

Yurong He

AY 2015-16 All-S.T.A.R. Fellow

College of Information Studies

Department of Information Studies

Fifth Year doctoral student, RA and TA



My four-year service as a research assistant has enhanced my graduate education experience from two major aspects. First, by gaining effective mentoring from my advisors and building close and pleasant collaborative work relationships with them and other colleagues across research projects, I have made great progress in growing into an independent, insightful, and creative interdisciplinary researcher in the frontier of information studies. My

professional knowledge in multiple fields (e.g., human computer interaction, computer supportive cooperative work, information management) and research skills in conducting both quantitative and qualitative studies have been largely increased. I have accumulated rich and precious experiences in working with researchers from the same or different departments (e.g., Biology, Computer Science), different universities (e.g., Brigham Young University), and different organizations (e.g., Smithsonian Institution) in different phases of doing research, such as defining and solving research problems, and publishing papers. I am now able to integrate my professional knowledge and research skills in identifying significant research topics and problems and figuring out multiple solutions to the problems both collaboratively and independently.

Second, my soft skills, such as communication, networking, team working, time management, working under pressure, and my understanding of research ethics and integrity have also been significantly improved. As an international student whose first language is not English, the development of my communication skills is especially important.

Besides these two aspects, my graduate assistant experience has made myself more certain about my passion of doing research to contribute to increase human knowledge and solve the global sociotechnical challenges.