

**Alumni Profile**

**Paul Araiza – Master of Professional Accountancy Program**



**Your Time at UCI**

When did you attend UCI?

*2017-2018*

What program were you in?

*Master of Professional Accountancy*

Undergraduate Institution:

*California State University, Dominguez Hills*

Undergraduate Majors and Minors:

*Business Administration: Accounting*

Tell us a little bit about yourself:

Well, the college life was not my first stop into adulthood. I worked for a retail company for several years, followed by an amazing experience in the military. After concluding my time on active duty, I joined the military reserves and completed my B.S. in Accounting. Additionally, I have worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs Financial Management Service, the Internal Revenue Service, and currently at a regional public accounting firm.

Hobbies:

*I love cliff dive, hike, and travel the world to experience diverse cultures and food.*

Why Merage MPAc?

*At the outset, I choose the Merage MPAC program to gain professional growth and competitiveness. However, the true benefit is the potential for cultivating lifelong professional networks and personal friendships. In life, I strongly believe that building and maintaining relationships is key to success, along with seeking likeminded individuals that value open-minded development. Personally, I felt that the Merage MPAC program fostered a remarkable set of opportunity, esprit de corps, and personal growth.*

Awards, Recognitions, and Organization Involvement:

*The Honorary Society of Phi Kappa Phi, The CSUDH Accounting Society, Volunteer work at the Veterans Hospital in Long Beach, CA*