

DAVID ABIVA

Physician Assistant



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician

I have 20 years of experience as a clinician in seven different specialties. I ventured into mentorship in 2018 and have multiple current physician assistant students nationwide.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, skill development and networking skills & introductions



LEENA ADHIKARI

Crystal Vision Optometry

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician

I studied BioSci at UCI as well as attended Optometry School at SCCO. I am currently practicing optometry in my solo private practice in Rancho Cucamonga. I would love the opportunity to help a college student learn about their interests and teach them what I have learned about the medical field. Students are welcome to shadow me at my office to learn about vision exams, medical eye exams, specialty contacts and ocular disease management.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Career path exploration & planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, Degree planning





RON BROIDE

Executive Director, Biological Research, AbbVie



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Pre-Med

After completing my undergraduate degree at UCI, I earned a PhD in Pharmacology, also at UCI. I then worked for several postdoctoral positions, one at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem and the other at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston. At that point, I decided to transition to industry, first at several small biotech companies in San Diego then finally to Allergan, now AbbVie. At AbbVie, I lead a group of researchers investigating the mechanisms of botulinum neurotoxin (better known as BOTOX) and creating the next generation products.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, skill development and networking skills & introductions



STEPHEN BUMB

Principal AR-TIC-I-LATE MEDTECH

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Private Sector

I'm a medical device marketing executive with expertise in collaboration with clinicians in product development. I pursued career in medical devices after decision junior year to be in healthcare on technology aide. I have worked with over 20 different clinical specialties. My job relies on knowledge of Guam biology, communications and strategic thinking.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, skill development, networking skills & introductions, degree planning



WON HO RYAN CHANG

Ryan Chang, DPM, Inc.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician

I graduated New York College of Podiatric Medicine in 2012. I completed my surgical podiatric residency program at New York College of Podiatric Medicine / Metropolitan Hospital in 2023. I recently moved back to Irvine and opened my practice in August 2023. I am affiliated with Hoag Hospital as a surgical podiatrist.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours and degree planning

JOSEPH CHEN

Medical Doctor



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Physician
- Pre-Med

After graduating from UCI undergrad as a biology major, I took a couple years off to continued research and medical missions in Mexico, China, and Ecuador. I then graduated from UCI School of Medicine in 2008, UCI General Surgery in 2013, Houston Methodist Plastic Surgery in 2016, and UC San Francisco Microsurgery in 2017. I then started my current position as a microsurgeon at Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours, networking skills & introductions, degree planning



QUAN DANG

OMS-1, Western University of Health Sciences

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Physician
- Pre-Med

I am currently a first year medical student attending the Western University of Health Sciences. I am interested in surgery and am working towards that goal by participating in orthopedic research at my institution.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning, networking skills & introductions and degree planning



DIANA DIZON

President, Bionerds Inc

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Microbiology
- Biotechnology
- Private sector

My background is Medical Microbiology and Biotechnology. In 2015, I co-founded and have since been managing Bionerds, Inc, Biology workshops for kids K-8 in Orange County.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, goal setting, skill development and degree planning

EMAAD FAROOQUI

Vascular Surgeon, Orange County Vascular Specialists



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician
- Pre-Med

I did a 1 year master's program after graduating UCI that was geared towards pre-med students and subsequently started medical school in Chicago. I completed my residency in general surgery at UCSF-Fresno and went on to complete a 2 year vascular surgery fellowship at USC/Keck. I have been in practice at Hoag Hospital in Newport Beach for roughly 2 years.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, goal setting, networking skills & introductions and degree planning





JOYCE FANG INOUE

Dentist

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Dental field

I am a 1990 BioSci Grad/Mgmt minor from UCI. I went to UCLA School of Dentistry and then did 2 years of Hospital Dentistry Training where I became an Adjunct Assistant Professor there. Then did private practice in Santa Monica for 10 years, then relocated to Irvine, where I continue practicing dentistry. I have been a mentor for UCI Bio Sci program for several years and have enjoyed meeting brilliant and ambitious young adults. I was also in a National Ad campaign for Colgate Toothpaste with Brooke Shields. Currently am in a 6 month leadership continuum selected 1 of 25 women dentists across the country, called Guiding Leaders.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, workplace shadowing, networking skills & introductions

