

TLDR: I am a world record holder who will make developing the digital aspects of the IAM my job.

**Bio:**

My name is Lance. Six years ago, I saw a video of Joshua Foer on stage talking about how he trained his average memory over the course of a year and won the USA Memory Championship in 2006. That video had not yet ended before I had decided that I would test these methods, and if this man was not a fraud, I would devote every spare moment of every day to developing the best memory in the country until I got there.

At my first international championship, I broke 6 American records and earned a global ranking of #10. At the last World Memory Championship I attended, I broke the world record in Spoken Numbers. At the XMT that followed, I broke the world record in the Images category. Both records are standing to this day, though at this point there is no shortage of people who are better at the Images discipline than I am.

I have developed and will develop other skills and pursue other passions throughout my life, but the intensity of my passion for memory sports will always eclipse them.

Motivation Letter:

Board and Body,

For every one of my strengths, there is some weakness elsewhere, and some of the things a board member may be expected to do are among them. For instance, I do not consider the role of President, at the forefront of the public and executive facets of the IAM, as a good fit for me. Nevertheless, some of my strengths do align with work that seems to me to be critical for the future of the IAM, and I particularly hope to be included among the board members if you agree with me on this point.

Over the last year or two, I have been teaching myself how to write javascript in order to transition into a career as a software engineer. Out of this relatively small pool of candidates, I don't believe that I am either the most skilled or the most knowledgeable programmer. However, I have applied my skills in service of the IAM to some degree, co-creating the software which will be used for Hour Cards and 30-minute binary at the World Championship in Vienna with IAM Board member and Memogoddess, Katie Kermode. I'll continue to work on this no matter what, but I could contribute much more. As a member of the Board, on top of whatever odds and ends may be required of me, I will sit on the bleeding edge of the public discussions about what digital components are desired or required for the IAM to flourish, and I will make it my mission to build those things. Through the first half of 2019, before applying for positions as a software engineer, I will tailor my education and coding specifically to these ends.

Lance Tschirhart