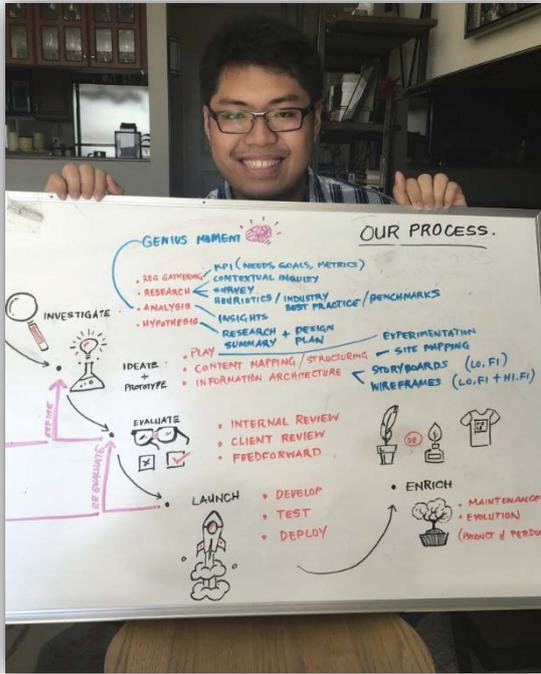


**Professional Science Master's Scholar**

**Norence Aaron Tan**

Angeles University Foundation



**PSM Degree**

*Master of Business and Science in Information Technology*

**US University**

*Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*

**Date of Completion**

*December 2016*

**GPA**

*3.96*

**Master of Business and Science in Information Technology**

The Master of Business and Science program at Rutgers University is geared towards the meaningful marriage of business and science. In effect, the program offers students a robust business curriculum strategically coupled with a traditional Master's degree. The Information technology (IT) concentration, in particular, aims to provide students with necessary skills for management of information technology in the enterprise.

**As a PSM student, what was the highlight of your study?**

The most meaningful experience in my PSM journey is the internship program. I was fortunate enough to be offered an internship position by my professor from the User Experience Design department who incidentally is the founder and principal of a growing New York-based UX consulting firm. Unlike other internships, I was able to have (a) one-on-one training in the field of UX; (b) had first-hand experience attending project presentations and client meetings in various companies within the greater New York Metropolitan area; and (c) attend different workshops, most notably in Chicago where I became a participant in a conference for web designers, developers and project managers.

**In what way has the USAID scholarship changed you?**

In a lot of ways, the USAID scholarship made me realize that life has more to offer beyond the Philippines. The experience provided me a global perspective of things; it made me think, do, and feel GLOBAL.

**How would you use your degree to contribute or influence economic growth in the country?**

One of the main motivators as to why I applied for the USAID scholarship is for me to be an educator someday. I believe that one of the most effective ways to contribute to our country's economic growth is for me to enter the academia so I can echo my experiences in the US to the next generation of movers and shakers of our country.

**As a young scientist, what do you envision for the Philippine science, technology and innovation ecosystem in the next 10 years?**

The Philippines is still in its nascent stage relative to developed countries like the United States. And this reality makes it even more exciting as there are a lot of possibilities yet to be uncovered! I envision that the startup culture in the Philippines will be stronger as ever, and that the mindset of the youth will not be solely focused on getting jobs but inventing their own jobs.

*Since his return to the Philippines, Norence has been working as the Interactive Manager of New York-based Inkroots Corp. where he manages digital development and UX/UI design for mobile and web products.*

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