JOYCE FONG

Optometrist



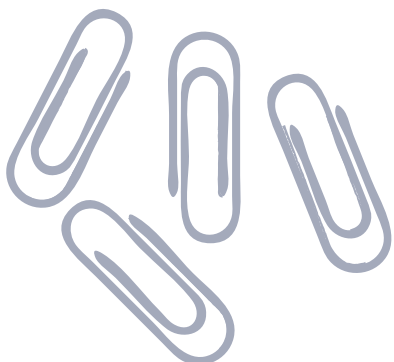
AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Optometry

I graduated from the UC Berkeley School of Optometry in 2017 and worked in many different optometric settings, including private practice, retail, and community health. I took a year off after graduating from UC Irvine in 2012 to focus on my optometry application, study for the OAT, and finish my prerequisites. I applied to and got accepted by all 3 optometry schools in California: UC Berkeley School of Optometry, Southern California College of Optometry, and Western University. I currently work full-time at a community health center in the Bay Area and enjoy what I do.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews and career path exploration & planning.





NAVID GHAFFARI

Medical Affairs Consultant, Tarsus Pharmaceuticals



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Pre-Med

After graduating from UCI with a degree in Neurobiology, I spent half of a year conducting neuroscience research in Basel, Switzerland. I then attended Harvard Medical School and just graduated in May 2023. I am currently a Medical Affairs Consultant at Tarsus Pharmaceuticals, a National Board Member for the Trauma Intervention Program and an adviser at AcceptMed.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Career path exploration & planning, skill development and degree planning



STEVEN GONG

Active Med School Applicant + Rhodes Scholarship Finalist,
Founding Executive Director @California Health Advocacy Network

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician
- Pre-Med

At UCI, I triple-majored in human biology, economics, and political science, focused on health equity. Currently in the medical school application cycle, I work at the intersection between medicine and government: from emergency department scribing and hospital volunteering; to health disparities, stroke, and neuropolitics research; to founding the California Health Advocacy Network; to working at campus- and system-wide student governments, the US Department of Health, the US Department of Justice, the White House, and now the National Institutes of Health. I am also a Strauss Scholar, UCI's "Most Outstanding Undergraduate Student" for 2023, and a finalist for the Rhodes, Marshall, and Truman Scholarships.

As part of the Class of 2023, I can offer the most up-to-date information on navigating and maximizing UCI as a pre-med, especially in storytelling and crafting a "personal brand." Having worked in communications and speechwriting at the White House, I'd love to help you realize and effectively tell your own story.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, goal setting, networking skills & introductions and degree planning





RAFAEL GONZALEZ

Chief Development & Scientific Officer

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Other

I completed both Undergrad and Graduate degrees at UCI in Biological Sciences. I have worked up the ranks to Chief Development & Scientific Officer throughout the past 17 years at RESTEM. Our focus is on regenerative medicine, aging and the immune system. Would be glad to help as I went through many programs at UCI.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration, goal setting, workplace shadowing, networking skills and introductions

BRAD GRAY

Principal Scientist



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research

I have 33 years of biotech/ medical device industry experience. My work history ranges from research in gene therapy to two start-ups developing bio-artificial organs to 3 of the largest healthcare companies (Baxter Healthcare, Abbott Laboratories, and Johnson & Johnson).

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning and goal setting



THUY JENNINGS

Sr Manager Lab Operations, Foundation Medicine

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Clinical work
- Laboratory Science

I was fortunate to find that I had tremendous passion for the field of clinical laboratory science where I started working at right out of college. Coupled with a hunger to learn and do more, I honed my bench techniques while building upon my leadership skills where I now manage operations expansion with the build-out of a new laboratory site for my company.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letters, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours, networking skills & introductions and planning for additional degrees.



BRIAN JONES

Sr. Consultant, Strategic Projects
Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Private sector
- Pharmaceuticals

After graduating from UCI School of Biological Sciences, I pursued graduate studies in Human Biology while working at UCI Medical Center bacteriology laboratories. I then worked for Procter and Gamble Manufacturing Laboratory; advancing into management of manufacturing operations for several years. After the plant closure I switched to a profession that combined medical and manufacturing management becoming a Manager of Sterile Manufacturing at Kendall McGaw Pharmaceuticals in Irvine.

