GRACE AHN

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experience

2023-2025 **NATIVE DESIGN**   **LONDON, UK / REMOTE**
Head of Strategic Partnerships in Life Sciences
Design Strategy and Business Manager
Led client life-science programs to accelerate product design from concept to launch.
- Led product development proposals and go-to-market strategy for Fortune 500 life-science companies and biotech startups; won 25% of work worth $2.3M in potential revenue.
- Managed all US-based client relationships including executive team, engineering, and customers as related to strategy, market research, and product development.
- Developed product roadmaps with executive buy-in and customer insights; conducted 40+ in-person and virtual interviews within tight 3-month timeframes.
- Established company's life science network leading to $4M worth of new business opportunities in genomics, point-of-care diagnostics, and laboratory automation.
- Developed company's business strategy focused on life-science clients developing diagnostic instrumentation.

2016-2021 **EMULATE**   **BOSTON, MA**
Engineer III
Engineer I
Served as R&D lead to put company's flagship organ-chip technology on the International Space Station.
- Led all engineering research and development for two multi-million-dollar NCATS/CASIS grants; completed 3 missions, including SpaceX CRS-16, CRS-17, and CRS-20.
- Designed custom manifold hardware, invented microfluidic control technique for biological recirculation, sampling and pumping – USPTO:17/036652, and programmed experiment software to autonomously run sterile bioengineering experiments.
- Managed cross-functional team of eight biologists and engineers while collaborating with manufacturing vendors and aerospace logistics partners.
- Completed all grant milestones and met NASA turnover deadlines by managing aggressive development and verification schedules.

2015 **WALT DISNEY IMAGINEERING**   **GLENDALE, CA**
Ride Mechanical Engineer
Developed mock ride test for upcoming Tokyo Disney e-ticket attraction.
- Modeled and simulated ride vehicle motion by constructing 1:1 vehicle prototype and analyzing the guest experience using on-board sensing suite.
- Coordinated with Creative and Ride department directors to meet design and technical specifications.

2014 **BARRETT TECHNOLOGY**   **BOSTON, MA**
Mechanical Engineer
Assisted in designing engineering parts for rehabilitation robot arm for patient use.
- Designed hand webbing to safely ensure patient grip during physical therapy.
- Explored material and design improvements for BarrettHand robot to be IP44 rating.

education

2021-2023 **MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**   **BOSTON, MA**
Master of Science, Engineering and Management
- Joint degree from School of Engineering and Sloan School of Management.
- Selected to teach systems architecture, systems engineering, and project management. Awarded full tuition. Thesis focused on sociotechnical and systemic factors in designing for disability.

2012-2016 **OLIN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**   **BOSTON, MA**
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Awarded half-tuition merit-based Olin scholarship.
- Research engineer with focused studies in soft robotic propulsion.

skills   Product Management (4 years). SolidWorks (12 years). Python (4 years). Embedded Systems (4 years). Scrum/Kanban (6 years).

misc.   Proficient in Korean. Collaborative tinkerer interested in design-for-one builds related to prosthetics and assistive technology.