

Member Spotlight



Ken Qiu, CFA, DBA, CPA
*Assistant Professor of Finance,
Else School of Management,
Millsaps College*

Ken, of Clinton, serves as an assistant professor of finance at Millsaps College in Jackson where he teaches a variety of finance courses including investment and portfolio management, personal finance, and financial markets in addition to directing the student-managed Louis Wilson Fund. He also serves as the principal contact for the CFA affiliate program at Millsaps College and as the faculty advisor for the Millsaps College team in the our Society's annual Ethics Challenge.

Read more information about Ken in his answers to our Member Spotlight questions.

Who has had the most influence on you, and why?

My parents were always supportive and encouraging when I was at good or difficult times. My academic adviser in the MBA program at Mississippi College, Dr. Lloyd Roberts, has taught me not only being a good teacher, but also being a good person and a role model in the life. Since I started up my career as a college professor at Millsaps, Dr. Walter Neely has been a great mentor for me in various aspects. I am very thankful for meeting all the great people in my life.

What made you decide to pursue the CFA charter?

The Asian Financial Crisis (1997-1998) first drew my attention and attracted my interest into the finance field. I got exposure to the name of CFA as two finance faculties in the MBA programs (at Mississippi College) held the designation. After taking several finance concentration courses in the MBA program, I felt that I still did not fully understand the subject of finance, especially the investment field, so I decided to take part in the CFA program as it would both help me better understand the finance subject and improve my competence.

What do you enjoy most about your current professional role?

I enjoy teaching and interacting with the students in the classroom. Seeing students grow and excel in their lives is the favorite part of my teaching career.

What is the best advice you've ever received?

A quote from a retired (table tennis) athlete has motivated me to always move forward in my life, even when facing difficulty: "How many times can one person fight in the life? If not now, when will it be?"

What motivated you to join CFA Society Mississippi?

I first heard about the CFA Society of Mississippi from my college finance professor at MC (Dr. Nancy Anderson) and some other local friends. For an occasional chance (after passing the first two level of CFA exams), I received an invitation email from the CFA Society of Mississippi and participated in an annual holiday party. Although it was my first time participating in an event organized by the society, I was very impressed by the good characters of the members and the great atmosphere of the society, so I decided to continue my association with the society.

What advice would you give to a current or potential candidate?

For current candidates: "Hand on to it, and you will get there. All your efforts will eventually pay off."

For potential candidates: "Participating in the CFA program will help you better understand the subject of finance, and you won't regret that."