

Mike Gilroy
Chairman NWSA Scholarship Committee
743 Dry Creek Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91914

Dear Mike Gilroy,

I would like to thank you and the NWSA Scholarship Committee for the Naval Weather Service Association AMS Senior Scholarship. The amount given in this scholarship is extremely generous and a tremendous help to my family's financial situation, especially during the time of a pandemic. While I am looking forward to getting to meet you and potentially other NWSA members at the AMS conference in January, the least I can do is to give you a brief introduction.

I am an immigrant of this country and moved to Princeton, New Jersey from Hong Kong when I was five years. Since kindergarten, I've always had a passion for reading maps for long periods of time. Sometime between fourth and fifth grade, I became interested in the weather by watching *Storm Stories* on The Weather Channel.

After my senior year of high school, I traveled to Germany for a year through a scholarship program provided by the Goethe-Institut and lived with a host family while attending a German secondary school, giving me conversational skills in German. Following my year abroad, I returned to the United States and attended Penn State, in pursue of a B.S in meteorology and atmospheric science.

My current career path is heading towards academia, since it would allow me to be in both a teaching role, while giving me the opportunity to study the weather. My primary research interest is in tropical cyclones, more specifically, processes such as extratropical transitions and eyewall replacement cycles. On the contrary, as an avid ski racer, I also love snow, and have done research with the National Weather Service to study the utility of radar with respect to range in detecting snow squalls.

Currently, I am interning in an REU at Colorado State University and am working to develop a better detection algorithm for eyewall replacement cycles. While the research is very exciting, the biking in Colorado has been an amazing experience. In addition to biking, I also love driving my manual transmission, hiking, and good food.

Once again, thank you so much for the AMS scholarship. It means a lot both financially and also as a vote of confidence for the work I am doing, which I hope could be meaningful contributions to the meteorology community. I am looking forward to meeting you all in January.

Best regards,

Alvin Cheung