SLO IV: Professionalism

*Students will engage in professional behavior appropriate to the discipline in professional context.*

Throughout my time at California State University, Chico I have had many opportunities to expand my knowledge on what it means to be a professional and how to act in a professional manner. My experiences have helped me to be able to use these skills I have gained in other aspects of my life. I have learned how to act professionally in the classroom in many different ways such as remaining respectful and quiet during a presentation. By learning how to engage in professional behaviors and write professionally, I have gained the opportunity to continue my education after graduation and continue to expand my knowledge of my future career.

Through my education and life experiences I have learned a great deal about what it means to be a professional. My many different classes and internships have shown me that engaging in professional behavior differs from place to place and depends on the situation. I have learned that being professional while interning in a toddler classroom is completely different from being professional while in a classroom lecture. I have learned about professionalism from not only my experiences, but also from my teachers. I have grown as a professional and will continue to grow when I leave California State University, Chico as I continue on to graduate school.

I would like to do better in engaging in professional behaviors by continuing these behaviors in non-professional settings. I have gained the knowledge of how to be professional in a professional setting and when completing assignments, but I would like to continue to work on my professional behavior when I am no longer in these situations. I also would like to do better by continuing to practice and have opportunities where I can use the professional behaviors I have learned.

As a life-long learner, I am continuing my education after graduation and this will help me to continue working on my professional writing, as well as engage in professional behaviors. I will have the opportunity to learn from the people I interact with as well as participate in internships. I am always looking for opportunities to act professional and I will continue to work on engaging in a professional manner for the rest of my life.

The best of what I have achieved in the area of engaging in professional behaviors is being accepted to Mills College for Graduate School. Through the process of applying to Mills College, I had to use professional behaviors every step of the way. When completing my application I had to write a Statement of Purpose using professional language. When calling Mills College in order to ask a question, I had to make sure I conducted myself in a professional manner in order to show them I was ready for this next step and serious about continuing my education. When it came time for the interview I had to make sure I not only acted in a professional manner, but also dressed and spoke in a professional manner.

Through my Administration of Child Development Programs class, I had the opportunity to attend a professional meeting and observe the topics discussed. The meeting I chose to attend was the Butte County Local Child Care Planning Council meeting. While attending the meeting I had the opportunity to observe how these professionals conducted themselves throughout the meeting and their methods for discussing certain topics. I had the opportunity to reflect on that meeting by writing a paper in a professional and educational manner.

My Statement of Purpose for my application to Mills College for Graduate School shows how I have grown as a professional. Through my Statement of Purpose, I answered the questions required for the application while showing why I would make a great addition to the program. My Statement of Purpose is an example of my best professional writing on which I spent a great deal of time in order to make sure my feelings came across in my writing as well remaining professional.