

Alumni Profile

Xiaoming Wang – Master of Science in Biomedical and Translational Science



Career

Please provide a brief overview of your career path since graduating from UCI.

I am currently a research specialist at UCI after my graduation.

What made you get into the career that you are in?

My career goal is to work in an academic setting to study public health problems and save people's lives. I choose to be a research associate to fully

explore both the basic and clinical researches.

What do you see yourself doing in five or ten years?

I am trying to be a faculty in five years with my own grants and research team.

How do you hope to make a difference?

I hope to contribute to reduce the disease incidence and save more people's lives with my scientific trials.

Your Time at UCI

When did you attend UCI?

2017 Fall Quarter

What program were you in?

Master of Science degree in Biomedical and Translational Science (MS-BATS)

Why did you choose to come to UCI?

UCI offers the right graduate program for me.

Reflections

What made you decide to pursue a graduate degree?

I have been working on vector biology and epidemiology of vector-borne diseases for around 5 years before I enrolled at UCI. My career goal is not only to conduct basic science research, but also to save people's lives. I want to extend my field from basic science to clinical research in the new program.

What is your most memorable moment/experience at UCI?

There were only 15 students in the program when I was at UCI. The most memorable thing would be that all the students were collaborative and often worked as a team, although we come from different countries and academic backgrounds.

Was there one thing or one person at UCI that really helped or made a difference in your graduate/postdoctoral career? If so, tell us about whomever or what it was?

My graduate advisors were always helpful and provided the right guidance.

Did you do any research while at UCI and what was it?

Yes. Malaria Control and Elimination in Africa: Why are Some Countries Doing Better than Others?

- How would you explain your research to your grandparent? How would you help someone understand the importance/significance of this research?

I would show them pictures and media info to explain the significance of the scientific questions. And then I'll tell them what the effects and results are after applying my research methods.

- What has impressed you most about the subject matter that you chose for your research/degree while at UCI?

It's a bridge from basic science to clinical trials.

Alumni Life

What are you currently up to?

I am currently a research specialist at UCI.

How did your education at UCI benefit you in your current life?

The education at UCI helps me to gain more knowledge on clinical trials and health policies. It broadens my field and makes me brighter in the job market.

What book or podcast would you suggest to someone who is just getting started with their graduate career at UCI? (Examples – Podcast: *Happier with Gretchen Rubin*; Book: *Who Moved my Cheese*)

Book recommended in Gates Notes.

What advice do you have for a new graduate student?

Keep seeking new knowledge till the end.

What advice would you give to a current graduate student as they look towards their future careers?

Be confident and brave.

What was your biggest obstacle transitioning from life of a graduate student to your career?

Visa issues and restricted travels for International student status.

What are your hobbies/passions outside of your work/research?

Hiking and climbing.

Is there a typical 'down' weekend for you—how do you relax?

Running and hiking.