

Michael Smee

Where am I from?

I am from San Diego, California and attended Torrey Pines High School. I have one brother who is currently a senior there. In high school I played Tuba in the Symphony, trombone in the Jazz band, and was on the Varsity Swim Team focused on the 200m butterfly and 500m freestyle.

What do I do in my free time?

Some fun facts about me are that I love to ski in Mammoth, swim, surf, rock climb and workout at B-Fit. I also enjoyed the IEEE Micromouse project where I had the ability to work on both practical skills like soldering and put my coding to use with the robots pathfinding abilities.



Why Electrical and Computer Engineering?

My curiosity for ECE started when I was in 6th grade after joining my neighbor's First Lego Robotics team. Being able to engineer and code the robot to solve different challenges really fascinated me. I later joined the Electrical team of my high school's Robotics club. After quite a few math and sciences classes and summer research at UCSD in photonics working on a cyber key before my senior year, I was quite sure I wanted to study ECE in college and build new things that will change the future.

Why UCLA?

I picked UCLA because I wanted to be part of a great engineering program at a school that was also very strong beyond engineering into languages, economics, history and more. After meeting an amazing professor who taught me Greek history my first semester here, I signed up for the follow-on course where we toured Greece seeing the actual sights as a study abroad program this past summer. It's great being surrounded by so many other motivated and interesting UCLA students.

What are my career interests?

I don't have a specific subfield of ECE picked yet, but I do know that I want to apply the great foundational knowledge I'm learning at UCLA to help solve real-world problems. I put my ECE to practice interning at Extreme Waves last summer evaluating the performance of RF Integrated Circuit boards. With so many topics from Quantum Computing to AI changing quickly, choosing where to specialize will be a fun decision ahead!