

CV of Failures | Samantha McDonald

You learn much more from failure than success. This CV probably omits a lot of things that I forgot, but here are some of the ones that came up when searching my email for “we’re sorry to inform you” or “unfortunately, we cannot accept”.

Graduate programs I didn’t get into:

2016	Ph.D. Information Management and Systems at the University of California Berkeley.
2016	Ph.D. Computer Science Program at Stanford University
2016	Ph.D. Program in the Human-Computer Interaction Institute at Carnegie Mellon
2016	Ph.D. Georgia Institute of Technology’s School of Interactive Computing
2016	Ph.D. University of Michigan School of Information
2016	Ph.D. University of Washington’s Human Centered Design & Engineering PhD program
2016	Ph.D. Information Science at Cornell University
2016	Ph.D. University of Maryland Graduate School

Scholarships I did not get:

2016	Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) National Science Foundation
2015	Canada Fulbright - 2015 (Sustainability at Toronto)
2016	Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship - 2016

Research and Internship Opportunities I didn’t get:

2015	Iowa REU - Summer Program for Interdisciplinary Research and Education at Iowa State University
2019	Facebook UX Research

Publication Rejections:

2019	Government Information Quarterly Journal
2019	CSCW Doctoral Consortium
2019	APSA - Poster
2018	APSA - Panel

Other rejections that still hurt:

2019	Yosemite Wilderness JMT SOBO Lottery Permit
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Things that I decided to decline:

2016	MIT Lincoln Labs Internship - 2016
2013	Intern for the 2013 Office of Naval Research (ONR) Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program (NREIP), Philadelphia
2019	PhD IUPUI
2019	PhD Computer Science UC Boulder