How have you acted as an agent of change to inspire and influence your peers? Please detail a specific example.

I was opportuned to be a United Nations Millennium Fellow in the Class of 2021. During the semester-long program, fellows were required to advocate for any Sustainable Development Goal of their choice. Delighted by the opportunity, I decided to use the third Sustainable Development Goal (Good Health and Well-Being) as a tool to act as an agent of change to inspire and influence my peers. I was able to make strides towards eliminating the shame, stigma and discrimination against persons with mental illnesses in my immediate society.

I had noticed that while a handful of my peers viewed mentally ill individuals as violent, many distance themselves from the mentally ill and even more people associate mental illness with lack of self-discipline. In all, there is hardly a member of the society who does not hold negative views about mental illness which as further complication makes some mentally ill persons turn against themselves and lose confidence.

Through the initiative I established, I was able to help shape my immediate community into a better place and educate a lot of people on mental health whilst abstracting the wrong socio-cultural related beliefs on the cause of mental illnesses.

How would you take a technical concept and teach it to a friend or peer that has never heard of it?

The most interesting thing about tech as a concept for me is how relatable it can be even to a layman. If I were to teach a technical concept to a peer who has never heard of it, my sole goal would be to make the peer in question see the beauty (i.e.

real-life application) of the concept. For instance, machine learning models are much easier to understand when thought of in terms of 'why you see exciting basketball videos on your YouTube feed after watching a few basketball videos'. Most technical concepts are often used in our everyday life and the importance of having more and more people know about technology cannot be overemphasized.

If you were hosting a technical event, what steps would you take to increase awareness about your event and attract the targeted audience?

In the 21st century, the internet is everything. It is possible to reach people halfway across the world through the social media. As such, in hosting a technical event, I would be looking at harnessing the internet and its reach to increase awareness about the event.

First of all, I would look to create content to promote the event. Then, I would create a unique event page if one does not exist. Furthermore, I would be looking to promote events on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram and share the event on Snapchat. Thereafter, I would create an email list which would cover the major event details whilst showing the attendees what they tend to gain from coming to the event and being brief, personal, and to the point.

Link to YouTube Video aspect of Application here.

Note: It is my understanding that since my application was written in December 2021, the application essay questions have changed over time. I am of the opinion that although these set of questions are different, the underlying idea the team at Microsoft Learn are trying to seek remains the same.

Here are the new set of questions:

Guide

We are looking for students who are driven to guide their peers in learning technical skills. Tell us about one specific technical skill you have learned, and how you were guided to learning it. How would you use that experience to be a better Student Ambassador?

Welcome

We are looking for students who can provide an inclusive, accessible, and authentic environment to learn. Tell us about a specific time you welcomed a new person into one of your communities. How would you use that experience to be a better Student Ambassador?

Connect

We are looking for students who have strong community ties and want to connect their communities to their peers. Tell us about a specific event you have planned that connected diverse audiences together. How would you use that experience to be a better Student Ambassador?