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March 4, 2022

Mr. Sam Stone  
2357 Summerhill Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70005

REF: College Evaluation for Ms. Elizabeth Stone  
Completion of Return on Investment Report

Dear Mr. Stone:

As per your request, I met with your daughter, Ms. Elizabeth Stone on February 14, 2022. We met from 3:30 to 4:40 at my office, located in Lafayette, LA. Your wife, Elizabeth's mother, Ms. Lisa Stone, was also present for the evaluation.

It is my understanding that Elizabeth has primary plans to attend St. Stanislaus University, New Orleans, LA, in which she will begin in August of 2022, or the beginning of the Fall Semester. Additionally, Elizabeth had indicated interests in attending University of Middle Iowa, Mobile, IA, or Northern Oklahoma Central University, Clinton, OK.

Regarding college majors, Elizabeth has indicated an interest in majoring in either Creative Writing or Political Science. Based upon this information, I have prepared a report, offering information regarding collegiate costs, employment opportunities, upon graduation, and also a proposed Return on Investment, based on selection of colleges, alongside college majors.

**Again, most importantly, this represents current-day dollars without an adjustment for inflation or other economic trends. This information is offered for parent and student education only. Any numbers and trends reflected in the present report are up to date as of the date of the present report. Any employment trends are based upon National and Regional trends. While employment trends are presented, employment for Elizabeth is not guaranteed, and her expected income within her major may vary based upon employer needs, ongoing economic trends, and Elizabeth's own skills.**

## **Identification of Collegiate Costs**

### **Estimated Costs without Scholarships**

The following represents projected costs across her identified colleges.

<u>University/College</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Estimated Costs/4 years</u>
St. Stanislaus University	Private, 4-year	\$227,200
University of Middle Iowa	Public, 4-year	\$44,744
Northern Oklahoma Central University	Public, 4-year	\$47,856

#### References:

*Full-time undergraduate charges. (n.d.).* Retrieved November 5, 2020, from

*Current undergraduate tuition & fees. (n.d.).* Retrieved November 5, 2020, from

*Undergraduate tuition and required fees. (2020, November 4).* Retrieved November 5, 2020, from

### **Modified Costs with Scholarships**

It is furthermore my understanding that Elizabeth has received several collegiate scholarships. As such, the following offers a modified estimate of costs after adjusting for her scholarships.

University/College	Estimated Costs	Pending Scholarships	Modified Collegiate Costs
St. Stanislaus University	\$227,200	Academic Scholarship \$90,000 (one time)	\$137,200
University of Middle Iowa	\$44,744	Young Writers Scholarship \$750 for 4 semesters	\$41,744
Northern Oklahoma Central University	\$47,856	SGA Poli Sci Scholarship \$900 for 4 semesters	\$44,256

### **Identification of Probable Employment Following Graduation**

Elizabeth has indicated that she plans to major in either Creative Writing or Political Science and afterwards work in Birmingham, AL following graduation. As such, the following represents probable wages within her selected majors for individuals working in Birmingham, AL.

#### **Creative Writing**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Beginning Wages</u>	<u>Middle Wages</u>	<u>High Wages</u>
Poets, Lyricists and Creative Writers	\$29,700	\$83,220	\$102,420
Copy Writers	\$29,700	\$83,220	\$102,420
Reporters and Correspondents	\$24,210	\$39,560	\$138,830
Average	\$27,870	\$68,666	\$114,556

As such, after graduation Elizabeth would reasonably be expected to earn \$27,870 annually; after 5 years, she would be able to earn \$68,666 annually; and then after 10 years in the same field, she would be able to earn about \$114,556 annually. While the figures above offer higher possibilities, this field is highly competitive and difficult to enter without proper networking or advertising to make such high earnings.

#### **Political Science**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Beginning Wages</u>	<u>Middle Wages</u>	<u>High Wages</u>
Political Scientist	\$60,960	\$122,220	\$164,210
Social Science Research Assistants	\$22,120	\$29,850	\$45,460
Public Relations Specialist	\$34,840	\$54,570	\$94,520
Urban and Regional Planners	\$44,410	\$68,390	\$105,180
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$33,740	\$58,780	\$105,680
Average	\$39,214	\$66,762	\$81,974

As such, after graduation Elizabeth would reasonably be expected to earn \$39,214 annually; after 5 years, she would be able to earn \$66,762 annually; and then after 10 years in the same field, she would be able to earn about \$81,974 annually. However, again these positions are competitive and may require additional education to remain a competitive applicant.

### **Comparison with Selected Colleges and Identified Majors**

#### **Graduation from St. Stanislaus University**

##### *Major in Creative Writing*

If Elizabeth attended St. Stanislaus University for 4 years and graduated, and taking into consideration her identified scholarships, the cost of her education, not considering inflation and other economic trends, would cost \$137,200 in current U.S. Dollars. Then, I am assuming she would be able to earn \$27,870 annually after graduating and about 5 years after that, then earn \$68,666 from about 6-10 years afterwards, and lastly, about \$114,556 annually about 10 years subsequently.