I advanced to Senior Vice President of Operations for several Pharmaceutical companies; including International Medications, Inc., CIMA Labs, Watson Pharmaceuticals, TEVA, and Siegfried Irvine (sterile drug manufacturing). At Siegfried I became Site Head and General Manager before retirement. I have continued consulting for Siegfried on strategic projects to increase their manufacturing capacities since 2020.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, networking skills & introductions and planning for additional degrees.

POLINA KALMANOVCH

Head of Program Management
at a Gene Therapy Company



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Physician
- Pharmaceuticals

I am an experienced professional with a demonstrated history of working in the pharmaceuticals industry. Skilled in U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Biotechnology, Pharmacy, Regulatory Submissions, and Clinical Trials. Strong regulatory professional.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Career path exploration and planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, networking skills and introductions and planning for additional degrees.





DREW KERES

Physical Therapist and Strength & Conditioning Coach

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physical Therapist

I graduated with a Biological Sciences major and Cognitive Science minor 2013. Took a few months to take anatomy at a junior college then applied to Doctor of Physical Therapy programs in California. I attended and graduated with my DPT in 2017, then opened my open practice shortly after. Since then I have traveled across the US as well as overseas working with athletes.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Career path exploration, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, networking skills and introductions and planning for additional degrees.

REGIS LEE

Physician



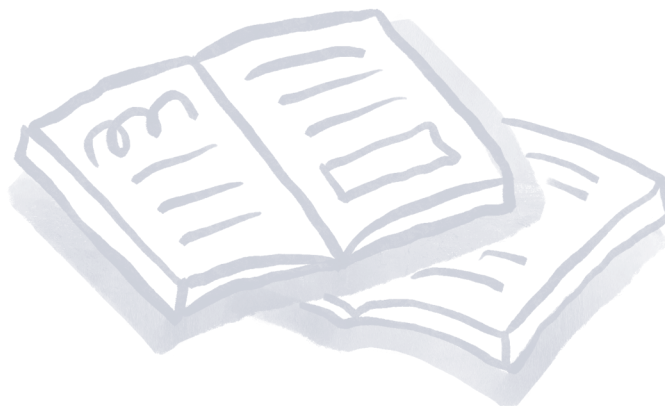
AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician
- Pre-Med

I am a SoCal Native that graduated from UC Irvine in 2017 as a Biological Sciences major. During my time at UC Irvine I was a volunteer at UCI Medical Center, a member of the Pre-Health Fraternity Delta Epsilon Mu, and participating in Cancer Biology research. I took two gap years before starting medical school. During my gap years I was a Medical Assistant for a Pediatrician, Medical Scribe for a mobile practice that worked for Assisted Living facilities, and a volunteer at my local library teaching adults English. For medical school, I studied at Rocky Vista University in Southern Utah and was able to explore the outdoors during my time there. Now I am back home and currently an Internal Medicine Resident Physician at Riverside Community Hospital!

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letters, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning, goal setting, skill development, networking skills & introductions and planning for additional degrees.





KEVIN LEE

Senior Consultant, Ernst & Young

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Other

Strategy and operations consultant with over 6 years of experience in driving cross-functional initiatives for senior leadership teams through go-to-market strategy, business development/sales and product development. Excels in go-to-market planning & execution, strategic program management, and data analytics & reporting. Previously worked at Accenture in technology strategy and implementation.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration, goal setting, skill development, job visit tours, networking skills and introductions and planning for additional degrees.

CHANNY MAI

Clinical Trial Manager, ICON Plc



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Pre-med

After graduating UCI, I started as a study coordinator managing 8-10 clinical trials at a private clinic. With the oversight of a Principal Investigator I screened, enrolled, and managed patients in clinical trials. I continued as a Neuroscience study coordinator at Hoag Hospital managing 12-15 clinical trials. After six years as a study coordinator I started as a Clinical Research Associate monitoring clinical trials. Presently, I manage and oversee the clinical operations of various clinical studies.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning and goal setting





KYLE MARTIN

Cytiva (formerly GE Healthcare Life Sciences)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Other

