SciTech Internship Program, therefore I admire and support this program. In the near future I hope that the SciTech Internship Program expands, for STEM majors and Companies in Minnesota.

Thank you for your support,

Leonardo Pruneda  
Manufacturing Engineer  
Terog Manufacturing

Maria Burns Ortiz  
7 Generation Games  
2751 Hennepin Ave. S #34  
Minneapolis, MN 55408



House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Feb. 16, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. My company has hired three students in the past 9 months through SciTech, and it has made all the difference in my business. We hired the first of those interns – who is still in school – as a part-time staff role following the completion of his internship and are planning to extend full-time offers to one or both of the interns who we currently have and who are graduating seniors at the conclusion of their spring internship.

In fact, SciTech and the ease through which the program enables us to find entry-level tech talent is directly responsible for our decision to make these hires in Minnesota, even as our company is going increasingly remote and we could be hiring technical staff from anywhere. When it comes to 7 Generation Games, SciTech is directly creating jobs in the state of Minnesota.

When we relocated to the Twin Cities 18 months ago, I asked tech colleagues where in Minnesota they found job candidates. SciTech was highly referred. As someone who has hired interns in multiple states, what has been especially attractive about SciTech is that it both has a level of vetting built in (e.g. GPA, relevant major) for me as an employer and that it serves as a one-stop shop for posting internships vs. needing apply across multiple university job boards. Moreover, when we post on SciTech, we get replies.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitively but was a deciding factor in bringing on two interns this term – both of whom we are planning to hire post-internship. In business, we talk about ROI. In our case, this small stipend will generate significant ROI through tax revenue as well as local economic spending by creating in-state jobs and hiring local talent.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would strongly recommend its continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MBO', written over a horizontal line.

Maria Burns Ortiz  
CEO and Co-Founder  
7 Generation Games



March 1, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

As the Executive Director of the Louis Stokes North Star STEM Alliance (LS-NSSA), I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program.

LS-NSSA is funded by the National Science Foundation and the 3M Foundation and is a partnership of fourteen Minnesota colleges and universities and three community organizations. SciTech is one of our important community organization partners.

Our primary goal is successfully increasing the number of traditionally underrepresented students receiving bachelor's degrees in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) across our institutions. We also support and engage our students through achievement, research, and social initiatives, and developing programs to bridge campus, community, and industry pathways.

SciTech has been a committed partner in working with the LS-NSSA to help our STEM students prepare for and secure internships in Minnesota industries such as medical devices, engineering, technology and manufacturing.

Since 2012, SciTech has attended LS-NSSA sponsored event 'Jumpstart Your STEM Job Search' to talk with students about internship opportunities available in small Minnesota companies. In addition, SciTech played a key role in organizing this annual half-day workshop where our students to learn about the job search process and connect with employers.

More recently, SciTech has partnered with LS-NSSA to produce the QuikSkills Job Search workshop series. This four-part series has been instrumental in providing our students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in securing jobs and internships. Topics have ranged from understanding networking to resumes and interviewing skills. The SciTech team did a fantastic job converting the in-person workshops to virtual events when the pandemic began. This allowed us at LS-NSSA to offer high-quality professional development workshops to students across our whole alliance when other in-person programming efforts had to be ceased. SciTech has served 39 LS-NSSA students synchronously, with

*Office for Equity and Diversity*

*North Star STEM Alliance*

*162 Appleby Hall  
128 Pleasant Street S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455*

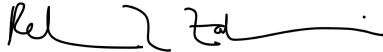
*Office: 612-626-0043  
Fax: 612-626-9980*

many more in the planned workshops to come. SciTech has been a pivotal internship resource, and now as a result of their continual ingenuity, our LS-NSSA scholars will also have asynchronous access to SciTech recorded workshops on the SciTech website as well.

I have been impressed with SciTech's commitment to increasing the number of our LS-NSSA students enrolled in and securing internships through the SciTech program. Not only is SciTech a gem for our state, it is also critical in helping students connect to the hands-on experience they need to initiate their STEM field career upon graduation. This program has positively impacted our numerous students, Minnesota colleges and universities, the workforce and seventeen members of the LSNSSA.

I appreciate the State of Minnesota's past and current support of the SciTech program. I recommend its continued support.

Respectfully,



Rebecca Fabunmi  
Director, Louis Stokes North Star STEM Alliance



Railbox Consulting, LLC  
100 S 5<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 1900  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
[www.RailboxConsulting.com](http://www.RailboxConsulting.com)

## RE: Support of the SciTech Internship Program

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House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Chair Noor & Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

We are a small technology company based in Minneapolis, but we're rapidly growing. We were named one of the 50 Fastest Growing Private Companies in Minnesota by the Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal in 2019, and 2020 was a record growth year for our company.

In order to help manage that growth, we made the decision to invest in developing our own online ordering system early last year, and with the help of three interns from SciTech (Shubham Teotia of St. Cloud State University, Nam Phung of Macalester College, and Anh Nguyen of Macalester College) we rolled out our own software in June of 2020. The new ordering system helped us to grow year-over-year revenue by nearly half, and increased Ecommerce sales by 66%. It also won us a Tekne Award, something we couldn't have done without Sci Tech (please find our press release for that award attached). The interns were also exposed to technology and tools that they may not have experienced at a larger company (where their work would have likely been narrower in scope).

We were introduced to students who already had advanced technical skills through SciTech. We're happy to report that we've hired another intern through SciTech this year (Varsha Ijeri of St. Cloud State) and that Shubham Teotia has accepted a full-time position with our company.

SciTech is a great program for small businesses and for students. It's also a way for the state of Minnesota to retain more tech-talent inside the state after graduation. I strongly encourage you to continue to fund and expand the program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Norton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being the most prominent part.

Mike Norton // President  
[Mike@RailboxConsulting.com](mailto:Mike@RailboxConsulting.com)  
Office: (612) 260-2277

Attachments (1)



MINNEAPOLIS--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))-- Railbox Consulting wins Tekne award for their custom built [shipping container sales and rental](#) software, created by a team of mainly college interns.

Minneapolis based Railbox Consulting, a tech start-up focused on the intermodal shipping container industry, won the [2020 Tekne Award](#) for Retail, Supply Chain, & Distribution. Other finalists in the category included SPS Commerce (NASDAQ: SPSC) & Digital River.

The student developers (Shubham Teotia of St. Cloud State University, and Macalester College students Anh Nguyen and Nam Phung) all joined Railbox via the Minnesota Technology Association's [SciTech Internship Program](#). Led by CIO Derek Murashige, the team built a [shipping container buying wizard](#) for the U.S. and [Canada](#), with a best price algorithm powered by Amazon Web Services (NASDAQ: AMZN) and Google Cloud (NASDAQ: GOOGL) technology.

When asked how Railbox was able to achieve so much with such a small team, Shubham Teotia attributed it to "the freedom to work fearlessly." Mr. Teotia, who earned his master's degree in computer science in December and has accepted a full-time position with Railbox, added, "I could actually see myself making a difference, which may not be the case for someone working for a company with 9-figure revenue."

The team of interns was led by CIO Derek Murashige, who was Director of Customer Systems Excellence at GoDaddy (NYSE: GDDY) prior to joining Railbox. "What makes our software special is that it's uninterrupted by the limitations of someone else's coding," said Mr. Murashige. Adding, "with the democratization of cloud based computing technology, a small company like ours only needs a good idea and a few gritty developers to compete with publicly traded companies."

Already recognized by the Business Journal in 2019 as one of Minnesota's 50 Fastest Growing Private Companies, Railbox says the new technology helped them to grow eCommerce sales by 66% year over year, and overall revenue by nearly 50% in 2020. They give a great deal of credit to MnTech and their SciTech Program. "The level of talent we were able to access through SciTech was incredible," said Railbox President Mike Norton. Railbox recently added another intern through SciTech, and aims for a repeat Tekne victory in 2021.

**Dakshina Jayakody**  
**6705 Oak grove Parkway N**  
**Brooklyn Park, MN 55445**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
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St. Paul, MN 55155

**2/17/21**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I was an undergraduate student in Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering from St. Cloud State University and graduated in May 2018 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2016, I applied for an internship at Edwards Manufacturing in Albert Lea, MN.

Before my internship, I was not exactly sure which area of engineering I really wanted to begin my career in. Working at this internship researching, designing, and manufacturing newer machinery gave me an idea what I would want to do in the future. It was a great experience to see a manufacturing plant at work and seeing my design work come to fruition.

In 2017, I applied for another internship this time at Safety Speed Manufacturing in Ham Lake, MN. My previous internship experience and the connections made helped me to get this internship. At this internship I worked on several machinery prototypes and got more experience in machine design and the woodworking industry.

After I graduated in 2018, I was hired as a full-time Mechanical Engineer at Mereen-Johnson LLC. This was possible due to the machine design experience I attained from my internship in 2016 and working on woodworking machinery from my internship in 2017.

These internships truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to get the full-time job at Mereen-Johnson.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,



Dakshina Jayakody  
Mechanical Engineer  
Mereen-Johnson LLC





Megan Salm  
Art Unlimited  
9998 E Lind Road  
Angora, MN 55703

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
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St. Paul, MN 55155

2-24-2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. As a company in the last two SciTech cycles, we have hired six students, two which are now with us as full-time employees, and three that are still interns, which we plan to hire as full-time employees. Without the SciTech program, we would not have been able to tap into top notch talent within the Minnesota student population, which has been vital to our success as a company.

One of our current interns, Hunter Hammond, within three months of being with our company, created a template with a software as a service product that shaved over 30 hours off of our website development process. This drastically reduced time for our team and has improved client satisfaction tenfold.

Two of our current interns, Kim Ney Choong and Muntaqim Mehtaz, completed a large product project called the DeciderPro. This was the first product Art Unlimited has seen to a sellable market. Without their hard work, dedication, and teamwork together on this product, we would not be able to have a sellable product at this time.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our employees competitively, but it also helped in our process of bringing on talent full-time after graduation, which assists us in our recruiting process as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract and retain top talent while they are in school, and also assists the students in hands-on, practical experience that helps them grow personally and professionally right here in Minnesota.

We as a company, appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would highly recommend its continued support and growth. This program has been vital to the success of both our company and our local economy while providing real-world, practical experience for Minnesota STEM students.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly, I would be more than willing to provide more information in full support of the SciTech program. My contact information can be found below.

Kindest Regards,



Megan Salm  
HR Assistant  
[hr@artunlimitedusa.com](mailto:hr@artunlimitedusa.com)  
218-666-8032



**Noelle Cielito Soriano**  
**2044 Brewster St. Apt 7**  
**St. Paul, MN 55108**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**25 Feb 2021**

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This program gave me the opportunity to experience working at a research-stage company, and exposed me to the exciting challenges of working in industry. In addition to the technical experience, I noticed my increased comfort of communicating with experienced professionals in the field, which has been an invaluable skill that I carry through my career.

I am a graduate of the University of Minnesota, graduating in May 2018 with a Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering degree. With the technical experience I gained from my SciTech internship, I was able to work as a Pilot Plant and Lab Technician at Cargill's Minneapolis Research and Development Center upon graduation. Today, I am pursuing a graduate degree at the University of Minnesota, focusing on air quality in livestock systems.

My SciTech internship was with Dynation, a research-stage biopharmaceutical company that focused on using nanoparticles to create a topical formulation, used primarily to treat arthritis. I chose this internship as an undergraduate since I was briefly introduced to the extensive applications of nanoparticles and wanted to explore this emerging field.

At Dynation, I was responsible for making nanoparticle samples and assessing their stability over time. Since the technology was relatively new, I had learned how to read research papers and patents, as well as find other resources to become familiar with the scientific background of the project. More importantly, Dynation helped me become more comfortable communicating with industry professionals. This experience really taught me to be determined and self-motivated to keep pace with how fast the research needs to move. This has been very useful in my career, and I continue to build on the skills that I first learned at Dynation as I worked at Cargill, and now as a graduate student. I learned how to ask productive questions, work effectively with scientists and engineers, as well as produce research that I am proud of.

Without MnTech's SciTech Internship Program, I would have not been able to have worked at Dynation or learned of challenges of conducting research. I feel extremely fortunate to have had this experience. Thus, I hope that other students who are excited about the upcoming research and products from Minnesota STEM companies are fortunate to be able to delve into these industries through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**Noelle Cielito Soriano**  
**Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering (Spring 2018)**  
**University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**

**Spencer Grimes**  
**mobileAxept Inc**  
**400 S 4th St, Suite 400**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55415**



House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
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St. Paul, MN 55155

**Feb 16, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired two students throughout the last two summers through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my everyday at work. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, or through a personal connection but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas. The student that SciTech attract are diverse and incredibly capable, easily the best interns we've ever had.

Our last intern, Spencer Pauly, worked as a member of our small development team, building new features that made a real life difference to our users and internal staff. He was able to experience a full release cycle working within an agile software development team, observing and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

During his internship, Spencer completed three large frontend development projects that are used by our internal and client users on a regular basis. These project have made a big difference in how mobileAxept functions as a business and how our development team build and deploys new code quickly. Spencer had some background and experience with programming, being a computer science major, and had some experience with tools used in mechanical engineering but little practical engineering experience in a legacy environment or working on a team. The internship afforded him the opportunity to learn a great deal about both subjects, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude for both.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Spencer competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We

enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota. The students that SciTech attract are diverse and incredibly capable, easily the best interns we've ever had.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Spencer Grimes**

**Software Engineer, Internship Program Manager**

**mobileAxept**



Shawn LaQue  
Terog Manufacturing  
387 Atlantic Ave  
Stephen, MN, 56757

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
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St. Paul, MN 55155

02/24/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired one student through SciTech. This program has allowed us as a company to tap into a specialized talent pool which can be a challenge in northern parts of Minnesota.