Assuming she established a goal to pay off the debt in 10 years, she would incur an annual debt of \$13,720, not considering interest.

And, assuming a consistent level of income based upon the previously mentioned wage levels, the following represents a ratio of debt to income for Elizabeth graduating from St. Stanislaus University, majoring in Creative Writing, and living in Birmingham, AL.

<b>Annual Collegiate Debt</b>	<b>Expected Income</b>	<b>Ratio Collegiate Debt to Expected Income</b>
<b><u>Years 1-5 after Graduation</u></b>		
\$13,720	\$27,870	.49; this indicates that 49% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt
<b><u>Years 6-10 after Graduation</u></b>		
\$13,720	\$68,666	.20; this indicates that 20% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

### *Major in Political Science*

If Elizabeth attended St. Stanislaus University for 4 years and graduated, and taking into consideration her identified scholarships, the cost of her education, not considering inflation and other economic trends, would cost \$137,200 in current U.S. Dollars. Then, I am assuming she would be able to earn \$39,214 annually after graduating and about 5 years after that, then earn \$66,762 from about 6-10 years afterwards, and lastly, about \$81,974 annually about 10 years subsequently.

Assuming she established a goal to pay off the debt in 10 years, she would incur an annual debt of \$13,720, not considering interest.

And, assuming a consistent level of income based upon the previously mentioned wage levels, the following represents a ratio of debt to income for Elizabeth graduating from St. Stanislaus University, majoring in Political Science, and living in Birmingham, AL.

<b>Annual Collegiate Debt</b>	<b>Expected Income</b>	<b>Ratio Collegiate Debt to Expected Income</b>
<u>Years 1-5 after Graduation</u>		
\$13,720	\$39,214	.25; this indicates that 25% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt
<u>Years 6-10 after Graduation</u>		
\$13,720	\$66,762	.20; this indicates that 20% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

### Graduation from University of Middle Iowa

#### *Major in Creative Writing*

If Elizabeth attended University of Middle Iowa for 4 years and graduated, and taking into consideration her identified scholarships, the cost of her education, not considering inflation and other economic trends, would cost \$41,744 in current U.S. Dollars. Then, I am assuming she would be able to earn \$27,870 annually after graduating and about 5 years after that, then earn \$68,666 from about 6-10 years afterwards, and lastly, about \$114,556 annually about 10 years subsequently.

Assuming she established a goal to pay off the debt in 10 years, she would incur an annual debt of \$4,174.40, not considering interest.

And, assuming a consistent level of income based upon the previously mentioned wage levels, the following represents a ratio of debt to income for Elizabeth graduating from University of Middle Iowa , majoring in Creative Writing, and living in Birmingham, AL.

<b>Annual Collegiate Debt</b>	<b>Expected Income</b>	<b>Ratio Collegiate Debt to Expected Income</b>
<u>Years 1-5 after Graduation</u>		
\$4,174.40	\$27,870	.15; this indicates that 15% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt
<u>Years 6-10 after Graduation</u>		
\$4,174.40	\$68,666	.06; this indicates that 6% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

*Major in Political Science*

If Elizabeth attending University of Middle Iowa for 4 years and graduated, and taking into consideration her identified scholarships, the cost of her education, not considering inflation and other economic trends, would cost \$41,244 in current U.S. Dollars. Then, I am assuming she would be able to earn \$39,214 annually after graduating and about 5 years after that, then earn \$66,762 from about 6-10 years afterwards, and lastly, about \$81,974 annually about 10 years subsequently.

Assuming she established a goal to pay off the debt in 10 years, she would incur an annual debt of \$4,124.40, not considering interest.

And, assuming a consistent level of income based upon the previously mentioned wage levels, the following represents a ratio of debt to income for Elizabeth graduating from University of Middle Iowa , majoring in Political Science, and living in Birmingham, AL.

<b>Annual Collegiate Debt</b>	<b>Expected Income</b>	<b>Ratio Collegiate Debt to Expected Income</b>
<u>Years 1-5 after Graduation</u>		
\$4,174.40	\$39,214	.10; this indicates that 10% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

Years 6-10 after Graduation

\$4,124.40

\$66,762

.06; this indicates that 6% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

Graduation from Northern Oklahoma Central University

*Major in Creative Writing*

If Elizabeth attended Northern Oklahoma Central University for 4 years and graduated, and taking into consideration her identified scholarships, the cost of her education, not considering inflation and other economic trends, would cost \$44,256 in current U.S. Dollars. Then, I am assuming she would be able to earn \$27,870 annually after graduating and about 5 years after that, then earn \$68,666 from about 6-10 years afterwards, and lastly, about \$114,556 annually about 10 years subsequently.

Assuming she established a goal to pay off the debt in 10 years, she would incur an annual debt of \$4,425.60, not considering interest.

And, assuming a consistent level of income based upon the previously mentioned wage levels, the following represents a ratio of debt to income for Elizabeth graduating from Northern Oklahoma Central University, majoring in Creative Writing, and living in Birmingham, AL.

