

## Student Profile

### Sergio Rosas – Master of Urban and Regional Planning



#### Your Time at UCI

What made you decide to pursue a graduate degree in planning?

*My interest in planning developed through my undergraduate studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). Classes in urban inequality and community development informed my desire to make a difference in low-income communities. Through proper planning and management, the quality of life for people living in low-income communities can dramatically increase and I believe a graduate degree in Urban and Regional Planning will help me reach my goal.*

Why did you choose to come to UCI?

*I chose UCI's MURP program because of its faculty-to-student ratio, its accreditation, research opportunities, and its location in Southern California.*

What are your hobbies/passions beyond your graduate work?

*I am a big sports fan. I enjoy playing and watching sports. I am a huge baseball and basketball fan (Los Angeles Dodgers 2019 World Series Champions and Los Angeles Lakers 2020 NBA Champions - you heard it here first!).*

#### Reflections

What advice do you have for a new graduate student in the MURP program?

*The advice I would give to incoming graduate students is to take advantage of the resources the University offers, such as the writing center, counseling center, library, and the recreation center. Also, I would encourage incoming graduate students to pay attention to the emails our graduate coordinator and faculty send out on a daily basis.*

*Even though it might feel you are getting bombarded with information, they contain valuable news about scholarships, fellowships, and possible internship and job opportunities. With awareness I gained by keeping up with my email, I have been able to follow up and obtain several scholarships and fellowships, as well as my current job.*

## **Career**

How do you hope to make a difference?

*Through my personal, professional, and educational experience I hope to bring my knowledge to low-income communities and assist them in empowering themselves.*