Our intern, Leo Pruneda, has worked side by side with our plant engineer on multiple different improvements and troubleshooting applications. Leo has had a chance to witness an implementation of multiple new machines ranging from a CNC machine to a fully automated flame hardening work center. Leo has also assisted in a full rebuild of a severely damaged CNC machine.

During his internship, Leo was tasked to spearhead and modify the process in which we titrate our phosphate line. Prior to Leo being placed in charge of this the process did not use statistical analysis but an opinion-based process. Leo took this on and engineered a mobile testing center to help make the testing easy for the operator resulting in a cost savings! The internship offered Leo the opportunity to learn not only how to create an idea but how to implement it to the manufacturing floor.

SciTech's helped our recruiting young engineers where in northern Minnesota can be extremely difficult. SciTech has been extremely resourceful and made the process very easy! Their support and enthusiasm is unmatched and I would definitely recommend the program to any small company!

Kind Regards,  
Shawn LaQue  
Plant Manager  
Terog Manufacturing

**Alex Kinne**  
**515 E Grant St, Apt 410**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55404**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 23, 2021**

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I write to you in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. The program enabled me to kickstart my career as an engineering professional, which I will always be grateful for. It feels like such a long time ago that I landed the internship through SciTech but in reality, it was only six years ago.

It feels like much longer given the trajectory my career has taken since. I've worked four years as an R&D engineer and two years as a technical marketing professional at global biotechnology corporation. I have plans now to become a business leader.

Like many others, my career started with an internship. But unlike most, I attained the internship *after* graduation. That's right. Quite honestly, I didn't have an outstanding resume at graduation, and I found it difficult to land a salaried position. My confidence was lacking, and I suffered from imposter syndrome. I was not a star "on paper" but I knew I had the grit to succeed if given a chance.

The SciTech Internship Program made it affordable for a local startup to hire me. I doubt the position would have existed without it. The SciTech Internship Program made it possible to give me a shot, when all I had experienced was rejection up to that point (I had applied to 100+ jobs). I am indebted to SciTech, and I know the program will provide opportunities that otherwise wouldn't be there for future students like I was.

I'm proud of my personal success and where I am today. At six years into my career, I no longer am defined by my undergraduate GPA! It all started with SciTech. So again, I show my support for the program. I wish the highest successes for students in Minnesota entering STEM industries. I hope they have as successful experiences as I did.

Thank you,

**Alex Kinne**  
**Applications Engineer**  
**Thermo Fisher Scientific**

Rebecca Gordon, P.E.  
Ericksen Roed & Associates  
2550 University Ave. West Suite 423-S  
St. Paul, MN 55114

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired four students over the past four years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. The SciTech job board offers small businesses access to a broader base of intern candidates attending college throughout the state. SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company.

Our last intern, Trevor, worked in our general structural engineering group during the summer of 2019. He was able to take on many of the same tasks that we typically give to our entry level engineers. Trevor was enthusiastic about learning new skills from our engineers and came to work with a great attitude every day. The help he provided to our more experienced engineers allowed them to have more time to devote to their own projects and keep our clients happy with the service we are providing.

Our first experience with SciTech was in the summer of 2018 when we had the opportunity to hire two interns, Ramzi and Ravi. They both worked in our general structural engineering department assisting various licensed professional engineers with their projects. Both did excellent work on their projects over the summer. The following spring when we were looking to hire a few new entry level engineers, Ramzi and Ravi were at the top of our list. Both accepted positions with ERA and are valuable members of our team today.

We are looking forward to having, Libby, our SciTech intern for this summer, join us when her semester ends. I am confident that she will have a successful summer experience with ERA also!

We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota. Training new engineers takes time and resources, we find we have lower turnover in our newer full-time employees when they have had previous internship experience with our company. They start their careers knowing exactly what to expect from ERA.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Gordon, P.E.  
Associate & Sr. Professional Engineer  
Ericksen Roed & Associates

Kevin Cunningham  
4448 Stevens Ave,  
Minneapolis, MN, 55419

2/25/2021

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This program has directly resulted in my ascension both academically and professionally.

I started at Normandale Community College to study Computer Science. I then transferred after getting my AS to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus. After 2 years I graduated and in the fall of 2020, I started my first year as part of the U of M Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Ph D Program. I currently am a part of the Microbiome Systems Medicine Group at Mayo Clinic where we focus on microbiome data to address personalized medicine approaches in Rheumatoid Arthritis patients.

I worked at the IT help desk at Normandale while I was a first year computer science student. It gave me a good introduction into IT and introduced me to people who could tell me what a career in the field would include. After my first year, I knew I wanted to do an internship but with no experience, I felt that I had very little chance of getting even an interview. I found SciTech through a summer fair at Normandale. I applied and was given an opportunity to be an entry software engineer at a small company called eSolutionsOne.

While working at eSolutionsOne, I would attend different events through work and I met a woman named Dr. Heidi Nelson. Dr. Nelson was at the time the Director of the Microbiome Research Program at Mayo Clinic. She introduced me to Dr. Jaeyun Sung who is my current Ph D advisor. Dr. Sung and I worked together for 2 years and he helped me realize my passion. My passion is the intersection of computer science, biology, and medicine. How computer science can help provide insight into biological processes that will allow us to improve patient care. Our goal is to improve patient care by studying the bacteria in patient's intestinal track.

SciTech provided me the first opportunity that I needed to network and grow as a professional. The end result of my SciTech experience has been my progression into graduate school. My growth as a student, person and professional due to my first experience with SciTech cannot be expressed in words. I truly feel that SciTech provided me with a foundation that I used to get where I am now in graduate school. Please continue to provide this amazing opportunity to students in Minnesota. It has changed my life and will change the lives of future students.

Kevin Cunningham  
Graduate Student







Nikki Carlson Cullina  
2/19/2021  
[www.flywheel.io](http://www.flywheel.io)

Nikki Carlson Cullina  
Flywheel Exchange, INC  
1015 Glenwood Avenue, FL3  
Minneapolis, MN 55405

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired two students over the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Chase Yoo, worked as a member of the Frontend Engineering team on a variety of projects, primarily building UI extension applications. He was able to experience the software engineering process: gathering requirements, planning and building features, and eliciting feedback from peers and stakeholders.

During his internship, Chase completed a set of prototype applications for working with custom data types that have been used as a foundation for similar tools. Chase had some background and experience with programming, being a Computer Science & Economics student at Macalester College, and had some experience with modern web applications but little practical experience. The internship afforded Chase the opportunity to learn a great deal about how UI applications integrate with a large ecosystem of software, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude.



Nikki Carlson Cullina

2/19/2021

[www.flywheel.io](http://www.flywheel.io)

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Chase competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Nikki Carlson Cullina  
Talent & Operations Project Manager  
Flywheel Exchange, INC

**Shubham Teotia**  
**12813 Hilltop Rd**  
**Burnsville MN-55337**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**02/24/2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program introduced me to Railbox Consulting, LLC where I got the exposure and opportunity to gain experience and understand the software development life cycle models and methodologies.

I was pursuing my master's degree in Computer Science from St. Cloud State University and graduated in December 2020. In November 2019, I applied for an internship at Railbox Consulting in Minneapolis, MN. through SciTech and officially started my internship on 30th December 2019. I also continued my internship during the summer before accepting a full-time role in August 2020.

As an intern at Railbox Consulting, I got the freedom to build quality applications from the scratch and bring software to reality which remained a concept for a long time. The duties of my work involved planning, designing, developing, debugging complex code and web-applications. I along with two other interns who were also hired by Railbox through the SciTech program played an intrinsic role in the work that won Tekne Award for retail, supply chain, and distribution:

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20210202005018/en>

I started applying for internships in Summer 2019 through some of the very famous job portals, and after around 300-350 applications I got the chance to interview with ONLY 3 companies. The entire process of not hearing back from companies was confusing and scary. I was finally introduced to the SciTech program by a friend of mine and heard back from almost all the companies that I applied to through SciTech. This process was very transparent and encouraging and within a few days, I got the chance to get in touch with Railbox Consulting. I decided to join them because I really liked what their

vision was and how much importance the executives gave to automation and technology.

All this would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. I show my sincere support for the SciTech Internship Program and hope that aspiring and passionate students who wish to work for the STEM industries in Minnesota are also fortunate enough like me to have the same experiences through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**Shubham Teotia**  
**Full-Stack Engineer**  
**Railbox Consulting, LLC**

**Molding Your Future**

February 16, 2021

Craig W. Porter  
PlastiCert, Inc.  
300 Wilson Street North  
Lewiston, MN 55952

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Letter of Support for SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy.

I am writing in support of the SciTech Internship Program. PlastiCert first became aware of this program in early 2015 and we have utilized it every year since providing interns practical real-world experience to help them obtain more beneficial, gainful employment right after graduation. .

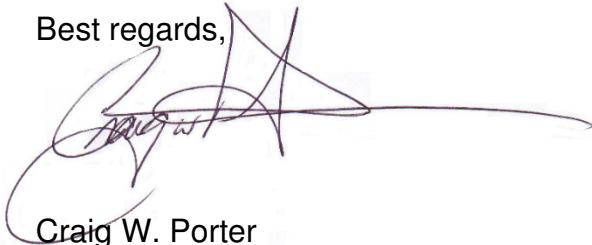
Our interns always spend their initial orientation working on the production floor. They learn the equipment, the processes, and how the manufacturing floor works. We do this for all new hires and it provides both them and the interns a solid foundation to provide valuable input during their tenure.

The SciTech program's matching funds allowed our company to pay our interns competitively. Likewise, it also assists PlastiCert, a small manufacturing company, to have some improvement projects done that we typically do not have the time or resources to address. The situation is a win-win for PlastiCert and the interns. To date, we have a 100% rate of employment at graduation, all with similar if not competitor firms. Our interns have a better appreciation of what to look for in an employer and what types of challenges and work best suits their interests. All but one of our interns have stayed in the state of Minnesota, and all are contributing and progressing upward in their respective organizations.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Internship Program program and would recommend its continued support. Not only has this program positively impacted our company and our local economy, it has also given additional opportunity for STEM education student development and meaningful employment early in their careers for Minnesota employers.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Best regards,



Craig W. Porter  
President/Owner  
*PlastiCert, Inc.*

Go to our [PlastiCert Website](#)  
Go to our [Linkedin Page](#)  
Follow us on Twitter @PlastiCert

The mission of PlastiCert is to provide our customers plastic injection molding expertise in an environment that fosters personal growth, professional challenge and a recognized responsibility to the community around us.



House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 25, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Software for Good is a software development agency, and our internship program hires computer science students and recent graduates to practice web development for real-world, mission-driven projects. The SciTech job board has helped us attract a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas, as well as students from diverse backgrounds that are underrepresented in the software industry.

Since first working with the SciTech program in 2017, we have hosted 9 intern cohorts of 2-4 interns each. In summer 2020, we hosted interns Kellen, Anya, Gina, and Logan, welcoming them to our team fully remotely because of the pandemic. All four interns had their first experience with the programming language we use, Ruby on Rails, and their first experience working on an Agile development team to build software for a client. They were able to see the project through a full life cycle from strategic planning and prioritizing features, to sketching out screen layouts and user flows, to developing features such as account creation and login, text alerts, and contact forms.

Being able to work with real-world development teams and clients has given our interns experience they would not have had in a college course. Former interns of ours have gone on to intern at companies including Twitter, Microsoft, and Target, and have been hired for full-time jobs at General Mills and Minnesota-based tech companies including Kipsu and Drip. SciTech's matching funds not only allows our company to pay these interns competitively, but also helps our recruiting process which is important for us as a smaller company.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,



Casey Helbling  
Founder/CEO  
Software for Good, GBC

Tushar Joshi  
2800 Grand Ave S, Apt 109  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance & Policy  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24, 2021

RE: Support for the MN SciTech Internship Program

Dear Member of House committee,

It gives me great pleasure to express my support to the MN SciTech internship program. I have personally been at the receiving end of a wonderful opportunity through the SciTech program that has indeed played a big part in giving my career a launch pad.

I joined the University of Minnesota in Fall 2017 to pursue my Master of Science in Computer Science. Come the summer of 2018, I was actively looking for internship opportunities in my field of study. I learned of SciTech via their booth at the Spring 2018 career fair at my university.

The SciTech platform gave me direct access and contact of local businesses in Minneapolis that were hiring interns in my field. It was a huge bonus in comparison with the generic online applications that I had to do when applying to other companies across the country.

I landed an internship as a Software Developer intern at Comparatio, a company based in St. Louis Park, MN. I had found its contact via SciTech. The opportunity at Comparatio was an exciting one, and the interest being mutual, I was offered a full-time role once I graduated.

Post my graduation in December 2018, I joined Comparatio full-time as a Software Engineer. It has been a wonderful journey thus far with challenging and rewarding moments all through, and I look forward to many more.

I cannot stress enough how the SciTech program was the source of all this shaping up of the crucial and important early phase of my career. It literally offered me a doorway to a room full of opportunities when all other doors were closing in on me then.

Again, I would like to reiterate my support for the SciTech program and its longevity. I wish that the coming generations of students get access to such a useful tool and get to experience what I was fortunate to get through the SciTech internship program.

Thank you for your support and time,

Tushar Joshi  
Software Engineer, Comparatio  
(University of Minnesota, MS in Computer Science, grad. December 2018)



Hector Coronado  
13677 Narcissus St  
Andover, MN, 55304

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/23/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I am an undergraduate student in Computer Science from Bethel University and will be graduating in May 2021 with my Bachelor of Science.

In 2019, I applied for an internship at Invenshure LLC in Minneapolis, MN. At this internship, I learned the dynamics of what it's like to be on a software development team, and learned many useful skills and tools that would help me in my classes and future career.

In 2020, I applied for another internship this time at Optum in Eden Prairie, MN. My previous internship experience in the healthcare industry and the connections made helped me to get this internship. At this internship I worked on backend software development and testing on one of Optum's biggest and most used software.

