

# Online Network

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**Name:** Heinrich, Jason ()

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**\*School or Business Name:** University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada

**Business/  
Personal/School  
Website (url):**

**Current Grade:** Fourth Year BEng

**Employment (if any):** Current Employment:  
-Mechanical Engineering Student  
-President of UVic Engineering Students' Society

Past Employment:  
-Engineering Ministries International Intern  
-UVic Fuel Cell Research Assistant  
-Joint Energy and Environment Projects Student Volunteer  
-Catalyst Pulp Mill Engineering Intern

**Responsibilities:** -Motivate/Manage engineering students  
-Balance school work with recreation, creative outlets and community involvement.

**Accomplishments in my life:** I have experienced many different cultures through global travel.

In elementary school I participated in a student exchange in Japan.

As a teen, I traveled throughout Europe with my school.

After graduation, I was accepted to attend an engineering and business camp in Newfoundland.

In 2006, I lived with a family in Uganda. The spring of 2008, I traveled to Rwanda on a project trip.

I have been blessed with an able mind and body, and I have not failed to use them.

I have won many academic awards such as the Top Academic/Governor General's Award, UVic Excellence Scholarship and a variety of university engineering awards.

I have won Coach's Choice award for high school Soccer, and was the MVP for our senior basketball team. I was named to the Regional All-star team for basketball.

I have hiked and backpacked in every mountain range in the southern half of British Columbia.

However, my most significant accomplishments have been my volunteer efforts.

I was a member of my high school leadership class, and was able to

organize an intramural league, as well as other charity events such as the Terry Fox Run.

I have volunteered to teach American Sign Language to both children and adults.

At university, I act as the Vice-President External for the Engineering Students' Society. I help organize and run charity events like the Bug Push, student events and competitions, and organize delegates for engineering conferences across Canada.

In the fall of 2007, I had the opportunity to work with a Ugandan non-governmental organization focused on teaching communities environmental conservation, agricultural sustainability and energy saving technologies.

I started a youth group within my church, and saw it slowly grow, before leaving in 2008, to Rwanda with a team of engineers, surveyors and architects. There, we designed an orphanage, church and school.

**Challenges in school/work/life:**

I have experienced challenges within my family, school, work and myself.

My younger brother was born deaf, and I have struggled to learn sign language my entire life. Although I am a skilled signer, it is a constant challenge to continue to learn, teach others and incorporate my brother in everyday social activities.

Another of my brothers faced drug problems and trying to help him change, but continue to support him is difficult.

At school I face work that can become hair-pulling difficult and overwhelming in proportion. I paddle through the pages just to stay afloat, but keeping a balance in life is difficult. Balance is very important, and trying to have doses of mental stimulation, creativity, exercise, socializing and sleep can be difficult.

I have found similar situations at work; I have many projects underway and I often have limited or no knowledge of how to complete the task. The work piles, but my diligence has proven successful thus far.

I am my biggest challenge. Apathy and a lack of will power are problems I face on a constant basis. I am not unique this way; many young people are very similar. I have to continually draw inspiration from people and events around me.

Developing my spirituality is a continual effort, and is a major source of motivation to confront listlessness.

**Interests:** I love to be outdoors and moving. Whether I am playing basketball, soccer, or surfing, snowboarding and hiking in fresh air, life is joyous.

I have always felt compelled to climb the mountains around me but when the earth finally ends I still want to go higher in the sky.


Traveling is the grandest luxury in life. I have had the privilege to visit many places, but I always dream of going to more.

Sustainability and alternative energies are a passion of mine. I was a member of a hydrogen fuel cell race car in 2007 at UVic, and did fuel cell

research that summer. Alternative energies is a possible career path.

International development is also a big focus in my life. I have seen extreme examples of poverty and can't sit back any more.

I relax by playing guitar, drawing, painting and reading. I like to do graffiti, but don't like to vandalize: life is a paradox.

I also love  children; they're so funny.

**Interesting Course or Subject I have taken:** I went hiking with an experienced mountaineer in 2006. He taught me how to use an ice axe and how to traverse snow and ice. This has allowed me to pursue my interest in back-country snowboarding and glacier hiking safely.

**Interesting Course or Subject I have taken:** Formally, calculus is exciting. While it can be tedious and slow, the theory and applications that simple numbers can accomplish is mind-blowing. Imagine being able to describe and predict the environment around you.

**If I had a month to do anything I wanted I would:** Leave. I would visit the world: not the superficial, tourist world, but the cultural hubs of Earth. I would begin with Jerusalem, the holiest of cities and continue to Istanbul, Prague, Nepal and wherever my gut and heart tell me.

However, if it were my last month, I would spend that time with my family and friends.

**What do I want to be doing 5 years from now:** I will have graduated with a Bachelors of Engineering from UVic, but I don't want to work nine to five at the office.

I would like to join a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives. I hope I don't succumb to greed, but continue to live with the brightness of a child.

I also want to be a dad, but I can wait for more than 5 years.

**Question 1:** What is our individual purpose? What is our collective purpose?

**Question 2:** What is more important that our relationships within our family and community?

**Question 3:** How can we truly end poverty when nothing we've been doing seems to make significant improvements?

**Comments:** Guest Themes  
Peak Performance  
Family challenges  
Spiritual development  
Finding your voice  
Developing wider horizons

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