



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT LOGAN MCCARTHY

By Josh Iselin, Cyber Engineering '23

How many majors is too many? Logan McCarthy, now in his fifth year at Louisiana Tech University, will graduate with a double major in cyber engineering and biomedical engineering.

Logan graduated from Walker High School in May of 2012 and—two weeks after graduation—enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After spending four years in the service, he chose to pursue an undergraduate degree with his GI Bill benefits, so why not get his money's worth with two majors?

While Logan could have attended a larger, more well-known university, he felt attending a large school would have made him “just a statistic” to his classmates and professors, rather than a student they could know. For that reason, he chose to attend Louisiana Tech.

Following the advice of a friend, Logan switched majors after his first month at Tech and chose to pursue a double major in electrical engineering and biomedical engineering—the latter due to his love for neurology and “anything having to do with the brain.”

While he was in the first-year engineering Living with the Lab series, he fell in love with programming and quickly traded electrical for cyber engineering. At one point, he attempted to triple major with computer science as well.

Of the classes Logan has taken, his favorite was one on artificial intelligence—which makes sense given his two majors. Despite being one of the hardest courses he has taken, Logan sees it as one of the most essential going forward with its increasing presence in engineering and computer science and inherent relation to neurology.

On the extracurricular side, Logan was the vice president of the Development of Interdisciplinary Research Club, was the president of the Biomedical Engineering Society, and became a member of Alpha Eta Mu Beta—the biomedical engineering honor society.

Once he graduates, Logan has his sights on... nothing! At least for a while. After five strenuous years of engineering, he intends on briefly taking on a 9-to-5 job to relax and pay off some debt. When the interlude ends, Logan wants to become the next Elon Musk. With his passion for neurology and his experience in biomedical engineering, Logan wants to help create the next medical breakthroughs, such as the production of affordable vaccines and mapping of the brain to help cure neurological diseases like Alzheimer's.

For all the future engineers and students, Logan says his biggest piece of advice is not to rush things and to know your limits. Over the years, he's seen numerous engineers who overworked themselves pursuing a degree for which they had no passion. While a four-year degree is the most ideal path, plenty of engineers have spent more than five years working on their undergraduate degree.

While you have the time, there is no serious harm in taking your time and dipping your toes into a new subject. Try that other major. Try another major. Perhaps you'll stumble upon your true passion.