Kyle, a native of Illinois, moved to Orange County, CA, to study at the University of California Irvine and earning a degree in Biology. Transitioning into industry was a natural progression after spending 4 years on the bench, enabling an application of his passion for science. Initially working on the technical side of the industry, with an affinity for a challenge, Kyle advanced within his role taking on a commercial perspective, now enjoying over a decade of industrial and commercial experience. Kyle is a family man at heart spending free time enjoying the beautiful Southern California climate with his son, Noah. Kyle has completed over fifty marathons and half-marathon distance races volunteering as a pacer for many Southern California events. Inspired by the unified, team-culture at GE Healthcare, Kyle continues to challenge himself both personally and professionally seeking out leadership and collaborative opportunities to support his scientific passion.

Since 2017, Kyle since gone on to lead of team of as many as 14 sales professionals in charge of > \$100M USD spanning 37 states.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration, goal setting, skill development and networking skills & introductions.

KRISTEN NEGVESKY

Veterinarian, Tustin Legacy Animal Hospital



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Veterinary science

After graduating from UCI with my Bachelor's of Science in Neurobiology, I did my Masters studies at UCLA & then went to veterinary school in Canada. I did my rotating internship in Connecticut before moving back home to SoCal. I worked as an associate in various practices & as a relief veterinarian for several years before opening my own hospital with my good friend in 2018.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, job visit tours and planning for additional degrees.



AMELIA OOI

Physician Assistant (PA-C),
Pomona Valley Health Centers Urgent Care

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician Assistant

After graduating UCI in 2019 with a major in biological sciences and minor in digital arts, I took a gap year to gain more clinical experience and finish prerequisite classes before applying to Physician Assistant school in the 2020-2021 cycle. Wanting to stay in Southern California, I ended up at Western University's MSPA program and recently graduated in May 2023. I just passed my board exam and will soon be starting my career as an Urgent Care PA-C! As a former mentee at UCI's BioSci Mentor Program, I am looking forward to mentoring undergraduate students interested in joining the healthcare field.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, Workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours, networking skill & introductions and degree planning

MARK PANKAU

Senior Scientist, Umoja Biopharma



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research

I Worked at a couple companies before going to graduate school to obtain a PhD in pathobiology. I am currently working at a company developing therapies for cancer.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning, workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours, networking skills & introductions and degree planning



CHERRI PENNE-MYERS

Physician Assistant/Associate (PA)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician Assistant

I have been a Physician Assistant/Associate (PA) working in Neuropsych for 19 1/2 years. I also have 10 years of experience in Neurology. Once I completed my BA in Sociology, I continued to take classes to be able to attend PA school. I attended Charles Drew PA Program in Compton, CA.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Career path exploration, goal setting and workplace shadowing.



LARRY PHAM

MD, Emergency Room physician at Hoag Hospital Irvine

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician

After graduating from UCI with a BioSci major in 1998, I first worked at Hycor, a Garden Grove biotech company, doing bioscience Research & Development. Then I worked at UCI as researcher and lab manager with Dr. Lander, in the Dept of Dev and Cell. I then attended Georgetown for medical school from 2002-2006. I returned to CA to complete my residency in Emergency Medicine at UCSF Fresno hospital from 2006-2010. I returned to Orange County in 2010, working at Hoag Hospital Irvine Emergency Department ever since.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, and goal setting

ANNIE PHUNG

Family Medicine Resident Physician



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician

I finished graduate school and then medical school in Georgia at the Philadelphia College of osteopathic medicine in Georgia. Currently, I'm finishing my family medicine residency at Northwestern University. I am pursuing palliative care fellowship.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Career path exploration and planning



CARLA POULIN

Vice President, Technical Project Management, MeridianLink

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Biotech
- Healthcare
- Private sector

I worked in biotech right after UCI before I went back to school and obtained my MBA. I was hired as a project manager and have since made it my career. I worked in a variety of healthcare such as Anthem, UnitedHealth, health insurance brokerage, workers comp, biotech until my current role. Now work at a financial services software company leading the project management team for the engineering organization.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, career path exploration, goal setting, skill development and networking skills & introductions.



