

# Lawton Skaling

## EDUCATION

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### Stanford University

*Sep 2021 - Present*

Graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 2025  
Concurrently pursuing Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering

### A.J. Dimond High School, Anchorage, Alaska

*Aug 2017 - May 2021*

Valedictorian

## EXPERIENCE

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### Mechanical Engineering Intern, Astranis

*June 2024 - Sep 2024*

Developed ground infrastructure for testing critical satellite systems, including a thrust stand to measure electric thrusters with milligram precision, and hardware to recreate a satellite deployment failure.

### Mechanical Engineering Intern, Joby Aviation

*June 2023 - Sep 2023*

Redesigned battery terminals for Joby's electric aircraft, reducing weight and improving terminal retention.  
Developed tests to simulate high-temperature gas erosion during thermal runaway and end-of-life battery expansion.

### Hardware Engineering Intern, Argo AI

*June 2022 - Aug 2022*

Designed and implemented an automated LIDAR calibration system using feedback from encoders and laser measurements to move a target across a 100m track with millimeter precision.

## LEADERSHIP

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### Co-founder and Mechanical Team Lead, Stanford Autonomous Underwater Vehicle

*Feb 2024 - Present*

Developing underwater submarines to compete in the RoboSub competition and survey marine ecosystems in the Northern California bay. Leading a team of ten mechanical engineers.

### Co-founder and Project Director, Stanford Moonshot Club

*Sep 2022 - Present*

Co-founded the Stanford Moonshot Club after observing a lack of community among students passionate about tinkering with personal projects. Grew to over 50 people in one year, and distributed \$20,000 to date to help students fund their projects.

### President, Stanford Flight Club

*June 2022 - June 2023*

Helped the club recover after inactivity during COVID, including bringing back the Design, Build, Fly competition team, improving club recruitment, and introducing grants for funding personal drone projects.

## RESEARCH

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### Stanford Biomechatronics Lab

*April 2024 - June 2024*

Worked to improve the reliability of the Stanford Biomechatronics Lab's exoskeleton suit by redesigning a cable interface. This involved cyclic stress analysis and developing a test fixture that would simulate accelerated wear of the cable interface.

### Lepech Research Group

*Mar 2023 - June 2023*

Developed a low-speed centrifuge, which could mix concrete under the influence of varying amounts of gravity, and a 3D printer that could extrude the concrete material, validating its use for 3D-printed structures. This research will determine the viability of 3D-printed structures on the Moon and Mars.

## AWARDS

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Matthew Isakowitz Fellow, 2024

TreeHacks Hardware Winner, 2024