STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To,
The Visa Officer,
Australian High Commission,
New Delhi, India

Education Provider: Federation University, IIBIT
Course: Bachelor of Information Technology

PROLOGUE

The world is reliant on Information Technology and I a student spellbound with technology, would like to pursue a promising career in the same field. This statement of purpose is about the same resolution and illustrates my personal information, inspirations, and my subsequent plans after the attainment of an international degree.

ABOUT MYSELF

I am very pleased to introduce myself as **Aakash Shrestha**, holding the Nepalese Passport of 53672189, a permanent resident of Kamaldanda, 04 Hetauda, Makawanpur, Nepal, and born on 9th December 2003.

I am an enthusiastic, hardworking, and competent Nepali student willing to pursue a **Bachelor of Information Technology** at **Federation University IIBIT Sydney, Australia.**

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND AND FAMILY BACKGROUND

To begin with my academic background, I have passed my Secondary Education Examination (SEE) grade 10 from Satyam Xavier's English School with a GPA of 3.4 in the year 2019. Then, I choose to study Science faculty as my major for my high school which I completed at Hetauda School of Management Secondary School in 2021 with a 3.29 GPA. Realizing the requirements of IELTS for abroad study, I appeared for the IELTS exam on 11th February 2022 and scored an overall score of 6 (Listening 6.5, Reading 6.5, Writing 5.5, and Speaking 6.0).

I have a loving and supporting family comprising of 5 members; my father Mr. Birju Nath Shrestha, my sister Ms. Bandana Shrestha, and my elder brothers Mr. Bikal Shrestha, Mr. Bibas Shrestha, and me. Sadly, my mother Mrs. Brinda Devi Shrestha succumbed to death recently due to natural causes. Her presence, love, and care will always be missed in our family. After my mother's untimely demise, everything fell upon my sister's shoulders and she has been taking care of the whole house and finances since then.

My family has always been bounded with love and respect and they will be assisting me financially throughout my period of education in Australia. They were the ones who motivated me to pursue Information Technology as my career path and encouraged me to choose abroad study over education in Nepal.

WORK EXPERIENCE

I have always believed in practical exposure to real-world scenarios over theoretical accumulation of knowledge. So, immediately upon the completion of my high school, I was employed as a full-time employee as a front desk officer at Kantipur Cineplex from 18th July 2021 to 28th February 2022. Kantipur Cineplex is a company under Kantipur media (https://www.kantipurtv.com/); one of the most powerful media companies in Nepal. It is committed to providing a quality movie experience in the comfort of home.

My responsibilities included
- operating systems and ensuring software functionality
- analyzing user requirements
- attending to client requirements
- maintaining logistics
- email management
- digital marketing

Most of my duties required the use of computers and software. So, I got abundant proficiency in the operation of computer hardware and software for the fulfillment of office functions. I had a very keen interest in computers and their application in the modern setup. So, to further continue my studies in my field of interest, I resigned from my job in February 2022 and focused solely on my abroad study process.

I invested my time and efforts after my resignation for researching universities for my higher studies. So, to gain further expertise in technology, I decided to study Bachelor of Information Technology in Australia.

WHY NOT MY HOME COUNTRY NEPAL?

I come from a small and developing nation, Nepal which is in a progressive stage of development in the sector of technology and there still are lots of zones for improvement.

We have a limited curriculum and education providers but high competition. I made some research about the Bachelor's program in Information Technology that included subjects like Bsc. Computer Science and Information Technology, Bachelor of Information Technology, Bachelor of Information Management, and Bachelor of Computer Applications. These courses are widely available in the colleges like

- Oxford College of Engineering and Management (https://www.oxfordcollege.edu.np/)
- United Technology (www.unitedtechnicalcollege.edu.np),
- Indreni College (www.indrenicollege.edu.np)
- Lumbini ICT College (lict.edu.np),
- KIST College (kist.edu.np/program/ bit),
- Amrit Science Campus (https://amritcampus.edu.np),
- NCCS College (https://www.nccs.edu.np),
- St. Xavier College (https://sxc.edu.np), etc.

In all of these above-mentioned institutions, the course duration is of 4 years (8 semesters) and the college tuition fees are in the range of NRs. 800,000-1,000,000 depending upon the college and university affiliation.

Educational providers in Nepal have limited tools and resources for practical knowledge. Moreover, what I realized is that the Nepalese study is based on the theoretical curriculum rather than focusing on its practical implications. Lack of study materials, resources, and very limited specialization subjects available for undergraduate study and research is leading to limited skilled manpower in this fierce global competition.

The main factor I felt bothered with was the time duration of four years for a Bachelor of Information Technology which can be completed in foreign universities within three years. Besides the time frame, seat unavailability for students willing to study is also a majorproblem. Also, the teaching-learning system in Nepal is still as same as it was a decade ago. For a subject like IT which needs to continuously upgrade with the recent advancements, our country uses the same old curriculum to date. Education is mostly theoretical and students are only confined to books.

