



Lilli is a sophomore in biomedical engineering at the University of Michigan. She chose to pursue engineering because she is really good at working with her hands and likes the problem-solving. Particularly, biomedical engineering compared to all the other engineering disciplines interested her the most because it works in the healthcare field, and she can contribute the most to society in a beneficial way through this major. However, this is only her initial impression

on the field as she does not have any real exposure to the biomedical engineering field.

During her freshman year, she only took large pre-requisites courses. She didn't attend career fair because it seemed really intimidating. In her opinion, she thought that the fair was more for upperclassmen because she couldn't compete with them in terms of experiences and coursework for jobs and internships. At the same time, she also didn't attend many events specific to the biomedical engineering department because she thought they weren't important and she could use the time doing something. It didn't help that she didn't have any friends (peers or upperclassmen) in biomedical engineering to attend these events with which is partly because she never met anybody in her dorms, classes, or extracurricular activities in her major.

When it came to classes, she never spent a lot of time thinking about or choosing them. The advisor filled out a four-year plan when she declared, and she has been using that to knock off courses that she needed to graduate. Personally, she enjoys hands-on classes because she likes working with her hands, and she had pleasant experiences with it during her high school education. However, after taking so many pre-requisites that used traditional lecture styles, she assumed that this is just the typical style of learning at the university setting. Teaching style is not usually a factor that she considers deeply when selecting a class.

Ultimately, Lilli decided to pursue biomedical engineering because it aligned greatly with her interests. However, she does not have a clear grasp on the future directions that she can go with this major. She knows that typically engineers pursue a job in industry, so she assumes that this is the natural direction that she will pursue as an upperclassman. There were many details about this trajectory that she didn't know that she had to work out (i.e. what type of job; what type of company; what kind of position; what domain or fields in BME). The people that she talked to about career-related topics are her friends, her advisor, and her parents. Neither her friends nor her parents know a lot of biomedical engineering as a profession.