POOJA RAJA

Elevance Health | Caredon Strategy and Operations IMO

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Government
- Other

I am experienced in producing actionable solutions and pilots from complex multi-dimensional healthcare issues through innovation, ideation, and collective consensus to achieve financial plan. Able to flex between strategy development and operational execution within hospital, ambulatory, and home-based settings.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, skill development and degree planning

SEETA RAJPARA

PhD student at USC in
Computational Biology/Genomics



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Other

My career trajectory is not linear; I was initially interested in medical school but after working as an EMT I realized I'd be more effective on the research/commercial side of the field. I pursued my Master's of Science at Brown University, in biotechnology, and worked in an interdisciplinary lab focused on polymeric nano spheres for drug delivery. After this, I worked for about 5 years in the biotech industry, specifically in genomics and molecular diagnostics. I'm interested in personalized/precision medicine and decided to pursue my PhD after this industry experience. I'm currently at USC Keck school of medicine and I'm focused on bioinformatics/computational analysis and tool development for liquid biopsy and detection of epigenetic modifications involved in colorectal cancer within racially underrepresented groups.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letters, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours, networking skills & introductions and degree planning.



GINA RAMIREZ

Medical Student, MS4

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Physician
- Pre-med

Hello!! My name is Gina Ramirez and I am a current MS4 at the University of Arizona, College of Medicine - Tucson. I am a UCI alumni and graduated in 2017. I am planning on applying to residency in pathology, and hoping to eventually become a forensic pathologist. I have interests in histology, medicolegal investigation and student/community wellness.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, skill development and degree planning

MORGAN SHIH

Sr Director, Alliance and Program Management,
Halozyne Therapeutics



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Other

I am the Senior Director of Alliance and Program Management, Halozyne Therapeutics. I continue focus in learning as much about the pharmaceutical industry as possible and seek career growth training, certifications, and opportunities. I returned to UCI and earned an MBA and aim to develop transferable technical and business skills in light of industry trends.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration and planning, goal setting, networking skills & introductions and planning for additional degrees



BRANDIL STEVENSON

PharmD

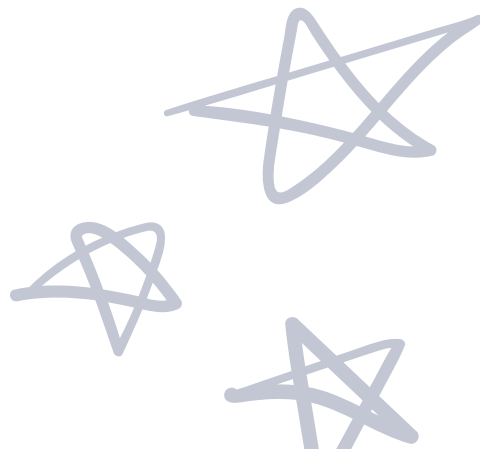
AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Other

I attended the School of Cytology at USC as well as the School of Pharmacy at University of Texas in Austin.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Mock interviews, goal setting, and degree planning





CAMERON STOCKFORD

Research Technician, UC Irvine School of Medicine

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Pre-med

I graduated summa cum laude from Pitzer College, a Member of the Claremont Colleges, with honors in cellular and molecular neuroscience. During undergrad--my junior and senior years--I was the lead student advisor under the director of the prehealth office at Keck Science Department (the joint sciences at the Claremont Colleges). I am passionate about assisting prehealth/premed students navigate the incredibly challenging path, as I, too, am myself. After two years at UCI School of Medicine, I will apply for MD-PhD joint programs to become a physician-scientist. Currently, I have one accepted and soon-to-be-published manuscript and another that will be sent later this month for publication; thus, I have quite a bit of research knowledge that I can provide students as well.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, goal setting, workplace shadowing and degree planning

JAMES TRUONG

Emergency Physician



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician
- Pre-med

I did my undergrad at UCLA in mechanical engineering. I had worked for two years before I decided to pursue a career in medicine. I attended UCI as a post-bac. I went to medical school at UCSD and did my residency training at UCI Medical Center.

I have been practicing emergency medicine for the past 28 years.

