What Drives Me?

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Engineering has always been explained to me as creating something, as problem solving. As far as I can remember, i've always enjoyed activities that involve these. I enjoy projects, I enjoy logic puzzles and finding new and weird ways to do things. Originally I wanted to be a veterinarian, that is up until then a few years ago when I started to take extracurriculars in STEM. These included camps on processing and animation, eventually evolving into my school's robotics team. I ended up competing on my high school's FIRST robotics team for four years, and I couldn't be happier that I did. It taught me a lot of what it was to be like to be an engineer. The robots didn't come in premade kits, they gave only the chassis and then we had to figure out the rest. I found that engineering is a lot of brainstorming, a lot of trial and error. That club ended up teaching me a lot, such as for starters, the basics of how to use power tools. It showed me that not all engineering is rocket science, it's simply finding a problem and working it out. It helped teach me how to work with a team. I realized that working with a team can be extremely helpful, both with generating more ideas as well as making the process a lot more amusing. In school I also started to gravitate more towards STEM fields as well. I was able to excel in and genuinely enjoy my classes. In fact, my favorite class I've taken would have to be AP chemistry.

Eventually, I realized that this is what I wanted to do with my life, that I wanted to become an engineer. When I started looking around at what I could do as an engineer, I only got more excited for it all. I started to look into engineering involving topics such gene editing (CRISPR) and organ replacement. I heard of a bike that was created for my cousin, who was born without half of his brain. The bike was meant to stimulate nerves on the half of his body that he tends to try to avoid, which again is fascinating. As for myself, I have been competitively dancing for my entire life, since I was five to be exact. Every year my studio would help with a charity called Art for Heart, which involved raising money for Shriners hospital. Every year we would get to see pictures and slide shows of the kids who lived there, as well as meet a few of the patients who came to watch the show. I know that there is a lot of valuable work to be done in the field of biomedical engineering, research that could completely change lives. This is why I want to go to University of Utah and get a degree in biomedical engineering. I want to build and create while at the same time helping those around me who could really need it.