

2016

Alumni Spotlight

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Alumni Spotlight

April Song

Michigan Library Scholars

Capstone Presentation

July 29, 2016

Project Overview

❖ My project spotlights the intellectual influence of Chinese and Taiwanese University of Michigan alumni who returned to China and published primarily in Chinese.



Objectives

- ❖ Research across the U-M Library collections and databases to obtain biographical information and investigate the influence of Chinese and Taiwanese alumni.
- ❖ Feature alumni works from the U-M Library collections.
- ❖ Conduct interviews with several chosen contemporary alumni.
- ❖ Create a website to spotlight the alumni and feature their works.

Challenges

❖ Names

❖ Scaling

❖ Timeframe

Solutions

❖ Carefully track name iterations and search for every one

❖ Narrowly defining intellectual influence and sticking to it

❖ Prioritizing tasks and meeting more frequently



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

HOME

ALUMNI

INTERVIEWS

ABOUT

The Alumni Spotlight features notable alumni of the University of Michigan who originally come from the Greater China region (Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan). It highlights the intellectual influence of University of Michigan alumni who returned to the Greater China region after completing their education and continued to publish their works in Chinese. The alumni profiles present biographical information, photographs, and several interviews with contemporary alumni. The book showcase window to the right of the biographical information on each profile page features a three dimensional representation of the alumnus' works which opens to a formal citation of the work and a link to the item in Mirlyn, the University of Michigan Library's catalog.

An accessible version of this homepage is available on the [Alumni page](#).





ALUMNI

Chen Zuohuang

陳佐滢



Director and conductor of the Chinese National Symphony Orchestra and the Wildlife Symphony
CHEN'S PROFILE

Stephen Fung

馮德倫



Television and film producer, director, and actor
FUNG'S PROFILE

Huang Jiashi

黃家駟



Surgeon, teacher, pioneer of Chinese breast surgery
HUANG'S PROFILE

Wang Zhengting

王正廷



Diplomat, politician, ambassador to the United States
WANG'S PROFILE

Wu Hao 吳皓

吳皓



Independent filmmaker and blogger
WU'S PROFILE WU'S INTERVIEW

John C.H. Wu

吳經雄



Author of the Chinese Constitution of 1946, diplomat, scholar, authority on international law
WU'S PROFILE

Benson Yeh

葉丙成



Engineer, educator, creator of Hahow
YEH'S PROFILE YEH'S INTERVIEW

Yong Cheng

永城



Business consultant and best-selling mystery novelist
YONG'S PROFILE YONG'S INTERVIEW

Zeng Chengkui

曾呈奎



Father of marine biology in China
ZENG'S PROFILE

INTERVIEWS

Yong Cheng 永城

"Every life is a mirror that allows us to find ourselves. My works come from my experiences; they are those mirrors."

[YONG'S INTERVIEW](#)

[YONG'S PROFILE](#)

Image Courtesy of Yong Cheng



Wu Hao 吳皓

Interviewed by April Song on July 6, 2016

"My upcoming film, "People's Republic of China," continues my interest in Chinese youths by focusing on China's popular online showrooms; here kids in their late teens and early twenties can attract millions of fans by singing karaoke live online, and become multi-millionaires in the process."

[WU'S INTERVIEW](#)

[WU'S PROFILE](#)

Image Courtesy of Wu Hao





ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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Wu Hao

吴皓

INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER AND BLOGGER

MBA 2000

[GO TO WU'S INTERVIEW](#)

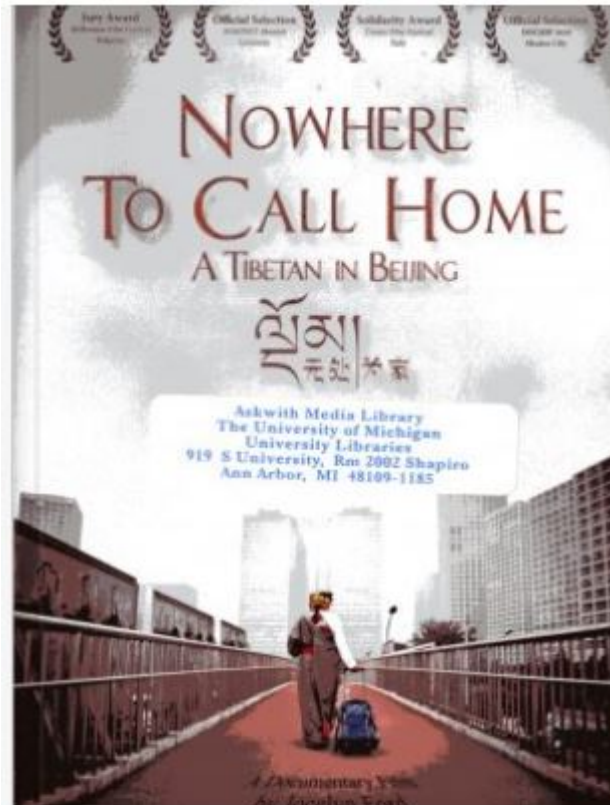
BIOGRAPHY

Originally trained as a molecular biologist, Hao Wu is a Chinese independent filmmaker and blogger. He holds an Master of Science from Brandeis University, and received his Master's in Business Administration from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business in 2000. Wu is currently a fellow at the New America Foundation.