My goal is to help undergraduate student who are interested in a career in medicine.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews and career path exploration & planning



ABIZAR VAKHARIA

Chief Executive Officer
Every Voice Engaged Foundation

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Government

I made a pivot after my undergraduate degree from Biology to Technology. That resulted in twenty-five successful years of experience in the world of product development has allowed me to hone my instincts and develop large global teams to deliver pioneering products and business results. I love to define, build and deliver products that change customers lives.

I can help a student that is thinking about something similar.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting and degree planning

BENJAMIN YU

North American Mental Health Services



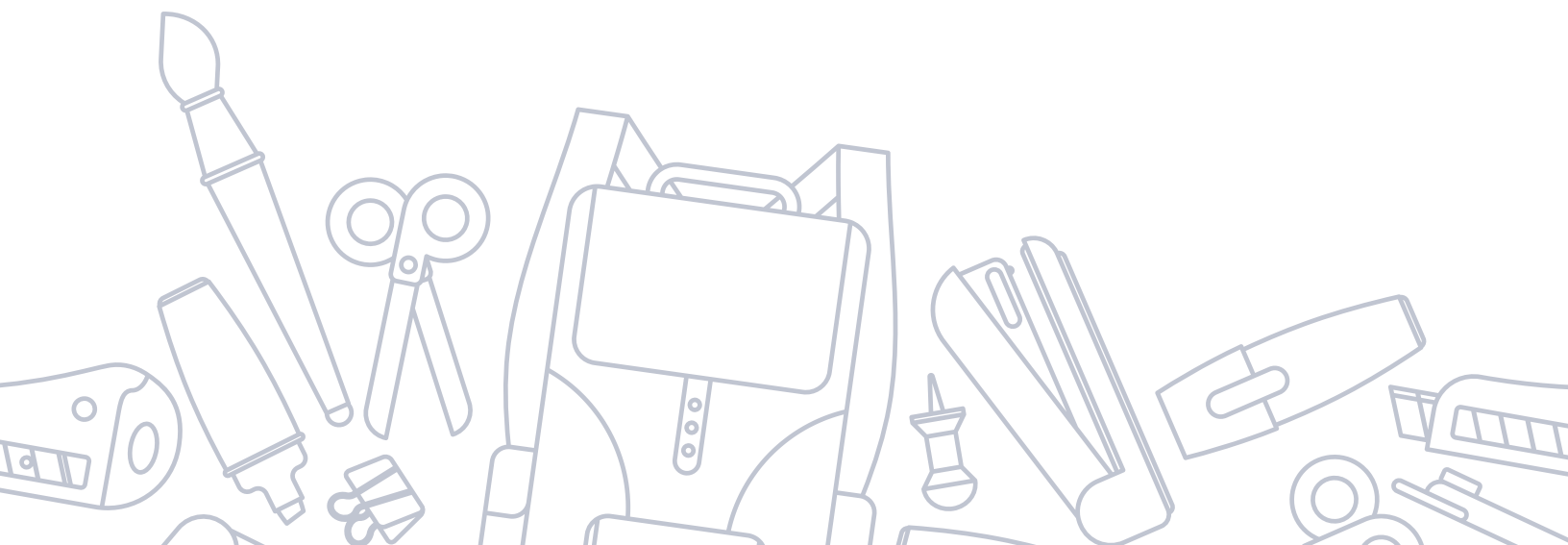
AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Physician
- Pre-med

I attended medical school, residency and fellowship at UCI, then spent 15 years in a group practice, and the last 4 years in telepsychiatry.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning and goal setting





BRYAN XIE

Business Development Manager,
UCI Center for Clinical Research

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Research
- Pre-Med
- BioTech

I completed a PhD in Immunology at Stanford Medicine studying healthy immune reconstitution following allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for hematologic malignancies. While a graduate student, I also co-founded a student-led public biotech investment fund, engaged in biotech consulting, and helped spin out a biotech startup from my advisor's lab. After receiving my degree, I went to work at a cancer immunotherapy biotech startup in the Bay Area as a scientist and business development associate. Recently, I started a new position at UCI Center for Clinical Research as a business development manager aiming to expand and manage our portfolio of clinical trials.

MENTORSHIP SKILLS

Resume building, cover letter, mock interviews, career path exploration & planning, goal setting, workplace shadowing, skill development, job visit tours, networking skills & introductions and degree planning