In September of 2020, I was offered as a full-time Software Engineer position at Optum. This was possible due to my experience in the healthcare industry at Invenshure and my good performance at the Optum Internship.

These internships truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to get the full-time job at Optum.

Again, I show my support for the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Hector Coronado  
Computer Science  
Bethel University



Karvakko, P.A.  
210 24<sup>th</sup> St NW, Suite 100  
Bemidji, MN 56601

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 16, 2021

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. We have hired three students through SciTech and it has made a significant impact in our business. The SciTech job board gave us access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

All three of the interns were top-notch employees. They all worked on assisting our team members on the civil engineering and land surveying projects our team was awarded. They were not only able to get the hands-on experience they desired, but were also able to strength their individual skill sets. One of our interns was actually hired on as a full time employee once he graduated and is now one of our top performers. Without SciTech, this may not have been possible.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a small company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school, so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Amber Coauette  
Business Team Leader  
Karvakko, P.A.

**Avery Peterson**  
**222 N McCarrons Blvd**  
**Roseville, MN, 55113**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing this in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program.

I participated in this program during the summer of 2018, during which I was matched with a company called "Sasya, LLC".

One of the biggest challenges facing undergraduates in STEM fields (in this case, biological sciences) is that in order for that undergraduate to be successful in beginning their career after graduating, it is necessary for them to have garnered some applicable lab experience during their time as an undergrad. The "lab experience" built into the academic programs is bare bones at best, which ultimately forces the undergraduate to seek more meaningful lab experience in their own time. This primarily leaves them with two options. Either they work in a research lab at their institution, which is almost always unpaid, or they find an internship in an industry setting, which is almost always paid. Given that the time demands of being a student prevents one from finding gainful employment, I think it is imperative that a reasonable option is provided where students can find a paying internship that gives them necessary experience in their field. The Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program does just that.

This program helped me find an internship by centralizing the internship opportunities available to me into one place. The small to medium sized companies that this program serves would have been difficult to find and sort through otherwise. Not to mention that it directly supports high tech start-ups in Minnesota by helping them find quality employees and pay for the upfront costs of their employment. This is crucial for helping to nurture these smaller companies. I also believe that it is important to mention that in my case, I found employment with a minority run business. Supporting these businesses is imperative for helping to address socioeconomic racial disparities in our state.

**Avery Peterson**  
**222 N McCarrons Blvd**  
**Roseville, MN, 55113**

By participating in this program, I have been given hands on experience in such a wide variety of applications that I feel as though I could find quality employment and success in the current job market for my field. Currently, I am still working for Sasya, LLC, I am working full-time, and I have helped to build our company over the last 2 years to what it is today. I would never have found this opportunity if it were not for the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**Avery Peterson**  
**Lab Manager**  
**Sasya, LLC.**

**Trusted Semiconductor Solutions  
7101 Northland Park N., Suite 204  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy Representative  
Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

16 Feb 2021

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing to express Trusted Semiconductor Solutions' support for the SciTech Internship Program. Over the past several years, our company has utilized this program to hire engineering interns from both the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State University, Mankato (MSU). Since 2018, we have employed in a total of nine interns through this program. Seven of these interns continued as full-time engineers upon obtaining their Bachelor of Science degrees.

Many of our interns have come from MSU's project-based engineering program called Twin Cities Engineering (TCE), based in Bloomington, MN. TCE trains upper-level engineering students by combining industry design work with coursework and professionalism training. Trusted Semiconductor Solutions recognizes the value of modernization in engineering education and has been supporting this innovative Minnesota-based BSE program since its inception in 2014, by providing industry board advisership, student mentors, and employment opportunities via the SciTech Internship Program.

As a growing, Minnesota-based, small business, the SciTech internship wage-match program allows us to be financially competitive for interns in a high-wage engineering field. We are proud to have worked with the SciTech Internship Program over the years to develop a pipeline from the Minnesota-based higher education institutions to the Minnesota high-tech industry.

We highly recommend that the state continue to support this SciTech Internship Program. It is integral in the development of a new generation of engineers who graduate college and stay in Minnesota to support the local industry. Trusted Semiconductor Solutions intends to continue working with SciTech to find and train young electrical engineers for many years to come.

Sincerely,



**Stephanie Pusch**  
Vice President, Trusted Semiconductor Solutions  
612-618-2115 / [stephanie.pusch@trustedsemi.com](mailto:stephanie.pusch@trustedsemi.com)

Hector Coronado  
13677 Narcissus St  
Andover, MN, 55304

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/23/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I am an undergraduate student in Computer Science from Bethel University and will be graduating in May 2021 with my Bachelor of Science.

In 2019, I applied for an internship at Invenshure LLC in Minneapolis, MN. At this internship, I learned the dynamics of what it's like to be on a software development team, and learned many useful skills and tools that would help me in my classes and future career.

In 2020, I applied for another internship this time at Optum in Eden Prairie, MN. My previous internship experience in the healthcare industry and the connections made helped me to get this internship. At this internship I worked on backend software development and testing on one of Optum's biggest and most used software.

In September of 2020, I was offered as a full-time Software Engineer position at Optum. This was possible due to my experience in the healthcare industry at Invenshure and my good performance at the Optum Internship.

These internships truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to get the full-time job at Optum.

Again, I show my support for the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Hector Coronado  
Computer Science  
Bethel University

Sarah Fogderud  
A.W. Research Laboratories, Inc.  
16326 Airport Road  
Brainerd, MN 56401

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date: February 18, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Jobs & Economic Development Finance Division Committee,

I am writing in support of the SciTech Internship Program. Our company has utilized this program for the past three years and we could not be more pleased with the outcome!

Over the past three summers we have been fortunate to hire three amazing student interns as technicians in our state-certified laboratory. Each of these students had slightly different backgrounds and career objectives but each one brought valuable skills and fresh ideas to our laboratory. Most importantly, their college lab and chemistry experiences allowed them to quickly master the necessary lab techniques for the testing and to perform the work to our certification standards. Our staff have been impressed each year with the knowledge and work ethic that these students bring to their work.

Thanks to the SciTech wage-match we were able to offer our interns a competitive wage, which is something that has hindered us in attracting qualified summer interns in the past. Through the program, we have gained qualified employees who have brought new energy to our company and have allowed us to keep up with our expanding summer workload. In turn, these students gained valuable job experience and an appreciation of the real-world application and importance of the analytical chemistry they studied at school.

I strongly encourage you to continue support for the SciTech Internship Program. Not only has this program positively impacted my company and local economy, it has provided opportunities for STEM education student development that otherwise could not exist.

Sincerely,



Sarah Fogderud  
Owner, CFO  
A.W. Research Laboratories, Inc.

Carly Miller  
2922 Aldrich Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development  
Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 18th, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy:

As a former intern with the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program, I am writing to express my support and gratitude for this program.

I recently received a Bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Gustavus Adolphus College, and my experience in the SciTech Internship Program was an integral part of my college career. During the summer of 2019, I was an intern at A.W. Research Laboratories in Brainerd, MN. There, I performed tests on both wastewater and drinking water, and was proud to be a part of a company that is entirely female owned and operated. In this internship program, I was able to gain a better understanding of the intersection of science and business, as well as refine my skills in the laboratory.

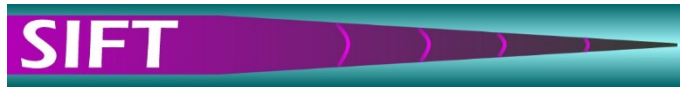
The next fall, upon returning to Gustavus, I was able to use the skills that I learned at A.W. Research Laboratories in order to successfully complete a collaborative research project with Mayo Clinic investigators through the Mayo Innovation Scholars Program. Although my ultimate career aspiration of becoming a physician is quite different from testing water at A.W. Research Laboratories, I believe the experience of applying my chemistry and biology knowledge within the context of a successful company is one that I will draw upon for years to come. Additionally, the communication and collaboration skills that I refined through working with other laboratory analysts, as well as the company owners and managers will be imperative as I take the next step in my career.

The SciTech program is one that is integral to STEM students across the state, and one that has opened doors for me. I hope that this program can continue for years to come so that future students can have experiential learning opportunities that will set them up for success in their desired fields.

Thank you for your support of the SciTech Internship Program,

Carly Miller  
Education Coordinator at Hospital Pathology Associates  
M.D. Class of 2025 at the University of Minnesota





319 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North, Suite 400  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1689

23 February 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I write this letter to express our strong support of the SciTech Intern Program. We have hired interns through the SciTech Intern Program since 2014. The program helps us to find relevant talent throughout the state.

Our interns through the program have been uniformly excellent, strong additions to our work while they were with us. We have hired three of the interns we found through SciTech, though one has gone on to Google since.

The SciTech Intern Program allows us to take chances on students that we otherwise would have to pass on. This has included students of color and women STEM candidates. We believe this program has provided them real-life experience that they would otherwise not have when they enter the job market.

Small Minnesota companies like SIFT compete for talented science and engineering graduates with many high tech companies located outside the state. We regularly lose talented candidates to Google, Facebook, Uber and more. Once they graduate, SIFT (and similar Minnesota companies) simply can't compete. The SciTechsperience program helps us attract Minnesota students *while they are in school* and show they can create value with growing companies right here in the state.

I appreciate Minnesota's support of the SciTech program. I strongly recommend its continued support. The benefits to our company and the students we hire are indisputable.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry B. Funk", written in a cursive style.

Harry B. Funk  
Vice President, R&D  
SIFT

Samuel Hohenshell  
1632 Chatham Avenue  
Arden Hills, MN, 55112

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

02/18/2021

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy,

My name is Samuel Hohenshell and I am currently a Senior at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program.

It goes without saying that job-finding during the pandemic has been hard. Last January, before COVID-19 changed the job landscape, I had already accepted an offer to be a summer 2020 Software Engineering intern at a company in the Twin Cities. I was incredibly excited and, naturally, assumed I was set for the summer. When the pandemic hit, however, I received a call notifying me that the company was cancelling their internship program. At this point, it was March and I had mostly given up hope for any sort of summer job, let alone an internship in my field.

Luckily, my school's academic advisor mentioned the SciTech internship program to me. After a brief application process, I was accepted into their portal where I was presented with the opportunity to apply to plenty of interesting, relevant, and valuable summer internship opportunities. SciTech has a unique application process, one that I have never seen applied as successfully elsewhere, that provides proactive and assertive applicants like myself the platform to reach out via phone and email to prove their value to employers. Instead of just submitting a PDF resume, I got to also talk with employers on the phone, email them, and provide more curated information for them.

As you may have guessed (since I am writing you this letter), I did end up getting an internship through SciTech at Third Wave Systems in Eden Prairie. I got to talk a lot with the team before even getting into any technical interviews. After learning about their computational and engineering-based products, I knew the job would be perfect for a person with a physics and computer science background like myself. Even though the internship was fully remote, it was an amazing experience. I was given the authority to work on and implement a now-released feature in their product, something not many interns can say they have done. I was given

insight into the software development lifecycle, the AGILE methodology, and plenty more industry-relevant staples that I had never learned about in school.

SciTech changed my summer, and with it, my professional future. My internship and experience with SciTech provided me with my most prevalent and marketable experience on my resume. As I apply to jobs now, I am not only proud of my experience there, but also proud of the connections at Third Wave Systems and SciTech that I made in the last year. SciTech opened the door to a plethora of wonderful opportunities for me, and I hope that many students will be able to say the same in the future.

Thank you for your support,  
Samuel Hohenshell  
University of Minnesota -Twin Cities - Class of 2021

Angie Conley  
Abilitech Medical  
7777 Golden Triangle Drive #225  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 17, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. We've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from the U of MN Twin Cities, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

One of our interns, Charley Rustad, worked as a member of the Research and Development team on a variety of projects. He worked with the team from the prototyping phase all the way to design verification testing to prepare for our FDA listing.

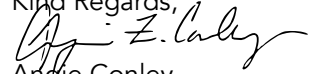
During his internship, Charley designed and assembled test equipment. As part of this project, he took on a leadership role and documented setup and troubleshooting guides for the other interns using the test equipment. The effort of Charley, and the other Sci-Tech interns, allowed us to shorten our testing timeframe and to be able to get our product to market sooner to help our patients.

I feel the SciTech program has added value to Abilitech, Charley, and to the Minnesota economy. Charley had the opportunity to learn how to be an engineer and grow as a leader which will help him in his career. I feel the economy will benefit because Charley will be able to make a more significant impact sooner for his future company and will require less training for future roles.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Charley competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,



Angie Conley  
Chief Executive Officer  
Abilitech Medical, Inc

**Dean Doneen**  
**1886 Shryer Ave W**  
**Roseville, MN 55113**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**2/23/21**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I am an undergraduate student studying Civil Engineering at the University of Minnesota. I had some previous experience working for city and state governments, but not any experience with design, or other more involved engineering practices. SciTech coordinated an internship opportunity with HZ United in Plymouth.

Working at this internship gave me an idea what I would want to do in the future, and what my strengths as an engineer may be. It was a great experience to assist with design, hydrologic analysis, and project management.

This summer, I will work full time for HZ United as an Engineer in Training once I graduate. This will be a great way to start work after I graduate. I will be working for a company I know, with people I know, and at a job I know I will be good at.

My internship, which has led to employment for me once I graduate, truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able get the full-time job at HZ United

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**Dean Doneen**  
**Civil Engineering**  
**University of Minnesota – Twin Cities**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Date Feb. 18, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired two students for each of the last four years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. The SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state (and even returning students from out of state) with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our 2020 interns, Tess Pocrnich and Sean Addington, worked as members of the operations research and coding team on a variety of projects to help our aerospace manufacturing clients. They were able to experience a full release cycle working within an agile software development team, observing and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

The students went back to school with real life experiences and we benefitted from their contributions in continuing to build our IP and making our firm more competitive.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay them competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

Our 2018 intern, William Marujo, came back to join us full time upon his graduation and is now a tech lead for the company helping our growth.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vivek Saxena".

