

Form Name:
Submission Time:

Citizens Commission
March 31, 2019 11:31 am

Name	Ankit Gupta
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Citizenship Affirmation	I am a U.S. Citizen
Residency Affirmation	I am a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Statement of Intent	I intend to comply with and advance the policy established by this Act.

Statement of Interest	<p>As a computer scientist, I deeply fear the the influence of money on elections and policy. Internet-based technologies are now central to politics, with advertisements on platforms like Facebook that can cheaply harness user data for voter targeting. Moreover, coordinated disinformation efforts, fueled by dark money, have proliferated on websites like Reddit and 4Chan, sowing doubt in our institutions. As such, the existence of entities that can trivially disguise their unlimited political contributions is a threat to our democracy, accelerating the consolidation of power in the elite and opening the door to foreign intervention in our elections. In light of this reality, I hope to contribute a technological perspective to this citizens commission. I received a BA and MS in Computer Science from Harvard, and now work as the Co-Founder and CTO of a Cambridge-based biotechnology company. I will use my background in building technology to help this commission study the tools available to undermine our electoral process and determine how best to regulate political contributions.</p> <p>Finally, given the seriousness of a constitutional amendment, I respect its nonpartisan nature. Both liberals and conservatives should fear masked corporate donors affecting political decisions, especially in a world where technology corporations own (and can sell) access to every detail of our personal lives. I am optimistic that this commission can pave a path to a stronger democracy.</p>
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Résumé or Summary of Qualifications Upload	https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3282862/71887710/490083426/71887710_ankitgupta_resume.pdf
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Political Party Affiliation, if any, over the previous five years	Democratic
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City or Town where you reside	CAMBRIDGE
Employment Status	Employed
Occupation	Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer
Employer	Reverie Labs

ANKIT GUPTA

EDUCATION

Harvard University, B.A./M.S. in Computer Science

Cambridge, MA

GPA: 3.94/4.0. Magna Cum Laude with Highest Honors. Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. May 2017

Coursework includes: Deep Learning (CS 287), Machine Learning (CS 181, CS 281), Distributed Comp. (CS 262), Prob. Algorithms (CS 223), Parallel Comp. (CS 205), Data Struct./Alg. (CS 124), Probability (Stat 110), Real Analysis (Math 25)

- Conducted **deep learning thesis research**. Studying transcription factor binding. Published/presented work at ICML.
- Spring 2017 & Spring 2016 Teaching Fellow for CS 181 (Machine Learning) - Taught section, wrote and graded problem sets, and held office hours. Taught four course-wide review sessions per semester.
- Fall 2016 Teaching Fellow for CS 182 (Artificial Intelligence) - Taught section, graded problem sets, and held office hours

Westview High School

Portland, OR

Class of 2013, ACT: 36, GPA: 4.0/4.0, Honors: National Merit Scholar, Intel International Science & Engineering Fair Finalist

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages

C++, C, Python, Java, Go, Javascript, OCaml, PHP, SQL, HTML, CSS, MATLAB

Tools

Mathematica, MATLAB, Vim, Emacs, L^AT_EX, Git, Microsoft Office Suite, Leap Motion

EXPERIENCE

Reverie Labs

Cambridge, MA

Co-Founder

Nov 2017 — Present

- Co-founder of Reverie Labs, a machine-learning driven pharmaceutical company
- Built significant infrastructure for distributed training and inference of machine learning models for drug discovery

Vicarious AI

San Francisco Bay Area, CA

Research Engineer (Deep Learning)

July 2017 — Nov 2017

- Worked as research engineer at 50-person ML/robotics company with \$130M+ in funding
- Designed and implemented large-scale deep learning models for visual perception

Harvard University School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Cambridge, MA

Researcher and Machine Learning Teaching Fellow

Jan 2016 — June 2017

- Short Paper “Dilated Convolutions for Modeling Long-Distance Genomic Dependencies” was accepted to the ICML 2017 Workshop on Computational Biology. Invited to give one of four contributed talks.
- Won Speaker Award and Best Poster Award at ICML 2017 workshop. Talk viewable at <https://youtu.be/HmCecphEvQg>.
- Taught sections, held office hours, and graded problem sets for Harvard’s undergraduate machine learning courses
- Led the problem-set team, requiring me to work with 2 other TFs and the course professor to write the course problem sets
- Held 8 course-wide exam review sessions across two semesters with 100+ students in attendance at each

Palantir

New York, NY

Software Engineering Intern

May 2016 — Aug 2016

- Worked as full-stack developer on Palantir’s core Spark-based data analysis and visualization product
- Designed back-end for new data transformation prototype product that is used in production across the company
- Engaged closely with team of engineers to actively develop a product used across dozens of high-impact deployments

Google

Mountain View, CA

Software Engineering Intern

May 2015 — August 2015

- Developed back-end software for Google’s content ad targeting teams, using internal parallel data processing tools
- Used text clustering machine learning models to diagnose the source of misclassifications of advertisements

ACTIVITIES

Harvard Tech in the World 2015, Harvard Developers for Development

Lima, Peru

Director

May 2014 — May 2015

- Managed a team of computer scientists abroad during January 2015 to develop tuberculosis control software in Lima, Peru
- Personally found partner organization to work with (Partners in Health) and secured thousands of dollars of funding

LANGUAGE SKILLS & INTERESTS

Languages

Hindi (Native Proficiency), Spanish (Intermediate Proficiency)

Interests

Tennis, Technology, Cars, Startups, TED Talks