

## Growth as a Professional

Growing up, I developed the notion that every day is a special gift and it is our responsibility to fully utilize the gift presented to us by filling each day with purposeful work, and for me, the most purposeful work I can think of is being the voice of students when they cannot speak, and their advocate when they do not have one. This has been by desire from when I was 10 years old. I enjoyed helping kids younger than me and motivating them to be great, and it yielded results. Building my knowledge as an educator and a coach is one way I can take the next step in helping my students and athletes reach their full potential. The summation of my personal and professional experience along with my passion for physical activity and sports has led me to this threshold hence, my application to the Department of Education at Michigan State University Online Graduate Program, with a concentration on P-12 School and Postsecondary Leadership and Sports Leadership and Coaching.

Prior to this time, I have amassed up to 5 years of professional experience as an educator and a track coach, and I understand the invaluable role of my profession in the lives of my students. From rekindling their hopes at the darkest hour, to increasing their self esteem, knowledge and capabilities, I enjoy the benefit of working closely with my students, understanding their needs and wants, and growing off of it, and this makes my master's degree concentration on P-12 School and Postsecondary Leadership and Sports Leadership and Coaching the best fit for me. Furthermore, as an assistant coach I have won 2 state titles consecutively, and as head coach, I have been opportune to train girls who have gone to major universities for their track programs; and I am confident that this program will help me achieve my ultimate goal of reaching out to all students and not just the students in my classroom.

My decision to join this online master's degree program was fuelled by its unique teaching methods that make use of current technologies and most especially, its use of the internet to give lectures to its students without compromising on the quality of its curriculum, and also building a direct line of communication between students and faculties. I am always on the go and moving so this online learning will help me achieve the next step of my career without losing time with my family and my profession.

Conclusively, Hellen Keller once said: "life is an exciting business, and most exciting when it is lived for others". I am currently seeking a master's degree program that will give me a platform to unify my personal and professional goals into a single, self-empowering career that will help me be of immense impact to students, my coworkers and my community. My goal during this degree program that it will help me evolve into an excellent administrator, teacher and coach. Also, earning this degree will help achieve my goals of being more marketability in the field of education and a pay raise. Let's face it everyone likes more money. As of right now my goals have not changed and I know I have successfully reach my goals thus far. After graduation this spring I know my goals will be achieved when I successfully receive my new job and increase in pay.

