



23425 SE Black Nugget Rd #B304
Issaquah, WA 98029

**Program Officer
Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Program
National Science Foundation**

Dear NSF Program Officer,

I have read the *Computer Science Access and Opportunity Initiative (CSAOI)* proposal from Kelvin Sung for the NSF S-STEM program regarding recruiting and engaging Game-Themed Computer Science (GTCS) scholars in Computer Science discipline.

I graduated from Computing and Software Systems Program (CSS) at the University of Washington Bothell (UWB) in 2011. The CSS program provided a concrete technical preparation for me to secure my job with Microsoft where I currently work as a Software Engineer. Being a professional in the field, I appreciate firsthand how a steady career in the high technology industry can greatly contribute to the society and at the same time provide a comfortable and fulfilling life style.

I am excited by Professor Sung's CSAOI proposal and I am committed to support this project serving as an industry mentor. In my mentorship role, I will:

- Meet with a GTCS scholar once or twice each year to learn about the student, to share with the student my personal and professional experience at CSS and at my current job.
- Participate as a panelist at CSS answering students' questions regarding my job, career, and experience as a CS major student.
- Work with the HR department to explore internship opportunities for the GTCS scholars.

Sincerely,

Dmitry Ryzhkov