

# Meet MCC Scholarship Recipient Terence O'Brien!

Terence is the proud recipient of a 2018 SPIE, The International Society for Optics and Photonics

in Memory of Bob Novak

MAJOR: Optical Systems



Thank you for allowing me to further my studies in Optics. The generosity of this scholarship allows me to take one step closer to joining an exciting and growing industry in the Rochester area. This scholarship will allow me to give back to my community in many ways and will bring a much greater return to my life in the end.

My name is Terence O'Brien and I'm currently pursuing an AAS in Optical Systems Technology at MCC. I received a BA in Psychology from Boston University in 2007 and would like to enter the optics industry after finishing my degree. I believe with my education background and the many interesting places life has taken me, I can make a contribution to any company in many different ways. I currently work full-time and attend school full-time which is why this scholarship is incredibly helpful. After emerging from three years practicing Zen Buddhist meditation in a full-time residential setting, I left with quite a few questions about where to go next and how to get there. Life as an employed student is not easy but the generosity of the Rochester community makes it significantly better.

Eventually, I would like to give back to the Rochester community by volunteering my time educating people in optics and encouraging people to join the field. There is a lot of promise in bringing optics back to the Rochester area and returning it to the industrial giant that it used to be. The foundations are already here but now it needs a labor force. MCC is an integral part of the optics community and I hope to contribute to my community as much as I can.



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