INTELLECTUAL INFLUENCE

Hao's documentary work works to break stereotypes about China and show the complexity and





↻ FLIP

📖 CITATION

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Wu Hao 吴皓

INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER AND BLOGGER

MBA 2000

[GO TO WU'S PROFILE](#)

TALK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

I spent two years at the University of Michigan Ross School of Business for my MBA. It was an eye-opening experience for an ex-molecular biologist who had spent many years in various laboratories -- the diverse student body, the friendly atmosphere, and the great learning opportunities. Quite transformative. I felt like a different person -- more curious and more confident -- after those two years.

HOW DID THE UNIVERSITY INFLUENCE YOUR CAREER?

I discovered my interest in product management in the technology sector at Ross. After graduation, I worked for Internet companies like Excite.com and Earthlink in the Silicon Valley, and later moved back to China and continued my career at Alibaba and TripAdvisor. In 2008-2011 I was TripAdvisor's China Country Manager. As my career progressed, so did my passion in more artistic and creative endeavors. In 2012 I decided to take some time off to pursue documentary filmmaking full time. Now four years later, I am still making, and enjoying making, documentaries.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO FILM DOCUMENTARIES SUCH AS "BEIJING OR BUST"? HOW DID YOU CHOOSE THE TOPIC FOR "NOWHERE TO CALL HOME," YOUR MOST RECENT WORK?

I did "Beijing or Bust" on the side as a part-time project when I first moved back to China in 2004. Having been away from China for 12 years, it was mind-boggling to observe how China had changed and to make sense my own migration experience from China to the US and then back. "Beijing or Bust" tells the experience of six American-born-Chinese (ABC) as they migrated from the US to China to search for identity, career and purpose in life. In some way, making the film was a way for me to understand China again.

I produced "Nowhere to Call Home" so I wouldn't call it my work. Documentary films are truly directors' babies. The last film I directed, "The Road to Fame," was about China's one-child generation. It tells the story of students at China's top drama academy staging the American musical "Fame" as their graduation



AN INTERVIEW WITH

Yong Cheng永城

BUSINESS CONSULTANT AND

BESTSELLING MYSTERY NOVELIST

BS 1997

MBA 2000

GO TO YONG'S PROFILE

TALK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

-请简要谈一谈您在密歇根大学的学习生涯。

这个问题的答案，大概不太容易简要。1995-1997年，我在密西根大学工程学院攻读机械工程学士学位。虽然只有短短两年多，却非常令我难忘。作为转学的留学生，陌生的环境、生疏的语言、学业的压力和紧张的经济状况都带给我很大压力，但其中最大的压力还是来自经济。我曾最多同时打四份工，在中餐馆、快餐店、学校实验室和研究中心都打过工。记得我的时间表是这样的：早晨8点到学校上课，下课后赶去餐馆打午餐，下午两点赶回学校上课，下午五点再去餐厅，然后一直工作到夜里十点，回住处后才开始念书，要到凌晨三四点睡觉。这样忙碌的日子，倒是把初到美国的很多愁绪都挤没了。我记得我住在安阿伯边上的一座小房子的地下室，每月150美元租金，骑一辆20美元买来的旧自行车，到北校园单程大约40分钟，在水天雪地里有每天骑车上下学，也是令人难忘的体验。正是这段艰苦岁月，让我初尝人生之苦，理解奋斗的意义并非锦上添花，而是为了生存，不仅是当下的生存，还有未来的生存。

It is not easy to answer this question briefly. From 1995 to 1997, I was studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan College of Engineering for my Bachelor's Degree. Although it was only a little more than two years, it is still fresh in my mind. As a transfer student studying abroad, I was under a lot of pressure from the new environment, unfamiliar language, academic pressure, and tight economic situation. But among these, strongest pressure was from my economic situation. At one point in time, I worked up to four jobs: a Chinese restaurant, a fast food restaurant, a laboratory, and a research center. I remember my daily schedule was as follows: I arrived at eight in the morning to class; after leaving class, I went to work the lunch shift at the restaurant; at two in the afternoon I rushed back to school to go to class; after five, I had to be at the cafeteria again. Then, I worked until ten at night; only after I returned to my dormitory, did I begin to study; I would not be able to sleep until three or four in the morning. I was so busy that I did not have time for the loneliness and homesickness most people feel they first go to the United States. I remember that I lived in the basement of a small house at the edge of Ann Arbor; my monthly rent was \$150. Riding a used bicycle that I bought for \$20, it took forty minutes to get to North Campus. In the ice and snow, riding the bicycle to and from school every day was an experience that is hard to forget. It was from this difficult time that I began to taste the bitterness of life; I came to understand that the meaning of working hard is not to get icing onto the cake, but to survive. Survival not only for the present, but for the future.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO WRITE YOUR MYSTERY NOVEL SERIES?

Lessons Learned

- ❖ An understanding of the organization, scale, services, and work within itself in the U-M Library.
- ❖ How to efficiently find everything from books to articles to microfilms in the U-M collections and databases and outside them.
- ❖ The alumni stories are inspirational because they show influence and movement across fields and around the world.

Next Steps

- ❖ Research was originally conducted on 49 individuals.
- ❖ We narrowed down the scope the number of people because of time.
- ❖ Adding alumni to the site through the WordPress interface is easy.

Thank You!

