MENGYAO ZHAO

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EDUCATION

STARTS FROM FALL 2013
USA

Ph.D in Informatics (HCI track), University of California, Irvine
Advisor: Bonnie Nardi

2011–2013
USA

Master in HCI/d, Indiana University Bloomington
Activities:
Member of ACM
Member of IxDA Bloomington
CSCW2012 Student Volunteer, Seattle

2007–2011
CHINA

B.S. in Digital Media Art, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications
Activities:
Member of Excellent Student Leader Affiliation: Yanxiang Youth League, BUPT
Member of College Debate Team, BUPT
Minister of College Student Association Literature and Arts Department, BUPT

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

05.2012–01.2013
USA

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, HCI/d, IUB

05. 2012–09. 2012 FASHION IN SUSTAINABLE HCI

This project was about making design fashionable to persuade people to use and treasure and to help with sustainability issues. I collected and analyzed design exemplars, did literature reviews, synthesized with first-hand interview data, and participated in developing design patterns.

10. 2012–01. 2013 DESIGN METHODS NSF PROJECT

This is a three-year design methods project. We interviewed design practitioners and analyzed the nature and role of their design methods. I analyzed the interview notes now, which helped to come up with insights that can contribute to HCI design theory and design heuristic education.

05. 2012-08. 2012
USA

UX DESIGN INTERN, Processing eXperience Architecture Team, UITS, IUB
Designed for the new IU student system;
Generated solutions to online system presentation issues;
Developed wireframes;
Assisted in recruiting activities for focus groups and design critiques.

08. 2010-05. 2011
CHINA

INTERACTION DESIGNER, Nokia & Mobile Life and New Media Lab, BUPT
Redesigned the information architecture for a mobile microblog application for Nokia phone;
Designed the user interface;
Assisted in conducting user test and design critiques;
Coauthored a Social Network Survey Paper.

10. 2009-01. 2010 CHINA	**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**, National Cyber-sociology Project Group, BUPT
	Proposed to study Sina Weibo as an exemplar of web2.0 communications;
	Collected, organized and analyzed user comments from Sina Weibo;
	Composed a 7000-word analysis essay.
08. 2008-09. 2008 CHINA	**MULTIMEDIA INTERN**, Henan Province TV Station
	Worked in Nonlinear Editing department.

PUBLICATIONS

2011 UNDER REVIEW	Inn, S., Alvarez, G., Huang, M. and Zhao, M.. Watch the Table: A System to Enhance the Eating Experiences of Blind People.
2012	Zhao, M.. Seek It Or Let It Come: How Designers Achieve Inspirations. Selected to advance into the second round of Student Research Competition for CHI'13, Paris.

HONORS

2011-2013	Informatics Graduate Student Scholarship, IUB
2011	Best Visual Effects Award, 17th Beijing College Student Film Festival, China
	Best Creative Award, 17th Beijing College Student Film Festival, China
2010	2009-2010 Comprehensive Quality Scholarship, BUPT
2008	2007-2008 Comprehensive Quality Scholarship, BUPT
	Excellent Student Leader Award, BUPT
2007	National Chinese Zither Top Level Certificate, China

SKILLS

LANGUAGE	Mandarin (native), English (fluent)
DESIGN METHODS	Ideation, Persona, Photography, Prototyping, Scenario, Sketching, Storyboard
RESEARCH METHODS	Affinity Diagram, Card Sorting, Culture Probes, Diary Study, Ethnography, Focus Group, Interview, Observation, Survey, Usability Testing
PROTOTYPING	Arduino, Embodied Prototyping, Paper Prototyping, Rapid Prototyping, Video Prototyping, Wireframe, Wizard of OZ
TOOLS	3Ds Max, Adobe After Effects, Axure, Balsamiq, Dreamweaver, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere
TECHNIQUES	C, CSS, HTML, Java, Javascript