**Vivek Saxena, PhD**  
**Founder & Managing Director**  
**Advisory Aerospace OSC**

Hannah Walker  
4781 Common Pl NW  
Rochester, MN 55901

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program from a SciTech alumna

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This program laid the groundwork for me to find success in my field of Materials Science and Engineering.

I am an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and I will be graduating with my Bachelor's degree in Materials Science and Engineering this May 2021. I completed my first ever internship with Pharmaceutical Specialties, Inc. through SciTech in Rochester, MN back in the summer of 2017 after my freshman year of college.

I initially went into college with the idea that I wanted to be a doctor. Not more than a few months into my first semester, I learned that I was much more interested in the field of engineering and the vast opportunities that are available. Most things we use in our daily lives are engineered – from dining chairs to cell phones to the shoes on our feet. The engineering applications are endless, and it became daunting to choose which area I wanted to explore.

I discovered that I liked my chemistry course. I liked getting my hands on lab equipment, precisely measuring chemicals to mix reagents, and calculating percent yields from an experiment. But, I knew this was only an intro-course level of exposure of what it means to work in a chemical engineering environment. I wanted to have an in-depth experience in a real-world chemical lab.

Through the help of the SciTech Internship Program, I found an opportunity in my hometown of Rochester, Minnesota, to work as a chemist in a pharmaceutical lab. This position allowed me to explore dozens of techniques that are common in chemistry labs while getting a taste of a potential career path. The best part? I didn't have to worry about my financial wellbeing; SciTech provided my company with a stipend to help pay me a competitive wage. This allowed me to



focus on really diving into my role without the thought that I could be making more in a non-STEM summer job, like my previous summer job of painting lines on soccer fields. I was making money while gaining real-world experience and learning the ins and outs of a true analytic chemistry lab.

When I returned to college the following fall semester, I began applying to internships for the following summer. Every recruiter that I talked to was impressed with my previous experience and skills, and I scored an interview with any company that I applied to. I ended up interning with an aerospace company in a role that used many of the same techniques and equipment that I learned while at Pharmaceutical Specialties; in that role, the fellow engineers that I worked with were blown away by my level of knowledge and comfort that is rare in young students.

In following summers, I interned with a biomedical device company and a textiles company, and I accepted a role with the last company, W. L. Gore & Associates, as a full-time engineer upon graduation. Each successive internship was possible thanks to the previous experience on my resume. I genuinely believe that had I not spent that first summer with the SciTech Internship Program, I would not have gotten the opportunities to intern at the other great companies, and I would not have the post-grad position lined up with a company that I am ecstatic to work.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Hannah Walker  
B.S., Materials Science and Engineering, May 2021  
University of Wisconsin-Madison



Complete MOCVD Solutions and Services  
+1 952-937-7505 | sales@agnitron.com | www.agnitron.com

Ryan Howell  
Agnitron Technology, Inc.  
8360 Commerce Drive  
Chanhassen, MN 55317

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 25, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Nicholas Valente, worked as a member of the Research and Development team on a variety of projects, primarily growing and characterizing wide bandgap semiconductor materials for high power diodes and transistors using metal organic chemical vapor deposition (MOCVD) method. He was able to gain excellent experience from growing the materials to fabricating actual electronic devices by working closely with the team. His contribution led to several publications of our research findings in some of the field's top scientific journals.

During his internship, Mr. Valente worked on several Department of Defense (DOD) projects funded by the small business administration (SBA). These projects are significant for the government, and his contribution has helped the company meet the projects' key objectives. Mr. Valente had some background with general chemistry, being a chemical engineering major, but had no experience with the growth of materials by MOCVD, materials characterization, and fabricating them into devices. The internship afforded Mr. Valente the opportunity to learn a great deal about materials growth, materials characterization, and device fabrication, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude for all.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Mr. Valente competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,



Ryan Howell,  
Chief Financial Officer  
Agnitron Technology, Inc.

Erick Sipila  
1046 16<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55710

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/23/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I was an undergraduate student in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the University of Minnesota Twin cities and am graduating in May 2021 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2020, I applied for an internship at TruNorth Solar LLC.

This internship has helped me find my passion. I am loving it. It was all possible because of Scitech.

I was hired full time at TruNorth, I plan to someday use my experience here to create my own solar installation company.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Erick Sipila  
Solar Service Specialist  
TruNorth Solar LLC

SAS BI Architecture  
SAS BI Implementation  
SAS BI Administration  
SAS BI Reporting  
SAS BI Support  
SAS Solutions  
Implementation  
SAS Integrated  
Technologies  
SAS Enterprise  
Architecture  
SAS Platform  
Migration  
SAS Version  
Migration  
SAS Analytics  
SAS Performance  
Tuning  
SAS Consulting  
SAS Recruitment



Rafi Sheikh  
Analytiks International, Inc.

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date 02/25/2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and  
Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. As a small, local company, we have a need for up-and-coming talent and a program like Scitech can be such a benefit to companies like ours. The SciTech job board provides access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

SciTech's matching funds not only allow companies to pay interns competitively, but also help with the recruiting process which is vitally important for smaller companies. We enjoy how the SciTech program attracts local students while they are still in school and shows them how they can create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

*Rafi Sheikh*

Rafi Sheikh  
President  
Analytiks International, Inc.

10 S. 5th Street #720  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

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Toll Free

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Fax

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Erick Sipila  
1046 16<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
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House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/23/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I was an undergraduate student in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the University of Minnesota Twin cities and am graduating in May 2021 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2020, I applied for an internship at TruNorth Solar LLC.

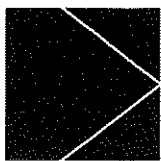
This internship has helped me find my passion. I am loving it. It was all possible because of Scitech.

I was hired full time at TruNorth, I plan to someday use my experience here to create my own solar installation company.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Erick Sipila  
Solar Service Specialist  
TruNorth Solar LLC



# AROPLAX CORPORATION

200 Chelsea Road  
Monticello, MN 55362

Phone • 763-295-5002  
Facsimile • 763-295-6038

---

February 18, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

## RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program.

Aroplax is a family-owned and operated injection molding manufacturer. As a small business, it is challenging for us to attract and retain technical talent. SciTech has made it possible and easy for us to find and hire local, talented, technical students. We have been able to give these students valuable internship experience, while at the same time they have positively impacted our business results.

Our most recent engineer intern, Michael Garg, worked as a member of our Operations team. During his internship, Michael gained hands-on experience in Aroplax's tool room, running jobs on the CNC, mill, lathe, and grinding machines. He helped troubleshoot defective tools and redesign them to increase efficiencies. He also worked with Aroplax's engineering team on continuous improvement and cost-reduction projects for production. For example, he worked on an injection molding press cavity base plate, which holds plastic parts while inserts are pressed in, and worked on robotic end of arm tooling.

Michael has continued to work part-time during his senior year of college and has helped complete more projects which led to more improvements on Aroplax's production floor. You can read more about Michael's intern experience on Aroplax's website, where we featured him in our *News and Events* section: <https://www.aroplax.com/aroplax-summer-intern-michael-garg/>. We recently extended an offer of employment to Michael as a Manufacturing Engineer, after he graduates in May 2021, as we want to retain him in our organization.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Michael competitively, but also made our recruiting process easier, which is important for us as a smaller company. **I appreciate the State's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support.** The SciTech program plays an invaluable role in matching Minnesota students with Minnesota businesses, growing a skilled local workforce, and retaining top talent in Minnesota's businesses.

Kind Regards,

Steve Schoen  
President

Jacob Hartmann  
2336 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Anoka MN, 55303

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24<sup>th</sup>,

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This program allowed me to gain valuable experience in engineering prior to graduation.

I was an undergraduate student in Mechanical Engineering from St. Cloud State University and graduated in December 2018 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2016, through SciTech Internship Program, I applied for an internship at Premier Industries in Blaine, MN.

Premier Industries designs and manufactures gas regulation devices. I was a design engineer intern. This company is pretty small and does important work for aerospace and medical industries, but being small, they typically would not be able to afford an intern. This program allowed them to hire and train another engineer that they would not otherwise. During my time at Premier, I learned valuable engineering and manufacturing skills. I cannot write about specifics due to my NDA, but I can say the products made a positive impact on the world.

In 2017, I applied for another internship outside of the SciTech companies at Junopacific where I am currently a full-time process development engineer in our new product development group. Without the internship experience that I gained at Premier Industries, I would not have been as successful in my current role. Junopacific is a contract medical device manufacturer, where we partner with large and small medical device OEMs around the world. Again, due to my NDA, I cannot talk specifics, but our products improve patients lives and sometimes save them. Our products were and still are necessary in the fight against COVID-19.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Jacob Hartmann  
NPI Process Development Engineer  
JunoPacific, Anoka MN



Aspen Research Corporation

8401 Jefferson Highway  
Maple Grove, MN 55369

Main: 651-842-6100  
Fax: 651-842-6199  
www.aspenresearch.com

**Roger Pearson**  
**Aspen Research Corporation**  
**8401 Jefferson Hwy.**  
**Maple Grove, MN 55369**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 25, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. In total, I have hired 12 students through SciTech, the last two being in 2019. The pandemic precluded us from hiring in 2020.

Our last interns, Michael Buhrman and Shu Yee Lau worked in the analytical chemistry preparation laboratory and were also instrumental in setting up our consumable chemical inventory control system. Three of the projects they worked on were in support of regulatory submissions to the FDA.

During Michael's internship he worked on a fairly new and unique testing program used to allow plastic recycling companies to qualify their recovery process for use in food contact. Shu Yee helped with work in Extractables and Leachables studies which are used by Pharmaceutical companies and Medical Device companies to demonstrate that the packaging or device materials of construction are safe for their intended use.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay both interns competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota. We have hired three of the interns full time and kept three more on for an additional time frame while they searched for graduate schools. Three now have their Ph.D.'s.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Roger Pearson, Ph.D.**  
**President Analytical Services**  
**Aspen Research Corporation**



Kalani Sithara Wijesinghe  
930 Westbrook way, APT 2  
Hopkins, MN 55343

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

23Feb2021

**Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I was an undergraduate student in Chemistry (ACS Approved) from St. Cloud State University and graduated in May 2020 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2019, I applied for an internship at XenaMed Corp, St. Paul, MN.

Before my internship, I was not exactly sure which area of Chemistry I really wanted to begin my career in. Working at this internship researching, drug analyzing, and instrumental analyzing gave me an idea what I would want to do in the future. It was a great experience for a college student. In college we do not get to experience industrial experience. It was hard to gain individual instrumental operating. At XenaMed, I was able to operate most instruments on my own after having a proper training.

After I graduated in 2020 May, XenaMed hired me as a full-time Analytical Chemist. I had a secure job during the lockdown. I am an international student from Sri Lanka. My company decided to sponsor me and keep me here long term. I believe I work very hard to get these amazing opportunities. There was a time I worried about my future which I was not sure what will happened after college ended. Sci Tech has changed my life. I was lucky enough to get an internship through SciTech and have a secure job during Covid-19.

These internships truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able get the full-time job at Xenamed Corp. There are friends who graduated with me at the same time are still struggling to get jobs but with higher job demand during current situation they are still waiting. If they would have done some internship, I believe the job seeking process would be much smoother for them.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Kalani Sithara Wijesinghe,  
Analytical Chemist,  
XenaMed Corp,  
1000 Westgate Dr, Suite 119C,  
St. Paul, MN 55114

Jacob Kiel  
Atscott Manufacturing Company, Inc.  
1150 Holstein Drive NE  
Pine City, MN 55092  
Mobile: 612-462-9719

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

02/16/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing to you on behalf of Atscott Manufacturing, Inc., a family-owned Minnesota contract manufacturing business providing services, parts, and jobs since 1963, in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program.

The program has provided opportunities for our business to hire interns affordably, and in one instance even resulted in a full-time employee joining our team following his graduation from college. We are very appreciative of the opportunities made possible by SciTech, and sincerely hope to see it continue forward into the future if at all possible.

This is a great opportunity for small business like our own to have access to young talent and fresh perspectives that we would otherwise not have had!

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,  
-Jake

Jacob Kiel, M.E.  
National Sales Engineer  
Mobile: 612-462-9719  
Email: [Jkiel@Atscott.com](mailto:Jkiel@Atscott.com)



[www.Atscott.com](http://www.Atscott.com)



February 19, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Letter of Support for SciTechsperience**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the SciTechsperience program. Bollig Inc first became aware of this program in early 2016 and have been pleased to utilize it for five of the past six years.

We had two interns this past summer. The majority of their summers were spent assisting at project jobsites of several Bollig municipal clients. The interns' primary responsibilities were to observe, inspect and document construction activities related to the sanitary, drinking water, and storm system infrastructure upgrades occurring at each. This allowed them to experience civil engineering concepts firsthand while challenging their analytical and problem-solving abilities. Likewise, the interns gained important relationship-building and improved communication skills that are critical in building municipal client relationships.

SciTechsperience program's matching fund, has allowed Bollig Inc to pay our interns competitively and improved our ability to recruit quality students which is particularly helpful for smaller firms like ours. With several interns on board during the summer months, our ability to oversee multiple crews at multiple locations throughout a tight construction season is vastly improved.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTechsperience program and would recommend its continued support. Not only has this program positively impacted our company and our local economy, it has also given additional and unique opportunities for STEM students everywhere.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Brian F. Bollig'.

Brian Bollig, PE  
President

**Kellen Dorchon**  
**2067 Howlong Ave**  
**Greenville, SC, 29609**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Date 02/24/2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I was an undergraduate student in Carleton College and graduated in June 2020 with my Bachelor of Arts in computer science. In 2020, I applied for an internship at Software for Good in Minneapolis, MN.