The practical knowledge and skills, required for an upcoming professional career, are barely taught in Nepal. Students have extremely little exposure, with few options for internships and industry-related skills. Information and Technology require high practical knowledge as well as exposure and studying abroad will give me the chance to explore them.

WHY AUSTRALIA OVER OTHER PRESTIGIOUS EDUCATION PROVIDERS?

For me, the decision of studying abroad came with immense dilemma and confusion. I had to make a very tough decision of choosing one specific country among the esteemed education providers like the United States of America (USA), the United Kingdom(UK), Canada, and some European nations.

But then I underwent rigorous research regarding the study destination for Information Technology and as a result, I found Australia as the best option. I research the educational opportunities and learning environment of the individual country through websites like

- https://www.topuniversities.com/
- https://www.bachelorsportal.com/
- https://www.bachelorstudies.com/
- www.border.gov.au/
- www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/
- https://studyabroad.shiksha.com/

I choose Australia as my educational destination due to the following reasons:

1. **Canada:** The entry requirement and overall application process are very lengthy in Canada. It also has very less intakes per year, January and September, withmajor courses being limited mostly in September. Their

weather condition is extreme cold with an average temperature of -19.7 degrees centigrade whereas the climate of Australia is almost the same as in Nepal.

The University of Toronto (https://www.utoronto.ca/) offers **BSc Honors in Information Security** for tuition fees of AUD 63, 516 for a year. Similarly, the **University of Waterloo** (https://uwaterloo.ca/) also offered **Bachelor in Information Technology Management (BITM)** with a tuition fee of AUD 49, 687 for a single year. Both of the courses had a time duration of 4 years and were extremely expensive in terms of university fees.

2. **USA:** Although America has over 5,300 colleges for students to choose their subject of interest, the tuition fees are very expensive. The currency exchange rate is also higher (1 NRs= 122.27) which automatically increases overall the living expenses.

   Wichita State University (https://www.wichita.edu/) delivers the program **Bachelor of Business in IT and Management** for 4 years. The annual tuition fee is AUD 46, 505. Similar to Canada, both the course duration and tuition fees both were higher than that of Australia.

3. **UK:** The country is very expensive in terms of living expenses and tuition fees. Moreover, the currency exchange rate is high (1 pound sterling= NRs. 153.11) which increases the total cost exponentially. The climate is also dramatic andthe program curriculum did not encourage me to study the program.

   Universities like the **University of Manchester** (https://www.manchester.ac.uk/) and **Loughborough University** (https://www.lborolondon.ac.uk/) provided the course of **Bachelor in Information Technology Management for Business.** Both universities had an IELTS requirement of 6.5, which I was unable to fulfill.

4. The countries like Germany, France, and Japan give priority to their native language. Learning a new language will consume my time and effort and I do not see any point in learning a new language as I ultimately wish to return to my nation.

Australia features 36 universities in the recently released [QS World University Rankings 2021](https://www.topuniversities.com/) (https://www.topuniversities.com/). It has some of the best colleges and universities in the world with the highest standards of academic distinction, expert faculties, and diverse facilities. Furthermore, the Australian Government has designed many policies and regulations to ensure the safety and quality of education for international students. They are as follows:

- **Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF**) ensures that qualification titles across the country are consistent and represent the same high standard of education.
- **Tuition Protection Scheme (TPS)** under the **Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS)** Act provides safety for tuition fees, as it is a placement and refund service for international students.
- **CRICOS (Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students)** to ensure the same standard of education.
- **Overseas Students Health Cover (OSHC)** which will cover any unexpected sickness or emergency care that might occur in the future.

The practical based teaching approach of Australia also really fascinated me. These practical skills will be of utmost importance when I am to enter the competitive professional job market upon the completion of my education. Similarly, the multicultural environment created in the college due to students from varied nations like Nepal, China, Brazil, India, Thailand, etc., will provide me a golden opportunity to learn about different cultures. Australia also has a very affordable living expenses despite high-quality living standards. Lastly, accomplishing a world-class Australian education will add great value to my academic profile. Hence, I choose to study in Australia after evaluating all the above-mentioned factors.

WHY FEDERATION UNIVERSITY, IIBIT?

After finalizing Australia as my study destination, I was perplexed about choosing a university from a pool of universities providing the same course in Australia. I was looking for a reasonable course and University which would assist me through my journey of obtaining a world-class degree in IT and after rigorous research, I found Federation University to be the best choice. Some of the other education providers within Australia that were a part of my research are as follows:

- **Kent Institute** (https://kent.edu.au/bachelor-of-information-technology/) offers the course of BIT at a total cost of AUD 52,800. Despite the location availability of Sydney, Kent was not preferable due to the student reviews I saw on the various review sites. There were cases of student dissatisfaction and lack of proper instruction. After going through such reviews, I did not find it appropriate to choose the Kent Institute for my further studies.

