

**Student Profile**

**Bryan Reza – Master of Finance Program**



**Your Time at UCI**

What made you decide to pursue a graduate degree?

*I graduated from undergrad with a degree in Mathematics, in which I gained much quantitative and analytical knowledge. However, I really wanted to learn how to apply what I learned in a business environment. Finance had always been one of main interests, even*

*being my concentration in undergrad, so it was a perfect opportunity to enroll at UCI's Paul Merage School of Business and become a business professional.*

Why did you choose to come to UCI?

*I came to UCI for my undergrad and during that time I became extremely fond of the campus. From the beautiful scenery in Aldrich Park, to the devoted faculty and from the limitless involvement opportunities that were available, I knew that UCI was the place I would want to come back to and further my education.*

If you are conducting research, how would you explain your research and its significance to your grandparent?

*My main research derives from my Capstone project of the Finance Program. In this project, my team and I researched many countries to analyze what factors affected their exchange rates against the U.S dollar. Specifically, we focused on how commodities, such as oil, soybeans and sugar, would affect the countries who either bought or sold the goods. This hands-on research was extremely interesting, as our results could potentially help the company we were partnered with.*

What are your hobbies/passions outside of research?

*Outside of research, I am an avid eSports competitor! This led me to becoming a member of an eSports team here at UCI and traveling from Northern California to Boston to compete against other collegiate teams. I hope in the future to combine my two interests on eSports and finance into a single career path to have the best of both worlds.*

## **Reflections**

What are you most proud of accomplishing (so far) in your graduate program?

*My most memorable experience is all the friends and connections I have made here at UCI. I have met people from across the world, ranging from countries such as Taiwan, Thailand, China and Saudi Arabia, just to name a few. This has allowed me to learn about so many new cultures (and try many delicious foods!) and more importantly make life-long friends.*

## **Career**

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

*In the future, I hope to use all the skills I learned from my Mathematical and Finance background to have a career in Investment Banking. More specifically, I hope to eventually become a Portfolio Manager. Reaching my goals will not be an easy path, but I know that UCI has prepared me well and I can face any challenges with utter confidence.*