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Statement of Educational Philosophy

“To whom much is given, much is required.” From the streets of the Bronx, New York, and Newark, New Jersey, to the Glass Pavilion of Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, my personal and professional journey has provided me with incredible knowledge, experience, and perspective. I have traveled far, interacted with some of the most amazing individuals, and impacted the lives of outstanding inner city youth similar to myself. A Biology major at Rutgers University, I did not picture myself as a Teach for America corps member teaching in the very district in which I was a student. As a Biology teacher in my native district, I could not fathom a more rewarding and powerful experience as Educational Advisor with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. I now stand on the cusp of a new horizon, completing the prologue for my next stage of professional achievement by providing pre-college advising for the students in my charge while simultaneously furthering my own education and obtaining my master’s degree from the Hopkins School of Education this May.

In light of the aforementioned events, I am seeking opportunities for professional development on the next level of my career arch. Having been in higher education for the last 5 years as a university employee that works with various college admissions and high school guidance offices, I am looking to identify and participate in additional opportunities in educational leadership. I am particularly interested in opportunities in college access to impact lives of the next generation of young adults. A product of the Educational Opportunity Fund at Rutgers the State University of New Jersey, I have seen firsthand the impact of direct guidance and leadership on undergraduate students. At Johns Hopkins University as an active participant in the Black Faculty and Staff Association, I chair the Homewood Caucus and serve on its Executive Board. Mentoring students that have come through our program from high school and are currently navigating their college careers has been a benefit of my job and professional association. I enjoy the scholarly environment and progressive culture present in college preparatory high schools.

Throughout the various experiences of my career, the most rewarding one so far has come from my current position at Johns Hopkins University. As previously stated, this is a natural transition point in my professional and personal story with my current and largest cohort of students graduating high school and attaining my master’s degree this May. Within my career in k-12 education I have sought out experiences as educator, debate coach, and teacher leader. Within my career in higher education I have sought out experiences as conference presenter, academic and admission counselor, and staff leader. I have been given much over the course of my career, and now seek to give back by leading on the administrative level in college access.