Before my internship, I was not exactly sure if I would enjoy working in Tech. Working at this internship researching, designing, and building a webapp for bail crowd funding. It was a great experience to see a small tech consulting firm at work and seeing my design work come to fruition.

After I graduated in 2020, I enrolled at the Rochester Institute of Technology, studying for my master's in computer science. I have also become a GEM Fellow. This means in exchange for two paid internships at a company, MITRE, my graduate program tuition is free. This was possible due to the programming and work experience I attained from my internship in 2020.

The Software for Good internship truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to become a GEM Fellow.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**Kellen Dorchon**  
**Computer Science 2020**  
**Carleton College**

Brion Finlay  
Brion Finlay Engineering LLC  
3917 94<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
Minneapolis, MN 55443

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

In startup tech companies, there is more work to do than time to do it, but the SciTech Internship Program has been so important in helping me to get started that I nevertheless needed to make time to write a letter of support. I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our most recent intern, Alex Lema Canar, worked as a member of our Software Development team on a variety of projects, primarily front-end development and writing automated tests. He was able to experience a full release cycle working within an agile software development team, observing and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

During his internship, Alex Lema Canar completed numerous front-end bug fixes and automated tests that are used in the customer-facing software, which will help create 20% revenue gains in tens of thousands of small businesses upon release. Alex Lema Canar had some background and experience with programming, being a computer engineering and mathematics major, and had very positive referrals from professional software developers that had worked with in university. Also as a first generation immigrant, Alex's resume demonstrated tremendous work ethic putting himself through school while supporting himself and his family. The internship afforded Alex Lema Canar the opportunity to learn a great deal about software and put software experience on his resume that, as his first software role, he would not otherwise have. This will help him with future software development opportunities.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Alex Lema Canar competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Brion Finlay  
President  
Brion Finlay Engineering, LLC





Calyan Technologies, Inc.  
7300 Hudson Blvd North Suite 290  
St Paul, MN 55128

February 24, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. We have hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in our business. Before this, we thought we are limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave us access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

All of the three interns we hired are from the College of engineering, University of Minnesota.

Ajay Manicka who is from the Computer Science department worked on creating Android tablet app to program Calyan's novel pacemaker.

Sam Froehle who is from the Electrical Engineering department worked on an electrical system validation and manufacturing support of the pacemaker.

Our last intern, Matthew McCollar, who is from the Mechanical Engineering Department worked on mechanical system verification and testing for our novel medical device product.

All three interns have helped Calyan achieve its technical objectives and have been mentored by seasoned veterans. They have learnt a lot and continue to work as interns part-time during the school year. They are much better prepared to enter the Minnesota economy as experienced engineers when they graduate.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Calyan Technologies competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Raj Patel'.

Raj Patel  
Cofounder & CEO

**Matthew Danley**  
**9329 Preserve Tr**  
**Woodbury, MN, 55125**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Date**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I was an undergraduate student in Biochemistry from the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) and graduated in May 2019 with my Bachelor of Science. In 2018, I applied for an internship at Fluorescence Innovations in Falcon Heights, MN.

Before my internship, I was not exactly sure what path I wanted to pursue after graduation. Working at this internship researching, designing, and testing new instrumentation gave me an idea what I would want to do in the future. It was a great experience to see the instrument I worked on get shipped to UMD for my school research project.

After I graduated in 2020, I was accepted into the master's program in Chemistry at UMD. This was possibly due to my experience with instrumentation I attained from my internship in 2018.

This internship truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to work for Fluorescence Innovations since it is a small local instrumentation company.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,  
**Matthew Danley**  
**Chemistry**  
**University of Minnesota Duluth**

Bonnie Kee-Bowling  
Celadon Systems  
13975 Frontier Ct.  
Burnsville, MN 55337

**House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy**

Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

18 February 2021

RE: Support for SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Programs. Our company hired summer interns regularly since 2012. We first became aware of the SciTech program in early 2016. We are pleased to say that we utilized it every summer since then. We are impressed with quality of candidates each year.

Our most recent intern, Dalton Roehl took on a range of entry level engineering duties, both assisted and autonomous. Dalton impressed us with his engineering knowledge, practical skills, and obsession with learning new things. Additionally, we have a track record of hiring previous interns, full time, after graduation. We are entertaining that option again when Dalton graduates in 2021.

SciTech Program's matching funds allows our company to pay Interns competitively. Likewise, it also assisted with recruiting and publicity which is helpful for smaller firms like ours. With summer Interns, our company can improve our competitiveness in the global market. We appreciate the ability to develop local talent and create value for our growing Minnesota based company.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech Program and would recommend its continued support. This program positively impacts our company, our local economy, and it gives additional opportunity for STEM education in Minnesota.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Best Regards,



Bonnie Kee-Bowling  
Engineering Director  
Celadon Systems



Sandra Eayrs  
CHF Solutions, Inc.  
12988 Valley View Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Re. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Our small medical device company has hired four students in 2018 and 2019 through SciTech. Hiring students from the SciTech program has made a positive impact in our engineering and quality departments. We are currently working with SciTech to hire three students in the program for this upcoming spring and summer.

The SciTech Internship Program provides eager college students a valuable opportunity to gain real-life, hands-on engineering work. The students whom we have hired for our internships through the program have done an outstanding job. They positively made an impact on process improvements and were helpful with several projects and important tasks in their departments and across multiple teams.

As a small company we truly appreciate the partnership we have with the SciTech Internship Program. The matching funds from SciTech's program has allowed our small company to pay these interns competitively. The SciTech job board has been instrumental in giving us and other participating companies access to a variety of local STEM students who want to find a successful, meaningful internship opportunity. The job board also provides their participating students with visibility to job opportunities at smaller, growing Minnesota companies.

I thank you for your past support of the SciTech Internship Program and ask that you consider supporting this great program going forward.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sandra Eayrs'.

Sandra Eayrs  
Sr. Vice President of Human Resources  
CHF Solutions, Inc.

Michael Drais  
623 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/20/2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing to show my support for the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This program has gotten me to connect with a fantastic company and it has given me the opportunity to gain some technical experience in my desired field.

I am a Senior at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities going for a Computer Engineering degree. I am targeting a graduation in May 2021. In 2019, I applied, and got accepted, for an internship with New Wave Design and Verification in Bloomington, MN

At this internship, I gained valuable experience with DevOps and some test automation when setting up a server farm for the company or the engineering team to use. This experience was helpful to me as I gained some experience in fields that haven't been covered in my time in college.

The next summer, I was asked to return to the same company for another internship. This time, I was asked to set up an automatic testing platform for one of the companies more popular products. This was set up to ensure no accidental regressions were introduced to the product on code updates.

I was asked to work part time in the school year to assist in setting up a testing suite for the company's new product. This position has lasted through last semester and into my final semester.

These internships truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never found such a wonderful company like New Wave, let alone work for and help such a company.

Once again, I am showing my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students looking for a STEM degree are able to find a similar experience as I had using the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Michael Drais  
Computer Engineering  
University of Minnesota- Twin Cities



**ChRi Laboratories, Inc.,**  
1000 Westgate Dr. Ste 40  
St. Paul, MN 55114  
[www.chrilabs.com](http://www.chrilabs.com)

February 23, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I hired a student in the last year through SciTech and looking forward to hiring 2 students this coming Summer and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local universities, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Patrick Ereedge, worked as a member of the Analytical and Quality team on a variety of projects, performing analytical testing and automating some of our old process. He was able to experience a full release cycle working within our Contract Analytical Testing service programs, observing, and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

During his internship, Patrick Ereedge completed multiple projects that are used by the Analytical/ Quality team on a regular basis. These projects help him to understand how new pharmaceutical drugs are developed, analyzed and the data submission to the FDA. The internship afforded Patrick Ereedge the opportunity to learn a great deal about how new drugs are brought to the market, and the high level of quality work that is required by the FDA to make the product accessible to the world.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Patrick Ereedge competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Dr. Henry Larmie**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**ChRi Laboratories, Inc**  
**1000 Westgate Drive, Ste 40**  
**St. Paul, MN, 55114.**

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**CITECH SOLUTIONS, INC.**  
**... your IT Department**

**Brenda Johnson**

612.247.3121  
brenda.johnson@citechsolutions.net

**Brenda J. Johnson**  
**CITech Solutions, Inc.**  
**4900 Hwy 169 N, Suite 315**  
**New Hope, MN 55428**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**2/23/2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired a summer intern for the past 3 years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Matthew Keller, worked on a variety of projects for us throughout the summer as well as helping to cover our Helpdesk with techs out on summer vacation. Always nice to bring in a fresh face, eager to learn as much as they can in the short time they are here for the internship.

We emphasize customer service at CITech. This takes some adapting for the interns. Matthew was able to overcome his uneasiness of making phone calls and actually speaking with customers directly – a very important skill for any career.

Matthew gained exposure to operating systems, networking, cabling, hardware rollouts, scripting and web application development. The internship afforded Matthew the opportunity to explore the different areas of Information Technology and assist in his career path decisions.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Matthew competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how



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**CITECH SOLUTIONS, INC.**  
**... *your IT Department***

**Brenda Johnson**

612.247.3121  
brenda.johnson@citechsolutions.net

the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would highly recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Brenda J. Johnson**  
**President**  
**CITech Solutions, Inc.**

**N. Kumar**  
**1227 4th St**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55414**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Date**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I got my first computer science internship through SciTech when I had no idea how to go about breaking into my first job, and SciTech made the process so much easier. As a result, my next internship, after SciTech, was at Amazon. I doubt I would have gotten that position without the experience from my first SciTech internship. Also, I still have a good relationship with my bosses from that first internship, and I'm very glad it all worked out the way it did. SciTech was crucial to my career growth.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**N. Kumar**  
**Current Software Developer**



13355 – 10<sup>th</sup> Ave North Suite 110 Plymouth, MN 55441

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 24, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Our companies have hired thirteen students over the past 9 years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Prior to this program, we had no internship program but the SciTech job board gave us access to and provided a springboard to this incredible program.

Our last intern, Aaron, worked as a member of the Quality Engineering team on a variety of projects, primarily writing validation and testing protocols. He was able to experience many of the responsibilities a full-charge quality engineer within the medical device industry would experience, observing and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

Our medical device manufacturing companies have been able to offer meaningful hands-on opportunities (projects and daily routine tasks) within product development, quality, and manufacturing engineering disciplines to these students. These projects help ensure our devices are of the highest quality and certainly contribute to the efficiencies which continue to make our products cost effective to the healthcare facilities serving patients worldwide.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay our interns competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Randal Gatzke  
CFO



1820 Old Hwy 8 NW  
New Brighton, MN 55112  
(844) 300-6212  
info@dosehealth.com  
www.dosehealth.com

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February 26, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. My company, Dose Health, has hired STEM students through SciTech to fill internship positions every year since 2018, and doing so has provided enormous value to everyone involved.

The SciTech program gives my company access to talented individuals, who, in turn, receive hands-on work experience where they are able to develop and refine their skills. Additionally, SciTech's matching funds allow my company to pay these interns a competitive wage.

Over the years, our interns have provided countless contributions to the company. In fact, one intern proved to be so invaluable that we hired them as a full-time employee.

I urge the state to continue its support of the SciTech program, which will allow SciTech to continue to positively impact both local companies, like Dose Health, as well as STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Hines".

Paul Hines MD, MHI  
CEO

**Peter Amundson**  
**604 Brookwood Lane**  
**Sartell MN, 56377**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**2/16/2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I am an undergraduate student in Mechanical Engineering from North Dakota State University and worked as a Manufacturing Engineering Co-op at Nova-Tech Engineering.

I gained a lot of valuable experience in industry working as a manufacturing engineer. I did a lot of designing, testing, and process improvement while at Nova-Tech Engineering and it will be extremely valuable for when I graduate college and work full time as an engineer.

This co-op truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program.

I also recently interviewed for a Mechanical Engineering Internship for summer 2021. I found this internship opportunity on the SciTech MN website, and would not have been able to apply for this internship without the SciTech MN website.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

**Peter Amundson**  
**North Dakota State University**

February 26, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Subject: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy:

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I have hired one material science engineering student for each of the last four years through SciTech and it has been a great experience for our company and, I believe, for the interns. Our main goal for the student internships is to provide the students with exceptional hands on material engineering and laboratory experiences. At the same time, the internships provide much needed skilled labor to support our consulting and testing work load.

Our last intern, Grace, worked with our senior engineers and metallurgical technicians on various projects providing failure analyses, product testing, and quality control testing. These efforts also provided her exposure to our ISO 17025 quality system.

During her internship, Grace also completed a project to develop a metallurgical heat treating and testing protocol that is to be used by our metallurgical technicians for their own training. She not only designed the project, but also completed all of the activities required by the project.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Grace competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which is important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing important hands-on learning for STEM students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester B. Engel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Lester B. Engel, P.E., CEO  
Metallurgical Engineer

Susan (Suzie) Hoops  
2150 Saint Anthony Ave  
St. Paul, MN, 55104

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 19, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This program gave me a fantastic opportunity to gain practical experience and knowledge in my field, allowing me to build connections with leaders in the biotechnology industry who in turn helped me shape my career.

I was an undergraduate student in Mathematics at St. Olaf College and graduated in May 2017 with my Bachelor of Arts. In the Spring of my final year, I chose not to return home to Indiana, but applied for an internship at CoreBiome, a microbiome analysis start-up out of the University of Minnesota, in Saint Paul, MN.

I had been accepted for a Fulbright award to study and conduct research abroad for the academic year after graduation, but knew I wanted to return to Minnesota and was eager to learn more about the famed biotechnology industry in the Twin Cities. Working at this internship designing new analyses and exploring biological applications for my math/computational skills solidified my interest in the bioinformatics and my love for the Twin Cities.

