

Personal Statement

Growing up with parents who were teachers, I developed a strong passion for learning and teaching. During my undergraduate study, I used to do tuition to help college and junior varsity students in their academics, also bearing my educational and personal expenses. I could still pass each term with commendable grades while continuing tuition alongside. Despite my result in the first three semesters was not up to my expectation, I overcame that gradually, and in my last four graded semesters, I consistently achieved high grades, leading to recognition with Dean's Award for those semesters.

Even after I started my career at industry, I kept tutoring students online, most of them were undergrad students from abroad. Additionally, in my second year at the company, I actively participated in recruiting and training new employees. I love this experience of sharing my knowledge and experience with others and I want to contribute to the growth and development of others through teaching and mentorship.

In 2020, during the peak of the COVID-19 outbreak, my peers and I launched [Traan-Chitro](#), a relief coordination platform for aiding voluntary organizations nationwide. Despite our dedicated efforts, we encountered minimal interest from these organizations due to their concerns about data security and hesitance to adopt a new system. I was quite disheartened after this setback, but I never stopped thinking about why we failed. After some time, it became evident to me that our failure was not due to a lack of project potential, but rather stemmed from the oversight of conducting adequate research before initiating the idea. We overlooked assessing the targeted organizations' needs, their receptiveness to new systems, and their willingness to share data. That was the time when I learnt the critical importance of research, not just in understanding the technical aspects of software engineering and privacy, but also in acknowledging the pivotal role of human factors.

My diverse experiences have instilled in me a profound desire to pursue an advanced degree in an international setting, where I can immerse myself in a global academic landscape. The prospect of engaging with peers from diverse cultural backgrounds deeply resonates with me, contributing to my aspiration to promote social and cultural diversity within academia. I want to contribute my research and teaching abilities to help underserved communities in education, closing gaps and promoting inclusivity in my field.

My future goal is to become an accomplished academic, emphasizing both research and teaching while maintaining active connections with the industry. I am confident that UC Riverside's environment aligns with my aspirations, providing a platform to advance my career, contribute meaningfully to research areas, and make a substantive impact on the wider community. Please feel free to visit my [portfolio](#) for a detailed overview of my research, publications, and work experiences.
