



Hoang-Anh Vu

Product Development Fellow

Product development shop

“I have always liked math and the sciences, but what really differentiates “like” into “love” is their implications on human well-being. Bioengineers are integrators, who in my opinion, understand the sciences but also the human needs that can be satisfied by these sciences. That is what draws me to the field of Bioengineering.”

Hoang-Anh is a Bioengineering major with minors in Engineering Design and Global Health Technologies at Rice University, graduating in May 2021.

At 14 Hoang-Anh moved from Vietnam to Singapore without his family to study and being such a distance from home made him appreciate the influence and efforts of his parents, both of whom supported themselves through medical school and built careers as doctors while making sure he and his brother were taken care of.

While his professional goals for the future are evolving with his experiences, Hoang-Anh knows he wants to be immersed in a mission greater than himself, facilitating decision making as an expert in his field that will impact the well-being of others. He is interested in learning about the complex interplay between different stakeholders that drive global health innovations to tackle problems affecting the most vulnerable groups and is particularly curious about the development of those innovations from identifying needs all the way to realizing their impacts.

Spending three semesters as part of a team developing a low-cost robust oxygen analyzer for use by technicians in low-resource hospitals to make sure essential medical equipment such as oxygen concentrators could be maintained and repaired ignited Hoang-Anh’s interest in global health and prepared him to become a product development fellow at PATH.

The great challenge Hoang-Anh sees facing his generation is addressing the acceleration of gaps -- such as income, health and skills gaps – that are a result of rapid changes in technology. He feels that people who are already privileged will find themselves benefiting from technology development, while people behind the gap will find themselves disproportionately shouldering the negative impacts while having not as much to gain.

Hoang-Anh’s personal motto “Enjoy while you can and endure when you must” was printed on his middle school triathlon race shirt and is still one he believes. Some of the things he enjoys are playing fingerstyle guitar and doing “one crazy thing a year” which have to date been travel adventures.