Upon returning from my year abroad in Fall 2018, I contacted the leadership team at CoreBiome and was hired as a Data Scientist in one of their labs at the University of Minnesota. I am now pursuing my PhD in Computer Science, applying analyses in my research to microbiome data for public health and agricultural applications. The job and subsequent advanced degree were made possible explicitly by my SciTech internship experience.

Again, I want to reiterate my support the SciTech Internship Program. I sincerely hope that students in STEM looking for industry experience in Minnesota find the same support and share my experiences with the SciTech Internship Program.



Thank you for your support,  
Suzie Hoops  
PhD Student, University of Minnesota  
B.A. Mathematics, St. Olaf College



Chris Anderson  
F3 Wireless  
211 Saint Anthony Parkway Ste 100  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

February 25, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the SciTech Internship Program. Since learning about the program less than two years ago I have successfully found 7 talented interns in the engineering field. Three of these interns have accepted offers to continue with F3 after their semester programs ended.

Each of the interns proved to be valuable assets to our team. As a small and relatively new company I do not believe we would have been able to find these students in the specific areas we needed without SciTech. The funding support that SciTech offers has been instrumental in growing our team and company. The students we have discovered through SciTech have demonstrated considerable variety of skills, backgrounds, and interests. This has been incredibly beneficial and provided unique and fresh approaches to the projects we are working on.

Our very first SciTech intern, Adam Presler has been an invaluable member of our hardware engineering team since we hired him on full time when his internship ended. He has taken on the lead engineering role for a new development project and has exceeded all expectations. We never would have found him without the SciTech program.

Every SciTech intern has been incredibly beneficial to our project success, and I believe they have learned a great deal in return. Acquiring real-world skills is one of the hardest parts of starting a STEM career after college. SciTech helps students achieve this while also providing growth opportunities for Minnesota small businesses, like F3.

I am grateful for the state's past funding and support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support in the future.

Sincerely,

Christopher Anderson  
CTO  
F3 Wireless



House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 16, 2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing to support the SciTech Internship Program. We have hired two students for each of the last two years through SciTech and are planning to hire an intern again this year. We are a very small business with only 5 employees. The SciTech Internship Program has allowed us to offer an opportunity to students while helping us with our work. We are an environmental consulting company working in water resource protection. Before we found out about the SciTech program, we would offer unpaid internships or part time internships for minimum wage because we could not afford to pay more but needed help and want to help students prepare for their future careers. The SciTech Internship Program has been a big help to our company.

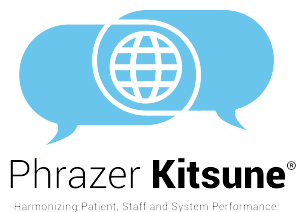
Both our interns, Nick McReavy and Lindsey Wood, completed a lot of field work or lab work and some office work for us. They were able to experience research projects with data collection, lab work, organization, and analysis, as well as gain exposure to work in their major.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Lindsay and Nick, competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Carolyn Dindorf  
Vice President/Limnologist  
Fortin Consulting, Inc.



**GEACOM, INC** | 394 Lake Avenue South  
Suite 700  
Duluth, MN 55802  
Phone. 888-5GEACOM  
[www.myphrazer.com](http://www.myphrazer.com)  
February 25, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Over the last few years, I've hired several students through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay talents competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Katja Kressmann**  
**General Manager**  
**GeaCom, Inc.**

Teresa Grunklee  
428 13<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/16/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in my desired field.

I am currently an undergraduate student in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Minnesota- Twin Cities, expected graduation May 2022. Last summer, 2020, I had an internship with Primal Health LLC in Minneapolis, MN.

Working at Primal Health was the perfect fit for me last summer. I worked part-time but was also taking biochemistry and organic chemistry II. My boss and co-workers were flexible with my schedule, and even provided help sometimes for my classes. I also had so much support in the work I did. I performed anti-microbial agent screening on oral biofilms from multiple species, including humans, dogs, cats, and horses. The end products for each species (and overall goals of Primal Health) were aimed at maintaining a clean mouth; this included a toothpaste for humans and treats for dogs, horses, and cats. I felt comfortable asking for clarification and help when I was confused and learned so much! It was the perfect "first internship" for me, and a great stepping stone opportunity for moving forward.

This summer, I accepted an offer for an internship with Beckman Coulter, in Chaska, MN. My previous internship experience with Primal Health (mostly hands-on "wet lab" experience outside of classes) helped me to get this internship. I was grateful last summer to get to know the five employees at Primal Health, but I am excited to try a bit of a bigger company. I don't know for sure what I'll be doing, but I hope I can also apply what I learned last summer.

When I graduate in 2022, I am actually hoping to go to medical school. I am also involved with the Institute of Child Development at the U of M and want to go into primary care as a

Pediatrician! However, the SciTech experience will still help me take that path. I have built strong connections with people who could advise or write letters of recommendation for me. I also know that if medical school doesn't happen, the type of work Primal Health does is where I want to be. It was the perfect opportunity to see what engineering looks like in the real world.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Teresa Grunklee  
Biomedical Engineering  
University of Minnesota- Twin Cities

Carolyn Dry, Ph.D.  
Designs by Natural Processes, Inc.  
1220 east 7<sup>th</sup> street  
Winona, MN 55987

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date February 28, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Noah Schmelzer worked as researcher on a variety of projects, primarily developing self repairing bike tires. He was able to experience research enough to go on to study and do research for a PhD at U W Madison.

During his internship, Austin Sueverkruepp has helped us develop two DOE funded projects on making cement that uses less energy to process and a cement made out of ash from burned garbage. These projects help ensure higher quality environment for Minnesotans. We in MN have 8 waste to energy plants, the most of any state in the US. They spend large amounts of money putting the ash in landfills so this latter project will save them money.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to stay in business a few years ago when there was a downturn but also to pay the students competitively, and also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Thank you again  
Carolyn Dry, Ph.D  
President  
Designs by Natural Processes, Inc.

Nathan Hulstein  
GVL Poly  
59711 US Hwy 12  
Litchfield, MN 55355

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Date: February 19, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I strongly support the SciTech Internship Program run by the Minnesota Technology Association.

GVL Poly is a small manufacturing company and uses the SciTech program to recruit interns. As a small company, we don't have the luxury of a dedicated human resources department and large recruiting budget. The SciTech program helps us with posting our intern positions and finding quality candidates. The matching funds also help us with offsetting the training cost associated with hiring interns. This is important as it allows us to spend the time to mentor the interns through multiple real-world situations which helps them better understand their own career path. This better prepares the interns for their future career and makes them more qualified when entering the full-time work force which benefits Minnesota companies.

Small Minnesota companies like GVL Poly compete for talented science and engineering graduates with many high-tech companies located outside the state. The SciTech program helps us attract Minnesota students while they are in school and show they can create value with growing companies right here in the state.

I encourage you to continue support for this program. I would be pleased to discuss this with you further anytime.

Sincerely,

Nathan Hulstein  
President  
GVL Poly





Judith J. Purcell  
Quality Manager  
H&B Elevators, Inc.  
3000 Washington Avenue North  
Minneapolis MN 55411

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date: February 23, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I found it to be difficult to find an intern. The SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

My current intern, Tom Holmes, worked as a member of the manufacturing team on a variety of projects. He was able to experience hands on quality system development, process engineering, sales support and solve customer concerns.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Tom Holmes competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Sincerely,

Judith J. Purcell  
Quality Manager  
H&B Elevators, Inc.  
612-728-2801

Riley Prettyman  
Hydra-Flex  
8401 Eagle Creek Parkway  
Savage, MN 55372

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/16/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. This program has allowed Hydra-Flex to flourish in the areas of product development and quality. Our interns have played a key role in driving our business forward and bringing fresh ideas to the team.

One of our interns over the summer, Michelle Thacker worked as a member of the Manufacturing team on a variety of projects, primarily testing software and participating in the stage gate processes of our products. Additionally, Michelle was given a unique task of helping to ensure our production staff remained safe throughout COVID-19 as they had to be in the office to perform their job duties. Michelle was able design and create plexiglass barriers between each of our workstations on the production floor. This allowed an extra form of protection and social distancing to be in place for our team. She created fifteen in total.

Additionally, we had another intern this summer, Randy Kim who helped us get up to speed on our document control. We are in the process of getting ISO-9001 certified and Randy was able to utilize his skills to help get us one step closer. He reviewed work instructions, developed process and reviewed previous documentation to ensure they were complaint with what the audit will be looking for. The internship afforded Randy the opportunity to learn a great deal about both subjects, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude for both.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Randy & Michelle competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Riley Prettyman  
HR Generalist  
Hydra-Flex

Victor Tymechko  
6160 Quinwood Ln N  
Plymouth, MN, 55442

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/24/21

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in support of the Minnesota Technology Association's SciTech Internship Program. This outstanding program has given me a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and knowledge in the Chemistry field.

I am a senior undergraduate student majoring in Chemistry and minoring in Mathematics at Hamline University pursuing a Bachelor of Science. In 2019, I applied for an internship at Nanocopoeia in St Paul, MN. This summer internship provided me with valuable insight into the pharmaceutical industry and experience working with industry professionals.

In June of 2019, I had not found any opportunities in Chemistry research. As soon as I activated my account with SciTech that same month, my future employer at Nanocopoeia contacted me for an interview about an R&D intern position. By the end of that summer and before starting my junior year in undergraduate studies, I had gained industry experience that has served me in my current research at Hamline. Through this experience, I improved my skills in record keeping, solution making, and scientific communication. It was a great experience having the opportunity to observe and be part of the innerworkings of a company environment.

In Summer 2020, I joined the plasma research group at Hamline University. I feel that the experience I gained at Nanocopoeia helped make me a stronger candidate.

This internship truly would not have been possible without the help from the SciTech program. Without them, I would have never been able to have my internship at Nanocopoeia.

Again, I show my support the SciTech Internship Program. I hope that students who wish to work in STEM industries in Minnesota are fortunate enough to have the same experiences as I had through the SciTech Internship Program.

Thank you for your support,

Victor Tymechko



3839 County Road 116 • Medina, MN 55340 USA  
Worldwide: 763-476-2531 • 800-328-3336  
E-mail: [info@intercompcompany.com](mailto:info@intercompcompany.com)  
Web: [www.intercompcompany.com](http://www.intercompcompany.com)  
Fax: 763-476-2613

23 February 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy

Representative Mohamud Noor

379 State Office Building

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I hired one student this year through SciTech and it will make a difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas. Our software engineer picked an excellent intern candidate.

This summer's intern has some background and experience with programming, being a computer science major, and has some experience with tools used in mechanical engineering but little practical mechanical engineering experience. The internship will offer the opportunity to learn a great deal about both subjects.

SciTech's matching funds not only allow our company to pay our intern competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

***advanced weighing technology ... by any measure***

***ISO 9001:2008 Registered***

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Connie Olson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Connie Olson

Vice President

Intercomp Company



House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Date:** February 23, 2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years and will soon be extending a permanent position offer to one of these students that came to us through SciTech. It has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Chris Thielsen worked as a member of both the software development team and the consulting engineering team working on a variety of projects. He was able to experience working with external customers, and learning much about how such teams operate and communicate.

During his internship, Chris completed a series of software demonstration videos that are used by the sales and marketing team on a regular basis. These projects help teach new customers how to use our software and this has saved many hours for our engineers. Chris had some background and experience with programming, having a computer science minor, and had some experience with machine learning tools. The internship afforded Chris the opportunity to learn a great deal about both the software business and about Itasca's consulting engineering practice, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude for both.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Chris competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tryana Garza-Cruz', is positioned above the printed name.

Tryana Garza-Cruz  
General Manager



Justin Grammens  
Lab651, LLC  
550 Vandalia St.  
Suite #224  
Saint Paul, MN 55114

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date: 2/16/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired two students for each of the last two years through SciTech. It's been a great experience and being a small business, it has allowed me to make the financials work with the limited budgets that we have at Lab651. Through the program I was able to access a variety of students that had a diverse set of skillsets and backgrounds.

Our last intern, Blake Robinson, worked as a member of the Software Quality Assurance team on a variety of projects, primarily testing IoT devices and documenting testing procedures. He was able to experience a full release cycle working within an agile software development team, observing and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

During his internship, Blake completed two projects for clients that resulted in documentation and process refinements that are continued to be used with our clients on a regular basis. Blake had some background and experience with programming as a computer science major and was able to think outside the box to automate a number of the manual scripts we had been using in the past. The internship afforded Blake the opportunity to learn both about programming, but the entire software development lifecycle.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning and opportunities for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Justin Grammens  
Cofounder & CEO  
Lab651, LLC

Douglas Johnson  
Lite Run, Inc.  
1000 Westgate Drive  
St. Paul, MN 55114

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 24, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Lite Run has previously engaged talented students through SciTech who have contributed their specific skills to our business. The SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students at the University of Minnesota school of Design with unique skill sets and fresh ideas. Our last intern we engaged with Noah Garon worked with us as a member of the Product Development team on a high priority project to redesign our innovative inflatable exosuit. Although our limited company funds did not allow us to hire Noah for the full term we did engage him for limited time. Noah also used his graphics experience develop graphics for an NIH proposal we submitted.

Going forward in 2021 – 2022 SciTech's matching funds will allow our company to pay competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program will positively impact both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Douglas Johnson".

Douglas Johnson  
Chief Technology Officer  
Lite Run, Inc.



Murray A. Aukes  
Midwest IT Systems, Inc.  
411 S Grove Street Suite 2  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 18, 2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired students through SciTech and it has made a difference in my business. The SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Ben, worked on a variety of projects. We hired Ben and he has been instrumental in moving our company in the right direction regarding the tools we use to assist our clients and keeping our team on track.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Ben competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Murray A. Aukes'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Murray' being the most prominent part.

