Upon graduation in 2014, I was able to leave Penn State with one of the best Meteorology educations anyone could ask for and obtain my M.S. in Atmospheric and Oceanic Science from the University of Maryland. Today in my career, I am working to keep NOAA satellites operational. I was fortunate enough to gain immense knowledge through several leadership opportunities while at Penn State which have proved invaluable in my career.

The College of EMS gave me something even more valuable, in the creation of Irvin Hall and being able to live with likeminded individuals that have become some of my lifelong friends and colleagues. Irvin Hall created a space to foster leadership, community outreach, and social experiences to help instill the importance of work-life balance and I’m forever grateful that I got to not only serve as President for two terms, but to have lived there all four years of my Penn State Experience.

If you ask my parents, they will say they absolutely got their money’s worth out of my college education and I can attribute that to the College of EMS and their ability to work with students one-on-one, making education so personal compared to other Colleges at University Park. From my first day at TOTEMS to ultimately helping plan EMEX as a junior and senior, I feel so incredibly special to have met so many individuals (both faculty/students) that have helped shaped my meteorology journey and I would be honored to continue to do so as a member of the GEMS Board. Penn State has given me so many mentors in the field that I’m able to call upon myself for career and life advice, and being able to do that for others is a great thing.