

College of Business PhD Student Research Excellence Award 2019 –  
Dr Boluo Liu



I am Liu Boluo, a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Accountancy. My research focuses on the spillover effect from the bond market to the stock market, corporate voluntary disclosure and auditing.

I recently received the College of Business Ph.D. Student Research Excellence Award 2019. I am grateful to my supervisor, Dr. Guan Yuyan. Without her encouragement, I would not have chosen a career in academia. Over the last three years, she has given me many suggestions and a great deal of guidance on my research work. I am also grateful to Dr. Xin Xiangang in the Department of Accountancy. He gave me considerable time and thought, and I learned a lot from my discussion with him.

I wish to share a little about my learning experience during my study in the Ph.D. program. First, I suggest not taking shortcuts. Reading many papers is the first step in Ph.D. life. Some students may claim to understand a paper from only looking at the abstract and introduction. However, this is not enough for a fresh or junior Ph.D. student. When I was a first- and second-year Ph.D. student, I benefited a great deal from reading papers from the beginning to end, especially classic papers and papers that were discussed in the seminar classes. I learned how to generate the idea, develop the hypothesis, and construct the research design.

Another place that some students seek shortcuts is in learning coding. We can download many macros and packages from the Internet, such as WRDS, but I suggest that we read and seek to understand each line of code before using it. Only in this way can we make sure that the codes in our projects are correct. Most importantly, doing so will improve our coding skills.

Second, discussion and cooperation with other researchers help us learn efficiently and effectively. Besides the coursework and seminars provided by our department, the other source from which I benefited tremendously was discussions and co-authorship with the faculty in our department, especially Dr. Guan Yuyan and Dr. Xin Xiangang.

Outside my study and research, I really enjoy hiking in Hong Kong. I benefit incredibly from it. It makes me healthy and energetic, which helps me deal with the great pressure I face and progress in my Ph.D. study.