Murray A. Aukes  
Vice President  
Midwest IT Systems, Inc.



Paul Berndt  
NetVPro  
203 Cooper Ave N Ste 161  
St. Cloud, MN 56301

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2-16-2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired various students for our team in the last few years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university or various job posting sites that are not always fruitful, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

All of our interns have been immensely valuable to our growing team. Whether a short time or long time employment we have learned so much from each of them and better learned as a company by teaching them and what they are looking for coming into the workforce.

During the internship process, each of our interns have had various roles, from being help desk technicians to the front line of support for some of our larger client channels. Having the opportunity SciTech provides to reach these students has helped us gain some really valuable team members and show our clients we are always interested in the investment of our team's education.





SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay all of the interns through the program competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota. SciTech has made this process easy for our busy team and we are so grateful for the students we have had the opportunity to work with through the program.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Paul Berndt  
Founder / CEO  
NetVPro





February 23, 2021  
NETZRO, SBC  
817 S 5<sup>th</sup> Av #400  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I have hired one student through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students.

Our last intern, Felipe Reyes, worked as a member of the engineer team on a variety of projects including lab work on nutritional value of spent grain. We are looking forward to securing a new student intern this next semester for eggshell waste recovery into upcycled ingredients, calcium, and collagen.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Felipe Reyes competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Sue Marshall  
CEO



Brian Salzle  
Northflow Solutions, Inc.  
1650 Madison Ave, Suite 101  
Mankato, MN 56001

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 16, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Over the course of the last two years, we have been fortunate to have the ability to bring in intern resources because of this program. As a result of the program, we've retained one of our interns on a full-time, permanent basis and are looking at the possibility of doing so for the second as well.

Further, I feel this is a great program is a great confidence builder for students to get involved in companies as they start out their career path and move from a 'schooling to real-world perspective'.

The SciTech program allowed us the opportunity to bring these students into our company in a timeframe that, without the funding, might not have allowed us to do.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Brian Salzle  
Director-Strategic Application Development  
Northflow Solutions, Inc.

# PEQUOT TOOL & MANUFACTURING

Precision Machining • Fabrication • Assembly

**Laura Stromberg**  
**Pequot Tool & Mfg., Inc.**  
**3457 Veterans Street**  
**Pequot Lakes, MN 56472**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**2/16/2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired multiple students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made a wonderful difference. The SciTech job board gives us the ability to bring in students that invigorated my staff; their curiosity and excitement for STEM jobs was contagious.

Our last intern, Peter Koering, worked as a member of the CAD Engineering team on a variety of projects, primarily integrating our PDM system. He dealt with our plant layouts, fixture design, he helped on the shop floor, and managed a PDM integration. A Product Data Management system was integral to a transition we were undertaking; Peter did testing on the functionality of our internal customer data drives to assimilate that to our PDM.

During his internship, Peter completed a large project that is used by the Cad Design team on a regular basis. This project helped ensure that the automation team had access to company design files that could not be corrupted by an end user. Peter was also tasked with updating the plant layout to facilitate upcoming machine moves on the shop floor. He was an absolute rock star in planning and we are current using his design layout.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Peter competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a small manufacturing company. We enjoy how the SciTech program as it gives us access to a pipeline of qualified students to staff our company in the future.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would highly recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Laura Stromberg**  
**HR Manager**  
**Pequot Tool & Mfg., Inc.**



**Keith Summers**

**Productivity Quality Inc.**

15150 25<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
Plymouth, MN 55447

**House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy**

Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date: February 22, 2021

RE: Letter of Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Representative Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce Development,

Our company has been fortunate to have participated in the SciTech Internship Program for the past 6 years. During this time, we have worked with 12 interns. I have been uniformly impressed by the quality and capability of these students and the contribution they have made to our organization.

Two have since been hired as a full time employees, contributing to our organization and the tax rolls!

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. Not only has this program positively impacted our company and our local economy, it has also given additional opportunity for STEM education student development.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Best Regards,



Keith Summers

CEO



Michaela Roslawski  
Premier Biotech Labs, LLC  
723 Kasota Ave. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

**25 February 2021**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Esteemed Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy to whom this concerns,

The SciTech Internship Program should continue to receive your support. This program provides an outlet for local businesses and upcoming professionals to connect through projects and work place experiences that benefit both. Premier Biotech has had the opportunity to engage with three different interns in the past year, despite the difficult times we live in. The company is just getting started in utilizing this program and already have seen an increase in our ability to meet business directives and even opened up avenues for direct hires after graduation from interns in this program.

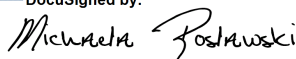
One of our interns this past year is Jacob Marvel who has been assisting the R&D Science team in data collection and analysis to generate a phone app to interpret our company's drug testing oral fluid lateral flow device. Additionally, Jacob has aided in experiments and processing results to help in decision making processes during method development for various analytical lab assays used at the company to quantitate drug levels from patients at various clinical, rehabilitation, toxicological, and workplace clinics. His agility to take on the various tasks needed to generate data or reports necessary as well as desire to soak up any information provided to aid in experimental designs has made him a huge asset in helping the company achieve its goals. Likewise, he has been able to observe and learn how various aspects and departments intertwine to accomplish a comprehensive objective with real world implications. Seeing how a simple task can ultimately lead to an outcome effecting user interaction with a product and the company is highly impactful for someone like Jacob who is still deciding where to guide his interests and academic pursuits. These lessons can not be taught in a classroom. Similarly grand projects can not be accomplished without the tremendous work put in by people like Jacob.

Our company would not keep returning to a program like this if we did not continue to have such wonderful candidates to choose from whose high-quality work and general

curiosity help keep our projects moving and ideas fresh. As a smaller company we also highly benefit from being able to utilize SciTech's matching funds to stay competitive in recruitment with the local Minnesota talent.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would certainly be thrilled to see such support continue. STEM students and companies both are positively impacted by this opportunity. It is a unique experience but a necessary one to keep students engaged in a STEM career and companies investing in a variety of voices into their field. Thank you for your consideration and review of this program to renew your personal and financial support.

Cheers,

DocuSigned by:  
  
1CD5FD12385D4AC...

Michaela Roslawski, B.A.  
R&D Scientist  
Premier Biotech Labs, LLC

February 16, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Subject: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy:


I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program, which my company has been able to take advantage of this past year. Through the program, we were able to hire one student with excellent qualifications who has been a real difference-maker in our business. The SciTech job board is an amazing conduit to students across the state with valuable skill sets and fresh ideas for startup tech businesses like ours.

Our current intern, Mahamud Hussein, is applying his electrical engineering training as a member of our product development team on a variety of projects. He has been able to enhance his educational background through detailed discussions regarding the technical aspects of our products with our development team, and he has been able to directly apply this knowledge in his weekly assignments. Very importantly, Mahamud's efforts have allowed our senior engineers to clear tasks from their plates and focus on other, critically important aspects of our business. This has saved us considerable time in our R&D process.

SciTech's matching funds were incredibly important for a startup business like ours, not only allowing our company to pay Mahamud a competitive hourly rate, but also giving us confidence that we could attract and retain a qualified intern. The Sci-Tech program both supports growing companies here in Minnesota and provides amazing real-world learning opportunities for our engineers, scientists and entrepreneurs of tomorrow.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and strongly recommend its continued support.

Sincerely,  
**Renew Power Systems, Inc.**



Scott C. Tracy  
COO



Feb-24, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from UMN, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

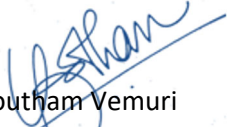
Our last intern, Katie Breuckman, worked as an integral member of our Microbiology team on a variety of projects, primarily with genetics and strain engineering. She was able to experience a full spectrum of working with different microorganisms, growing them for a purpose, genetically altering them and evaluating the response to the genetic mutations. Additionally, she also learned teamwork, record keeping and oral and written communication.

During her internship, Katie established the platform for working with a new kind of microorganism, which represents a huge milestone for our research project. The internship afforded Katie the opportunity to learn a great deal about industrial microbiology, and she showed meaningful progress in her aptitude for both.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Katie competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and strongly recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

  
Goutham Vemuri  
Sasya LLC  
1000 Westgate Drive  
Saint Paul, MN 55114

Christopher Rence  
Rimage Corporation LLC  
201 General Mills Blvd  
Golden Valley, MN 55426

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date: February 23, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired one of the students that we had the opportunity to find through the SciTech program. In parallel we were able to provide a strong recommendation to Target for one of the interns that we were not able to hire but had a strong aptitude for security and compliance. This program provides greater access to skills across the state, the SciTech job board provides access to a variety of students with various technical and thought processes that will help my company move forward.

Our last intern, Xavier Walden, worked as a member of the EQH IT & Security team on a variety of projects, primarily hands on with our global system OS rollout and running security scans and testing on new AV software. Xavier was a part of the team and performing real support functions that drove our product decisions. He was interacting with teams from around the globe and as we are a small company we are scrappy and have a fail fast mindset, which allowed him to get real time feedback and see the output of his processes. This provided him not only hands on but interaction with our CEO, CFO and founder real time.


During his internship, Xavier Walden was focused on both data to day operations, and specific security and OS/AV updates. The outcome was deployed to the company on a global basis. Xavier was instrumental in the delivery and data review as our IT and security team is only 4 FTE's. The day to day and the programs he participated in provided Xavier insight and experience in program processes, security and compliance requirements and working across IT and the global teams. This required calls/meeting either early in the morning or late at night to meet the regions operational hours. He was also exposed to a number of different cultures and language barriers that he needed to work around. The internship afforded Xavier the opportunity to learn a great deal about how a global company works, interaction with many

cultures and regional teams. Input and scores from the teams was very high and Xavier was offered the option to return.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Xavier competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Rence", is positioned above a faint, light blue rectangular stamp. The stamp contains the text "SciTech" in a stylized font, with "Minnesota" and "State" visible below it.

Christopher Rence  
President and CEO  
Rimage Corporation LLC

a 12279 Nicollet Avenue Burnsville, MN 55337  
o 952-402-9202 f 952.403.6803  
w stonebrookeengineering.com

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy:

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. We have hired at least two students for the past several years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in our business. The program has incentivized us to hire more interns with ties to the state of Minnesota. Before learning about the program, we would typically hire one intern a year.

One of our last interns, Connor Kratzke worked as a member of the Transportation team on a variety of civil engineering projects. Working both in design and construction he was able to gain valuable experience that made him a great candidate for a fulltime position at our company. Upon completion of his internship, we offered him a position and he will begin working fulltime after graduation in May.

Our other intern from this past summer, Blake Conrad also worked with our Transportation team. As part of Blake's internship, he worked on a variety of transportation design projects where he learned how to use CAD software and to work on a project team. Blake did so well with his internship that we have asked him to come back for a second summer. We are hopeful that we will be able to hire Blake fulltime after graduation.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Connor and Blake competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us to continue growing Stonebrooke. We appreciate how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Sincerely,



Chad Seaman, PE  
Vice President  
Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc.



**Mark Mulvahill**  
**Stratix Labs Corporation**  
**1000 Westgate Dr, STE 132**  
**St Paul, MN 55114**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**2/25/2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I hired one student this year through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our current intern, Josh Stadler, works as a member of the Research & Development team on a variety of projects.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Josh competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Mark Mulvahill**  
**CEO**  
**Stratix Labs Corporation**



*Premier Biotech  
723 Kasota Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
Toll Free: 1-855-718-6917  
Direct: 1-612-554-9180*

February 26, 2021

To: Representative Mohamud Noor, House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy  
From: Dr. Larry R. Masterson, R&D Research Scientist  
RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our interns, Kyleigh Pacello, Jacob Marvel, and Brooke Hoppe, worked as members of the R&D team on a variety of projects. These projects covered the following major pursuits we currently have ongoing:

- validation testing of a new mobile software application platform to capture an image and interpret a point of care toxicology test
- data analysis and interpretation of new methods being developed for our laboratory testing of toxicology samples
- bench testing of point of care infectious disease devices for current and previous COVID-19 exposure
- bench testing of new commercial quality control materials to use for antibody testing for previous COVID-19 exposure
- bench testing new upcoming point of care products for use in toxicology

Thus, our interns have been able to gain unique experiences that span medical device development and working in a toxicology laboratory. Indeed, this is a fantastic opportunity for these interns to gain exposure to such a wide variety of situations and opportunities that are available to them after graduation.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay interns competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry R. Masterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "M".

Dr. Larry R. Masterson  
R&D Scientist  
Premier Biotech, Inc; Premier Biotech, Labs



February 23, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Subject: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy:

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. The students we have hired through SciTech has made a significant difference in our business. The SciTech job board gave us access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

While all the interns have been great, one intern in particular, Walida Preseuth, was a real star. Her work ethic and attention to detail were valued assets in our sand-testing laboratory. SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Walida competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

We appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Sincerely,  
**Summit Envirosolutions, Inc.**

---

John E. Dustman  
Principal



## SciTech Internship Program

**Jeffry Borglum**  
**Techie Dudes**  
**3607 White Bear Ave N**  
**White Bear Lake, MN 55110**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I'm relatively new to the program, but very excited about what they have done and the opportunities for my business. I've hired one student this year through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our current intern, Bradley Crep works as a member of our IT support lab team on a variety of projects, primarily supporting small business IT systems. He has brought some new blood to team with fresh ideas and perspectives.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Brad competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Best Regards,

**Jeffry Borglum**  
**President**  
**Techie Dudes**

2/25/2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

Terrafore is pleased with this win-win proposition. The SciTech student we hired is generally inexperienced but willing to quickly learn and contribute to what we want. The experience they gain and the work we get done with the shared funds is worth it for us before we can offer them a full-time job.

