



ILLINOIS INNOVATION PRIZE

Paul was born in Sterling, Illinois and grew up nearby in Dixon, Illinois. He joined the Army National Guard while in high school during 2003, and began college in 2004 at Sauk Valley Community College. Transferring to the University of Illinois in 2006, he began his study in Electrical and Computer Engineering with a focus on digital signal processing. After returning from Afghanistan in 2009, he continued his undergraduate studies while simultaneously engineering the Froet Roof Drain Flow Sensor (still available on the market). In the spring of 2011, Paul joined Professor Xiuling Li's nanostructured device research group as a crystal growth research assistant. Finding passion in strained films, he went on to create the group's first fully insulating rolled-up membrane. This opened routes to realizing miniaturized RF components, biocompatible interfaces, and high quality optical components. During this time he was also a teaching assistant for the ECE444 lab. Because of his academic and extracurricular work since arriving to the university, Paul has received the Frank C. Mock Scholarship, ECE Alumni Scholarship, E.C. Jordan Award, and Andrew T. Yang Award.



2014 FINALIST

PAUL FROETER

PhD Candidate, Electrical and Computer Engineering