**Annual Collegiate Debt**

**Expected Income**

**Ratio Collegiate Debt to Expected Income**

Years 1-5 after Graduation

\$4,425.60

\$27,870

.16; this indicates that 16% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

Years 6-10 after Graduation

\$4,425.60

\$68,666

.06; this indicates that 6% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

*Major in Political Science*

If Elizabeth attending Northern Oklahoma Central University for 4 years and graduated, and taking into consideration her identified scholarships, the cost of her education, not considering inflation and other economic trends, would cost \$44,256 in current U.S. Dollars. Then, I am assuming she would be able to earn \$39,214 annually after graduating and about 5 years after that, then earn \$66,762 from about 6-10 years afterwards, and lastly, about \$81,974 annually about 10 years subsequently.

Assuming she established a goal to pay off the debt in 10 years, she would incur an annual debt of \$4,425.60, not considering interest.

And, assuming a consistent level of income based upon the previously mentioned wage levels, the following represents a ratio of debt to income for Elizabeth graduating from Northern Oklahoma Central University, majoring in Political Science, and living in Birmingham, AL.

<b>Annual Collegiate Debt</b>	<b>Expected Income</b>	<b>Ratio Collegiate Debt to Expected Income</b>
<u>Years 1-5 after Graduation</u>		
\$4,425.60	\$39,214	.11; this indicates that 11% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt
<u>Years 6-10 after Graduation</u>		
\$4,425.60	\$66,762	.06; this indicates that 6% of her income will be dedicated toward payment of her college debt

### **Comparison College Choices and Selected Majors**

The following offers a snapshot of 4 Year Costs, estimated Repayment if college debt is paid off in 10 years, and then a ratio of expected annual income with college repayment.

<u>College</u>	<u>4 Year Cost</u>	<u>Annual Repayment, Payment in 10 years</u>	<u>Ratio of Repayment Costs with Selected Major</u>
St. Stanislaus University	\$137,200	\$13,720	
		<u>Creative Writing</u>	
		1-5 years	49%
		5-10 years	20%
		<u>Political Science</u>	
		1-5 years	35%
		5-10 years	20%

<u>College</u>	<u>4 Year Cost</u>	<u>Annual Repayment, Payment in 10 years</u>	<u>Ratio of Repayment Costs with Selected Major</u>
University of Middle Iowa	\$41,744	\$4,174.40	
		<u>Creative Writing</u>	
		1-5 years	15%
		5-10 years	6%
		<u>Political Science</u>	
		1-5 years	10%
		5-10 years	6%

<u>College</u>	<u>4 Year Cost</u>	<u>Annual Repayment, Payment in 10 years</u>	<u>Ratio of Repayment Costs with Selected Major</u>
Northern Oklahoma Central University	\$44,256	\$4,425.60	
		<u>Creative Writing</u>	
		1-5 years	16%
		5-10 years	6%
		<u>Political Science</u>	
		1-5 years	11%
		5-10 years	6%

### **Summary and Conclusions**

Elizabeth has selected three potential Universities and Colleges as prospective college placements following graduation from St. Augustine High School, located in New Orleans, LA in May 2022.

Immediately after graduation, it is most probable that selection of Political Science as a major will result in the highest probable wages after graduation, with an annual expected income of \$39,214. However, Creative Writing will represent the major with the highest continuous wages, suggestive of \$6 from 5-10 year after graduation, and then \$114,556 following 10 years after she graduates.

Amongst her college selections, St. Stanislaus University represents the highest cost across four years of attendance, with an expected post-graduation cost of \$137,200. Then, University of Middle Iowa represents the lowest cost with an expected post-graduation cost of \$41,744.

Regarding the “best” return on investment, a combination of University of Middle Iowa and Political Science represents the best opportunity to reduce costs and similarly enhance annual income for Elizabeth. Assuming she graduated from University of Middle Iowa with a degree in Political Science, she would have a college debt of \$41,744, and an expected income of \$39,214. She would be expected to pay \$4,174.40 annually, if she would pay off her debt in 10 years. For 1-5 years after graduation, her college debt to probable income is .10, suggesting that about 10% of her annual income will be needed to pay of her college debt.

In contrast, a combination of St. Stanislaus University and Creative Writing represents the “worst” return on investment for Elizabeth. Assuming she graduated from St. Stanislaus University with a degree in Creative Writing, she would have a college debt of \$137,200, and an expected income of \$27,870. She would be expected to pay \$13,720 annually, if she would pay off her debt in 10 years. For 1-5 years after graduation, her college debt to probable income is .49, suggesting that about 49% of her annual income will be needed to pay of her college debt.

Thank you for the opportunity to meet Elizabeth and complete the present report. Please email me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Theodore Scott Smith

Dr. T. Scott Smith

Ph.D., Educational Psychology, Texas A & M University, Commerce, Texas (2012)

M.S., Rehabilitation Counseling, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama (2002)

Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, 1992, #00456

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