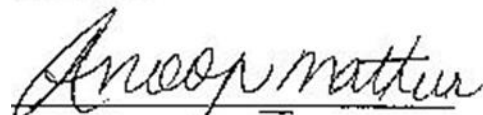
Therefore, I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Luwis is still working with us on two of my projects. He had basic computer knowledge and we helped him learn a lot about how real-world applications work. With this experience, we hope he can either continue with us or prepare him for a successful career.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Luwis competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Sincerely,



Anoop Mathur  
Founder & CTO



Third Wave Systems  
6475 City West Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55344 USA  
(t) +1 (952) 832-5515 | (f) +1 (952) 844-0202 | thirdwavesys.com

**House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy**

Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 16, 2021

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired three students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Sam Casey, worked as a member of the Product Quality team on a variety of projects, primarily writing automated tests. He was able to experience a full release cycle working within an agile software development team, observing, and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

During his internship, Sam completed two large automation projects that are used by the Product Quality team on a regular basis. These projects help ensure higher quality releases and save hours of manual testing time for Product Quality engineers. Sam had some background and experience with programming, being a computer science major, and had some experience with tools used in mechanical engineering but little practical mechanical engineering experience. The internship afforded Sam the opportunity to learn a great deal about both subjects, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude for both.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Sam competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LF", followed by a horizontal line.

Lisa A Ferris  
Chief Operating Officer  
Third Wave Systems

**William Holmberg**  
**Tissx, Inc.**  
**3405 Annapolis Lane, suite 200**  
**Plymouth, MN 55447**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 16, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing about the SciTech Internship Program. I can't tell you how much this program has helped our business. I strongly recommend the legislature continues to fund and support the program.

We've hired five student interns over the last three years through SciTech. Their work has made lasting, positive impacts to the business. The SciTech job board provides great visibility to a wide group of students with the STEM skillsets needed in our business. The program helps make the recruiting process of finding and hiring interns much more efficient. For a small business with limited resources this is very beneficial.

SciTech's matching funds allowed our company to pay the interns competitively. This allows us to compete with the "big" companies over the valuable intern candidates. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota. Some interns have worked "full-time" over the summer while not in school. Some have worked part-time while in school at a local university. Some have done both.

Two former interns have graduated and are now working with us full-time. One, Jonathan Newinski, worked as a member of the Quality team. He was involved in a variety of projects, most noticeably supporting the re-certification to ISO 13485. He also was involved in validating new suppliers. After graduation we brought Jonathan in as a full-time Quality Engineer.

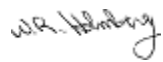
Another intern, Justin Oliver, worked on implementing two new pieces of test equipment. This equipment was part of a project to improve the evaluation of heart valve performance. Justin was a materials science engineering student. His background and experience at the university



with test equipment was very beneficial on this project. Justin finished his degree in the spring of 2020. At the same time, we were looking for a full-time engineer to support project work. We hired Justin as a full-time Project Engineer. It was a win-win fit for him and our business.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students. It has also helped to bring full-time positions to these students and helped MN based companies find full-time technical staff.

Best Regards,



**William Holmberg**  
**VP Ops/R&D, Co-Founder**



**Date: February 23, 2021**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I Dr. Timothy T. Childs, president of TLC Millimeterwave Products Inc. I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. We hired 2-4 students for each of the last two years through SciTech and it has made all the difference in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Last summer (2020) we hired 4 college interns, Cassidy Geddes, Daniel Glynn, Vijah Shah, and Daniel Lane via SciTech. These student interns with diverse educational backgrounds and majors of Biomedical Engineering (Cassidy), 3-D Computer Programming, Mechanical System Engineering (D. Glynn), Mechanical Engineering (Vijah Shah), and Statistical Programming & Probability Physics were ideal matches for our various departments. Each department leader was able to assign key technical parts of a major project to their key respective interns.

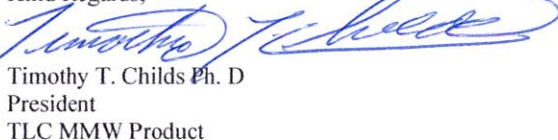
Each student went through a series of High-tech supervised training where their technical capabilities, teaming skills, and critical thinking were challenged to maximize their preparation for there to be assigned tasks. It was amazing to see how these students collectively utilized their training, skills, and resources to develop a well-coordinated intern team that led the design, build programming, and testing of a new patent-pending instant virus detector that may revolutionize the medical diagnostic industry. This has resulted in TLC launching a new company, ViruTech Systems, Inc. We added more SciTech students to help carry out the clinical testing needed for EDA EUA approval. We are looking to reach volume production this year to help stop the COVID pandemic and enable unprecedented detection in the medical, agriculture, and food safety market for the foreseeable future.

These internships allow Cassidy, Daniel, Vijah, Dan Lane, and now others to learn a great deal about how their respective educational discipline can be applied to create value and contributions to industry and community needs and applications. We find such experiences have encouraged these students to not only excel in their college majors but obtain an insatiable thirst for innovative contributions to research and development projects in pursuit of attending graduate school.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Cassidy, Daniel, Vijah, and Dan Lane competitively but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a small company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they can create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students. We are looking to talented students of even more diverse & underrepresented backgrounds as we move forward with now two high-tech companies. Both of which we expect to expand into additional facilities for new high tech products manufacturing and therefore jobs in Minnesota.

Kind Regards,



Timothy T. Childs Ph. D  
President  
TLC MMW Product

---

**TLC Millimeterwave Products Services and Solutions, Inc.**

1415 W River Road N. Minneapolis, MN 55411

Phone: 612-341-2795 Fax: 612-341-2799

[www.tlcprecision.com](http://www.tlcprecision.com)

**Kendall Diveley**  
**Trusted Semiconductor Solutions**  
**7101 Northland Circle N**  
**Suite 204**  
**Brooklyn Park, MN 55428**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

16 Feb 2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing to express Trusted Semiconductor Solutions' support for the SciTech Internship Program. Over the past several years, we have utilized this program to source engineering interns from both the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State University, Mankato (MSU). Since January of 2018, we have brought in a total of nine interns, seven of which we have hired on as full-time engineers upon obtaining their Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSE) degrees.

In particular, many of our interns have come from MSU's offsite project-based engineering program called Twin Cities Engineering (TCE), based in Bloomington, MN. TCE trains upper-level engineering students by combining real industry design work with coursework and professionalism training. Trusted Semiconductor Solutions recognizes the value of modernization in engineering education and has been supporting this innovative Minnesota-based BSE program by providing industry board advisership, student mentors, and internship opportunities via the SciTech Internship Program.

The steady influx of interns has also allowed us to develop a robust internal training program to efficiently bring new engineers up to speed to industry standards. Our interns have the opportunity to develop their skills and awareness in a variety of areas such as integrated circuit design, printed circuit board design, simulation, testing, quality, research, technical writing, interpersonal communication, customer interactions, time management, and more.

As a small yet rapidly growing Minnesota-based company, the SciTech internship wage-match program allows us to be financially competitive for interns in a high-wage engineering field. We are proud to have worked with the SciTech Internship Program over the years to develop a pipeline from the Minnesota-based higher education institutions to the Minnesota high tech industry.

We highly recommend that the state continue to support this SciTech Internship Program because it has become integral in the development of a new generation of engineers who graduate college and stay in Minnesota to support the local industry. Trusted Semiconductor Solutions intends to continue working with SciTech to find and train young electrical engineers for many years to come.

Sincerely,

**Kendall Diveley**  
**Project Engineer**  
**Trusted Semiconductor Solutions**

Thomas A. Hoff  
Uhl Company  
9065 Zachary Lane N  
Maple Grove, MN 55369

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

2/25/2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired many students over the last six years through SciTech and it has made a positive impact in my business. Before this, I thought I was limited to only hiring employees from my local university, but the SciTech job board gave me access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Bailey Pawlicki, worked as a member of the Operations team on a variety of projects, primarily writing and testing software. He was able to experience a full project cycle working our project team, observing and learning much about how such teams plan and communicate.

During his internship, Bailey worked on multiple building automation projects that were completed before the end of the year. The internship afforded Bailey the opportunity to learn a great deal about building automation and construction work flow, and he showed meaningful progress in his aptitude for both.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Bailey competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

As is the case for a number of our newer employees, Bailey was two-time intern and has joined us in a full-time position as a Project Engineer.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Thomas A. Hoff  
Operations Manager  
Uhl Company



**Dr. Angie Eilers**  
**UR TURN**  
**2201 France Ave.**  
**Suite A**  
**St Louis Park MN 55415**

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**February 16, 2021**

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired two students for each of the last two years through SciTech and I was very impressed by not only the students, but by the SciTech team who made the process very easy!

Our last intern, Tina Le, worked as a member of the Quality Assurance team on a variety of projects, primarily writing a business requirement document (BRD) of our software. She was able to work closely with the software development team, observing and learning much about how software is structured. Tina was working on her degree in Computer Science.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Tina competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Angie Eilers**  
**Founder/CEO**  
**UR TURN, SBC**

Marina Brockway, PhD  
VivaQuant  
4339 Nancy Place  
St Paul MN 55126

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

February 26, 2021

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I have hired two students in the last three years through SciTech and both proved to be high achievers and made important contributions to our company. The SciTech program allowed us to offer competitive wages to interns and afford their training in biomedical engineering. Both were inspired by the research and development work that did at VivaQuant to pursue graduate education, one at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the other applied to PhD program at the University of Minnesota. Both continue working at VivaQuant part-time while pursuing their education.

Our last intern, Dan Trost, worked as a member of the Manufacturing Operations team on a variety of projects, primarily in verification testing and designing tools to improve manufacturability of VivaQuant wearable devices. He made important contributions to firmware verification testing for multiple successful FDA 510k submissions of VivaQuant wearable devices. He participated in a full regulatory cycle securing FDA clearance for Class 2 medical device and improving its manufacturability.

During his internship in 2019, Daniel Stein contributed to FDA-cleared algorithm for efficient identification of premature beats for VivaQuant wearable cardiac monitor. He also played important role in developing algorithm for real-time discrimination of rhythms for automated external defibrillators (AED). The CE Mark approved VivaQuant algorithm licensed to HeartHero outperformed Philips AED algorithm by 18% in sensitivity with equivalent specificity in preliminary testing. The internship afforded Daniel Stein the opportunity to utilize his machine learning and AI knowledge in real-world applications in both diagnostic and therapy medical devices.

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Dan Trost and Daniel Stein competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing





**Yogesh Dandiker**  
**Xenamed Corporation**  
**1000 Westgate Drive, Suite 113**  
**St. Paul, MN 55114**

February 26, 2021

House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy  
Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program**

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

Xenamed is an R&D pharmaceutical company developing medicines for unmet patient needs. For example, amongst other things, we are developing medicines for elderly patients to better control their blood pressure so that these patients become less prone to falls. This is important as falls are a common occurrence in Parkinson's patients as well as other conditions.

I want to express my strong support for the SciTech Internship Program. I have watched one of our key employees begin as a SciTech intern and gain experience in Life Sciences while making valuable contributions to several research projects. The SciTech job board has given Xenamed access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas. It has fostered the creation of a workforce aligned with our core values of diversity, inclusiveness, and innovation.

We have been impressed by the quality of the SciTech interns and as a result decided to offer one of the interns permanent employment. This employee, Kalani Wijesinghe, worked as a member of the Analytical Development team on a variety of projects, primarily as a laboratory scientist. She has gained valuable experience in pharmaceutical product development and laboratory operations. Her work has been central to advancing our R&D portfolio. She has acquired foundational knowledge in analytical testing, drug release, separation sciences and product quality.

In the past we have had to advertise nationally for suitable candidates and not only does this take more time and cost, SciTech gives us the opportunity to evaluate the intern's capability and potential before offering them a position. For a local company this is essential for us to grow. SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Kalani competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which is important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can mentor, train and develop them to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.



I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program provides critical hands-on learning for STEM students and facilitates economic growth for Minnesota in Life Sciences and Biotechnology.

Kind Regards,

**Yogesh Dandiker**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Xenamed Corporation**

Representative Mohamud Noor  
379 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Date

RE: Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business  
Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. I've hired two students this semester through SciTech and it has made a big difference in my business and improved our developer base.

The interns have just started, but are already learning a lot. SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay these interns competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

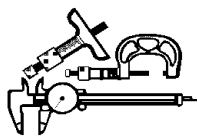
Kind Regards,

Judd Grutman  
Founder & CEO  
Vonzella, Inc.

hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

Marina Brockway, PhD  
Chief Technology Officer  
VivaQuant



# **WINEGAR INC.**

1209 South State Street Waseca, MN 56093 507-835-3495 FAX 507-835-1718

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February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**RE:** Support for the SciTech Internship Program

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the House Committee on Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy,

I am writing in strong support of the SciTech Internship Program. We hired one student last year through SciTech and it has made a positive impact on our business. The SciTech job board gave us access to a variety of students across the state with unique skill sets and fresh ideas.

Our last intern, Jaime Herrera, worked as a member of the Engineering team on a variety of projects. Jaime had three major projects that he worked on.

- Convert files from an old Vellum software into SolidWorks
- He also performed time trials on a new product to decrease cycle time and increase profit
- Jaime also assisted on new part approvals for a brand new customer to Winegar

SciTech's matching funds not only allowed our company to pay Jaime competitively, but also helped our recruiting process which was important for us as a smaller company. We enjoy how the SciTech program helps us attract local students while they are still in school so we can show them how they are able to create value within companies that are growing right here in Minnesota.

I appreciate the state's past support of the SciTech program and would recommend its continued support. This program has positively impacted both our company and our local economy while providing hands-on learning for STEM students.

Kind Regards,

**Craig Ryan**  
**Vice President**  
**Winegar, Inc.**