SMU SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY

School of
**Computing and
Information Systems**

AY2025

SCIS DEAN'S LIST AWARD

The SCIS Dean's List Award for PhD students recognises outstanding SCIS PhD students who have consistently shown exceptional research achievements in their research.

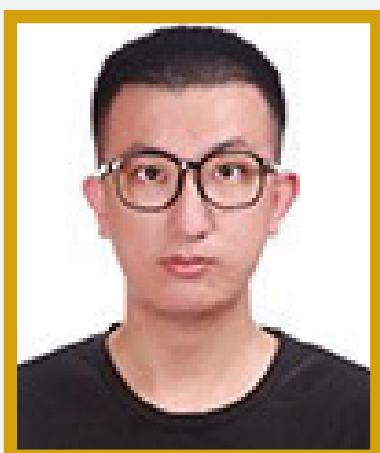**LEGEND:** ✏️ ACHIEVEMENTS IN AY2024-25   📚 PREVIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS

BUI The Viet
✏️ ICLR 2025
NIPS 2024 * 2
ICML 2025
📚 AAMAS 2023

My success stems from great supervision from Prof. Tien and support from SMU faculty and friends. My advice: fully embrace your academic community. Actively seeking mentorship and collaborating with peers is the best way to expand your knowledge, diversify research, and achieve your goals.
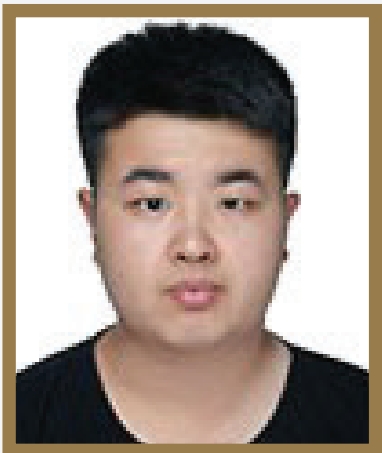
HE Junda
✏️ TOSEM 2025
EMSE 2025
📚 ICSE 2024
TOSEM 2024

Always make yourself happy. Adopt a mindset of simplifying complexity rather than complicating what is simple. Think top-down and act bottom-up until they reach the middle. Prioritise collaborative endeavors over working in isolation. Recognise that extended hours are counterproductive; adequate rest is essential for maintaining the energy and focus needed for the journey ahead.
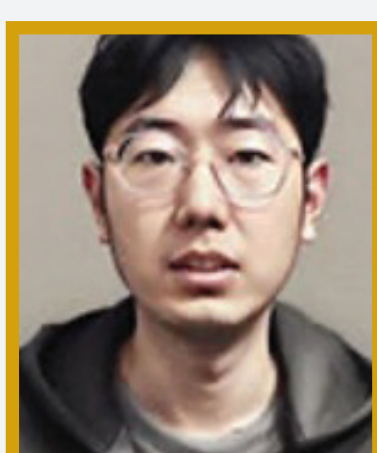
MA Xiao
✏️ IEEE TMC 2025
📚 Percom 2024
Best Paper Award Percom 2024

1. Find a topic that genuinely excites you — passion drives persistence.
2. Read widely to build research taste and recognize impactful questions.
3. Be patient and think deeply — good ideas often come from slow, focused thinking.

QIAO Hezhe
✏️ KDD 2025 (one of two joint first authors)   IJCAL 2025 (one of two joint first authors)
NIPS 2024   TKDE 2024
📚 NIPS 2023

(1) Step out of your comfort zone and take on challenging tasks. (2) Develop a physical hobby that helps ease anxiety. (3) Everyone has their own timeline — compare yourself only to who you were yesterday, not to others. (4) Research is 95% frustration; learn to enjoy the 5% that makes it all worthwhile, and repeat. (5) Research is not your whole life.

SUN Zhensu
✏️ TOSEM 2025
ISSTA 2024-ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper award
ByteDance Scholarship

Before starting a project, clearly define an interesting research question to guide your work. More importantly, prioritise completion over perfection—finishing a first draft or prototype quickly allows for feedback and improvement, while chasing perfection early often leads to delays or unfinished work. Progress matters more than flawless beginnings.

ZHU Jiawen
✏️ ICCV 2025
📚 CVPR 2024 * 2

Stay curious and open-minded—ask "why" and "what if" constantly. Read broadly to connect ideas across domains. Start simple, iterate fast, and don't be afraid of failed experiments—they often lead to the most surprising findings.
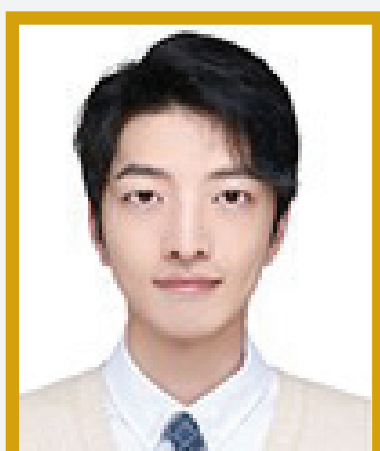
TIAN Zichen
✏️ CVPR 2025
Highlight Award from CVPR 2025
NeurIPS 2024

(1) Think top-down. Ensure clear motivation from research domain to specific design. (2) Write down all questions until each is answered or acknowledged as unanswerable. (3) Practice clear, simple writing accessible to diverse readers. (4) During setbacks, maintain faith and view those difficulties from a broader research career perspective. (5) Most importantly, follow supervisor's guidance closely with timely feedback; deeply grateful for Prof. Sun Qianru's guidance!

SHI Jieke
✏️ TOSEM 2025 * 2
📚 ICSE 2024
ASE 2022

· Read and internalise papers extensively—your brain is your best recording device. The more you retain, the more agile your thinking becomes.
· Ensure your work meets your own quality standards before sharing.
· Maintain a clean codebase—it always pays off in the long run.
· Visit your office regularly and seek feedback from your supervisor and peers.
· Sleep well, and don't hesitate to relax when needed.

YU Jiongchi
✏️ FSE 2025
MSR 2025 Distinguished Junior Reviewer Award
📚 ICSE 2023

1. Engage in frequent quality discussions with your advisor and senior researchers.
2. Learning without thinking leads to confusion; thinking without learning is perilous.
3. Maintain a harmonious life to provide the strongest foundation for sustainable research excellence.
focused thinking.

YING Jiahao
✏️ NIPS 2024   ACL 2025
📚 ACL 2024   NIPS 2023 (one of two joint first authors)

Stay curious and keep questioning. Focus on solving important problems, and don't be afraid of challenges.