

SUMMER EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS:

ZU, ZHONGLIANG, JAMES EDWARDS AND FIONA HARRISON



ZU ZHONGLIANG

What is your name? Zhongliang Zu

Where are you from? China

What department do you work for at Vanderbilt? Radiology Department

What do you do (not technical)? I conduct research on imaging science.

What famous dead person would you like to meet? Albert Einstein

Please finish this statement: I have a fear of being alone.

What was the funniest thing that occurred to you when you got to America? Outdoor camping

What is your favorite animal? Squirrels

What do you miss most about home? Dumplings!

If my friends had to pick three words to describe me, they would say: Kind, open-minded and hospitable.



JAMES EDWARDS

What is your name? James Edwards

Where are you from? Wales, United Kingdom

What department do you work for at Vanderbilt? Dept of Medicine/Clinical Pharmacology/Center for Bone Biology

What do you do (not technical)? Research into bone development and disease. Specifically, investigating mechanisms controlling bone cell interactions, age-related bone loss and tumor metastasis and cancer-induced osteolysis.

What are the “must sees” in your home country? The Welsh countryside is gorgeous (on a sunny day) and Cardiff bay and the Welsh Millennium Center are worth visiting. The National Botanic Garden of Wales is also lovely, and if you like old castles and fables of dragons and Merlin the magician, then you should definitely visit Wales. A Fish and chip shop is also a must see (and taste).

What is your favorite restaurant in Nashville? Tin Angel and Mirror are my favorites.

Please finish this statement: If I ruled the world, I would make everyone watch WWE Wrestling.

What is your favorite book? The Happy Man and his Dump Truck

What is your favorite movie? Dirty Harry, and the Big Lebowski

Where would you like to vacation if Vanderbilt paid you more? I like to travel and visit different types of places e.g. I love Vegas but would equally love to visit Machu Picchu. If money was no object I'd love to have a go on one of those near-space, Earth orbit trips.

What was your least favorite subject in school? Games/Sport

What do you miss most about home? Along with family and friends I really miss British pubs, British beer and pub food.

What is the weirdest thing about the US? (People, places, things, etc)

The US is such a wild and weird place to live I couldn't possibly pick out one thing, but the main differences that hit me upon arrival here were the gargantuan food portions, the poor TV and how polite everyone seems (they hardly ever swear, or not on a British level anyway). They also drive on the wrong side of the road, you know.

FIONA HARRISON

What is your name? Fiona Harrison

Where are you from? United Kingdom - the South West of England

What department do you work for at Vanderbilt? Diabetes & Endocrinology in Medicine

What do you do (not technical)? Investigate the role of antioxidants like vitamins C and E in the brain in Alzheimer's Disease and prenatal development

Who is your favorite actor or actress? I love Dame Judi Dench, Dame Maggie Smith, Julie Walters & Imelda Staunton. Some British classics!

Please finish this statement: If I didn't have to work I'd be cooking, gardening, traveling and shopping or be buried under a giant pile of books.

What is the most overrated part of the body? The feet. Feet are very useful as the means to display shoes but ugly on their own.

Please finish this statement: "I have a fear of flying", I like someone to hold my hand when there is a lot of turbulence

What is the worst advice that you got from your parents? I don't think my parents have ever given me bad advice - or if they have I must have ignored it

What is the best advice that you got from your parents? Not so much advice but a prediction - when I told my mum I was taking a job in the United States for just two years she told me I would meet a man over here, fall in love and "that would be the end of it". She was right. I got engaged this year, to an American, and have no immediate plans to return home.

What was the funniest thing that occurred to you when you first got to America? The radio traffic news was always talking about "tractor-trailers" on the freeway and I couldn't understand why because Nashville is not very rural and I had never seen a tractor out here. It took months before someone told me that here "tractor" can mean a truck whereas at home it means a big, slow farm vehicle that you usually only see in the fields.

