Kenny Chan
Fast Track Member, Class of 2020

Hi, my name is Kenny Chan and I am currently a first year electrical engineering student under the UCLA Fast Track program. I came from Hacienda Heights, CA with a strong background in Computer Science. I chose electrical engineering because of my strong passion for the development of technology. Things like 3D printers, VR, self driving cars, and more are all forms of technology that can make huge improvements and impacts on society. Along with that, EE just came off as something that I thought was really cool. No shame in that.

Back in high school, I didn't have many opportunities to explore the hardware side of electrical engineering. Instead, I learned how to code in order to get a taste of the software side. One of my earliest coding experience involves developing data processing codes as a research intern under USC. Written in C++, they took input data and returned processed data, such as the standard deviation, mean, median, chi squared, etc. After developing the codes, I worked in a lab that used Raman Spectroscopy to measure the change in photoluminescence of MoS_2 as the number of atomic layers increased. The goal of the research was to determine whether ultrathin MoS_2 could be incorporated into the development of memristors.

Entering college, I found a lot more ways ways to dive deeper into both coding and hardware. Currently, I have a personal website that I use to share information about myself and the different projects that I'm working on. It uses HTML, CSS, jQuery javascript, and bootstrap. On the hardware side, I am working with several other Fast Track students on an IoT project that incorporates indoor localization and machine learning in order to measure and predict the human population density in different areas of a building at different times of day. Along with that, I joined the UCLA IEEE student branch under the OPS program. In OPS, we learn and experiment with some of the basic concepts in circuitry, such as soldering, breadboarding, reading schematics, etc.

At the moment, I plan to find more experience with coding, either through internships, jobs, research, etc. While that is happening, I plan to continue learning more about hardware through projects and experience. Eventually, I'll be able to transition from a coding focus to one that is more hardware centered.