

Michael Buabeng

Michael Buabeng knows that no one achieves anything alone. He is proof of that, in fact. This spring, the Schaumburg resident graduated from Lake Forest College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Pre-Medicine, specializing in Neuroscience. A recipient of scholarships and EB 211 support, the former Fremd High School student acknowledged that his family and community played a major role in achieving this hard-won goal.

“My mother has worked at Lake Forest Hospital for 25 years; people she’s worked with, including a lot of doctors, respect her,” noted Michael. “She has a big network who helped me understand how college works and what I could do with that knowledge.”

Michael’s parents, Gloriana Asibey and Patrick Buabeng have medical backgrounds and came to the United States from Ghana seeking a more secure life. Both know that a community can define who you are and can also shape and guide you, passing this credo on to their children.

“My mother’s co-workers helped my family understand the environment in this country, telling us what we should do and what to avoid. A lot of these people helped my parents become acclimated to the United States,” Michael explained.

Michael valued maintaining contact with his EB 211 mentor, Daniel Dunne, and also his Lake Forest College mentor, the head of the neuroscience department. He participated in many organizations, including SYNAPSE, a group developing outreach programs in neuroscience, where as vice president and program chair, he honed his skills in leadership and organization.

Today Michael is looking for a lab research position, while preparing for a master’s degree before entering medical school. Guided by both professional and spiritual influences, he sets his sights on giving back to communities that have guided him throughout his life, saying “My goal is to work in a hospital setting and be there for patients, mentally and spiritually.”