- **King's Own Institute** also offered a program of Bachelor of Information Technology (https://koi.edu.au/courses/undergraduate-courses/bachelor-of-information-technology/) at AUD 43,500 for the entire course which is quite expensive compared to Federation university where I got a scholarship of 25% for studying the same course.

- **Wentworth Institute of Higher Education (WIN)** (http://www.win.edu.au) offered the same course for the tuition fee of AUD 8,800 per semester which is quite affordable compared to other institutions. But the course units were not satisfactory so, despite the affordable fees, I did not choose it.

- **Federation University, IIBIT** (https://federation.edu.au/) offered BIT for AUD 24,700 per year. I was also offered a scholarship of 25% which exempted AUD 6,175 for all of my annual fees, making my education much more affordable. The course units and location are also of my preference. So, I choose this university for higher studies.

The International Institute of Business and Information Technology (IIBIT), located in Sydney and Adelaide is one of Australia's progressive educational institutions providing quality education. IIBIT is a Registered Training Organization (RTO) with a focus on vocational education and training. IIBIT and Federation University Australia, are working together to provide a high-quality educational experience and recognized educational qualifications at an undergraduate and post in the fields of Information Technology, Information Systems, Business Management, Commerce, and Accounting. IIBIT provides an excellent and supportive learning environment. The academic staff is well qualified and offers high-quality graduate-level teaching. IIBIT is very proud of its association with Federation University Australia, one of Australia's most

progressive tertiary institutions. Together Federation University Australia (FedUni) and IIBIT are helping to engineer our future.

Hence, due to the legacy of educational excellence, affordable   fees, desired course units, and generous scholarships, I finalized Federation University as my educational partner.

WHY SYDNEY OVER OTHER CITIES?

Sydney is ranked as the world's 4th safest city according to the safe city index of 2022 (https://theflatbkny.com/). Sydney is recommended by 88% of international students as the best educational destination which has shown its popularity among international students. Therefore, more than 50,000 international students come each year for their studies. Not to mention the fact that it is the center of World-class educational institutions (including Macquarie University, the University of New South Wales, the University of Sydney, the University of Technology Sydney, and Western Sydney University).

These facts have incited me more to choose Sydney for my better education. I will surely feel blessed to get an international high-quality education for my better education. I will surely feel blessed to get international high-quality education from Sydney.

WHY BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (BIT)?

I have completed my high school with the Science faculty. During my 1st year of high school (grade 11), I studied computer science which aroused my interest in me the course. Having studied computers in my high school, qualifies me for "Bachelors of Information Technology".

The field of IT has always captivated me. So, acquiring a bachelor's degree in IT will fulfill my dream of building a career in the field of IT. Upon completion of this course, I expect to gain expertise in the fields of coding (Java, Python, Ruby, etc.); cyber security; information management; web design and development; database administration, and website optimization. I also expect to be well equipped with all the knowledge and skills required to excel in the field of IT.

This degree is primarily focused on subjects such as software, databases, and networking. This degree is awarded for completing a program of study in the field of software development, software testing, software engineering, web design,

databases, programming, and computer networking and computer systems. BIT is an innovative program designed with input from major IT industry partners. As a graduate of this program, I will be provided with a balance between specific knowledge of particular development tools languages, operating systems, development environments and general lifelong learning skills, which will ensure that we can remain at the forefront of this vibrant and rapidly developing sector.

The particular course of BIT offered at FedUni comprises the following course units as per the university website (https://study.federation.edu.au/course/DCT5.NSM)

Year 1

1st semester (15 credit points for each subject)

- Communications and Technology
- Understanding Digital Revolution
- IT Problem solving
- Networking and Security

2nd semester (15 credit points for each subject)

- Big data and analytics
- Cloud and enterprise computing
- Mobile development fundamentals
- Game development fundamentals

Year 2

1st semester (15 credit points for each subject)

- Systems Modelling
- Web design
- Elective courses

2nd semester (15 credit points for each subject)

- Data Modeling
- IT Project Management techniques
- Elective Course

Year 3

1st semester (15 credit points for each subject)

- User experience
- Project 1
- Elective courses

2nd semester (15 credit points for each subject)

- IT Professional Engagement
- Professionalism and Entrepreneurship
- Project 2
- Elective courses

SOURCE OF MY FINANCIAL FUNDING

My family will be assisting me throughout my journey of pursuing a bachelor's degree in Australia. My father earns an annual income of NRs. 420,000 from house rent. Similarly, my brother Mr. Bikal Shrestha is employed as an accountant at Aambika Construction Pvt. Ltd and earns yearly income of NRs. 241,000 whereas my other brother Mr. Bibas Shrestha is employed at Berger Paints Nepal as an Officer-store where he receives an annual salary of NRs. 752, 496. In addition, my sister obtains an annual income of NRs. 414,000 from Sagarmatha Cineplex Pvt. Ltd where she is employed as an Administrative Officer. She also gains an annual income of NRs. 384,000 from house rent. We also have taken an educational loan of NRs. 4,500,000 from NMB Bank Limited.

