Adelson Chua, the 2017-2018
EWJ I Gateway Fellow
at International House, UC Berkeley

Adelson Chua is from the Philippines and a new Ph.D. student in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS). He received his B.S. in Computer Engineering and M.S. Electrical Engineering (major in Microelectronics) from the University of the Philippines, Diliman in 2012 and 2014 respectively. He was an Assistant Professor at the same university and is a faculty member of the Microelectronics and Microprocessors Laboratory. He was a key member of different government-funded projects such as the implementation of an error-detecting and correcting microprocessor; creation of a vision-capable microcontroller; and design of a wide temperature range, power-line, energy harvesting sensor node system on a chip. He has also been a part of the Philippine-California Advanced Research Institutes (PCARI) which enabled him to participate in four 1-month workshops at UC Berkeley on the creation of a resilient sensory swarm for energy and environmental monitoring. This exposed him to the Berkeley culture which motivated him, aside from his desire to continue his career in academia, to pursue a graduate degree abroad.

Outside of the academia, Adelson trains in Taekwondo. He is a 1st dan blackbelt and won several regional competitions in his home country. He also runs for fun and once finished a half marathon with no training. Being a creative guy who likes to craft props for either movies, games or anime related, he loves to use the laser cutter in his university to create stuff. Ask him about his laser cut projects and he'll be glad to show you one and talk about it. He's not a fan of 3D printers though and never learned 3D modelling, which is something he regrets and wants to do something about it in the future. He has a laid back personality, but hopefully the I-House community would enable him to interact more and learn other people's cultures. He is looking forward to a memorable I-House experience!

From his Nomination:
We are delighted to nominate Adelson Chua for a gateway Fellowship. He has an outstanding academic record from The University of the Philippines with high grades. He also won the President's Medal for Outstanding Undergraduate Student Projects as an undergraduate in 2012. Mr. Chua has numerous publications and presentations in his field of energy harvesting. He collaborated with researchers at Berkeley in a series of four 1-month workshops to create an open sensory swarm hardware and software platform. Mr. Chua has been a junior faculty member at his alma mater since graduating with a master's degree in 2014. A Ph.D from Berkeley would allow him to make further contributions in the field of alternative energy. Prof. Louis Alarcon, his advisor and a Berkeley PhD alumnus in EECS, says of him, "Mr. Adelson Chua, has been the best student I have had, so far. He is energetic, resourceful, and leverages his good grasp of fundamentals to think outside the box. He is a natural leader and works well with others. I am confident that he will be a very good addition to the EECS department."

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The EWJ Gateway Fellowship was established in 2004 by donor who prefers to remain anonymous. This Fellowship supports incoming or continuing doctoral students, from around the world, pursuing studies in any academic field of study for up to two consecutive years.