

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

My interest in Science dates back to my schooling years when I spent a lot of time reading and discussing about phenomena both in my immediate neighbourhood as well as those far away from me and even extending to the galaxy. Even though the contribution of my school was not significant in this regard, it was my parents who helped me not only retain this interest but also in cultivating it further. It was this background which made me decide to pursue higher education in science. At the same time and from a vocational point of view, I joined this programme of M. Sc. Ed at the Regional Institute of Education, Mysore, India. I am in my 5th year of six years integrated Master's in Science Education [M.Sc.Ed] (Physics) at Regional Institute of Education, NCERT, Mysore, India. I seek to be a candidate for the summer internship with the Connected Learning Initiative Group. Having come to know about your group which is known for working towards ensuring quality in teaching, equal access to education to every child and promoting it through different techniques, I have evinced keen interest in gaining experience as an intern. I think that with my background and interest in creative teaching, I am a good fit in the activities of the team.

Throughout my collegiate education, I have reflected on subjects such as science education and pedagogy of physics. My explorations with constructivism made me realize that students understand better by doing rather than listening. But again individual capabilities differ, so why not to blend creativity with science (we call it as STEAM but I say arting science). In my view creativity would foster learning and reduce dropout of certain students. With this motive, I got an opportunity as an intern at Vesto Education Solutions and at Azim Premji University, where I had to present simple concepts of science through robotics. My internship included reading reports and papers, analyzing misconceptions of students, interviewing students from both governmental school and alternative school. From my course work I have developed certain skills like analytical thinking, researching and writing skills which are necessary to a professional pursuit. In addition I am aware of the long hours of hard work that is required for the role.

Till now, education has been property of few. It has always been focussed on the needs of the privileged one. The present day society has been divided into so many caste and group that it has divided education even. We can see in a classroom, some students don't talk to some students as they are from minority class. It may happen that minorities, Schedule caste and tribes might have reservation in different fields but it doesn't benefit all of them. And in this minority I do include women also. There are so many villages in our country, where people lack education. Some kids are there who are really talented but they are not getting the opportunity. It is sad that students are giving upon science too.

It is my belief in science education as a tool for national development and my democratic and social convictions that might have made me take interest in the area of science education. I am interested in exploring the way children learn science in a cross-cultural and normative framework. I do not find many studies conducted in India with such a framework even though there are many studies on improving achievement in science.

I am eager to learn more from the professionals at CLI Centre. I believe that I would gain further insights in bringing a change in the present teaching scenario and make it more comfortable for the students in my country. I hope that you will afford me the opportunity to become an intern at your Institution.