Studying abroad comes at a huge financial cost and my family is conscious of this fact. We are confident that all of the above-mentioned income will be sufficient for fulfilling my financial obligations for three years.

CAREER PLAN UPON GRADUATION FROM FEDERATION UNIVERSITY

After the completion of my study, I am determined to return to my country and engage with reputed companies in the IT sector. My country Nepal is still new to the use oftechnology to create innovative solutions for developmental purposes. We still lack competent IT professionals in various companies and projects. So, I see the immense opportunity of my subject in my homeland where I can invest my knowledge and expertise in the upliftment of the IT sector of my nation.

I intend to apply for potential employment profiles of an IT security specialist, databaseanalyst, network services administrator, web designer, web developer, IT project administrator, programmer, and network support coordinator in various prestigious companies in Nepal such as

- Ncell (www.ncell.axiata.com),
- Subisu (http://subisu.net.np/),
- Vianet (http://www.vianet.com.np/),
- Smart Telecom (http://www.smarttel.com.np/),
- Cloud Tech (http://cloudtech.com.np/),
- Deer Walk(www.deerwalk.com/careers),
- Frisk Information Technology Pvt. Ltd (https://frisk.com.au/),
- Java SoftwareB.V (https://www.oracle.com/java/) ,
- F1 Soft (http://www.f1soft.com/), etc.

Through the international education, I will have obtained, I hope to invest my knowledge accumulated from Australia into different sectors of business, education, finance, and health of my country.

Nepal is slowly moving towards digitalization. The popularity of applications like E-Sewa and Khalti for e-payment, use of mobile banking, extensive reach of wi-fi post-COVID, and innovative online teaching-learning can be taken as prominent examples of Nepal embracing the use of technology. This rapid increase in technology use has widened the scope of my subject in various governmental and non-governmental organizations. The basic payment for a job of my qualification is around 17,881.00 NPR (minimum salary) to 76,511.00 NPR (highest average). With a handsome salary of that range, I can live a content decent life here in Nepal with my loving family.

Besides the alluring job prospects, my love and attachment towards my family and nation will also definitely be a motivating factor for my return. My family has sacrificed a lot for my happiness so, upon completion of my education, I desire to fulfill my obligations to them.

Furthermore, my father always feels desolated these days due to the untimely demise of my mother. So, I can never imagine leaving my father alone and I genuinely want to return to Nepal as soon as possible for my father. I also have to take care of my home and ancestral property in Nepal. I will undoubtedly return to my homeland and fulfill my obligations to my family and nation.

I have always been a motivated individual willing to make a significant

contribution to my country and I believe, an international degree will help me pave a path. Hence, I have a strong resolve to invest my expertise, time, effort, and energy in the advancement of technology in my homeland, Nepal.

UNDERSTANDING 500 VISA SUBCLASS

I understand the terms and conditions and my limits to the visa subclass 500 under the Simplified Student Visa Framework (SSVF) for all international students.

- I need to maintain 80% attendance.
- I need to clear 50% of subjects in each term.
- I cannot change the college/university for 6 months upon enrollment.
- I must have valid health insurance (OSHC) during my stay in Australia.
- I must notify the University/Department of Home Affairs if I change the address/contact details within 7 working days.
- I must have a confirmation of enrollment (COE) for all intended courses.
- I need to maintain payment of tuition fees by the census date of each term.

STUDY LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENT

The course location for the program of Bachelor of Information Technology is University Dr, Mount Helen VIC 3350, Sydney, Australia.

Since I do not have any friends or relatives in Australia, I plan to stay in a shared accommodation near the study location for easy arrival to the campus. I have looked into the sites such as www.student.com, amberstudent.com, and www.unilodge.com.au for search accommodation options.

From the website www.unilodge.com.au, I know that the accommodation ranges from a minimum of AUD 190 per week to AUD 350 per week.

CONCLUSION

I declare that I do not have any immigration history before this application. I also assure you that all particulars given above are true and correct in detail. So, I hope I will be provided the opportunity to attain the desired course in Australia.

I assure you I will complete my further studies without violating any rules and regulations of the Australian Government. Hence, I would like to assure you that my visit to Australia would be solely for study purposes. I would be grateful to you for your kind coordination and consideration for getting me an opportunity to obtain my degree from a renowned institution in Australia.

Thank you for your time and kind consideration.

Thanking You,

Aakash Shrestha

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