

# VAUGHN TAN

PhD Program in Organizational Behavior and Sociology  
Department of Sociology, Harvard University  
Organizational Behavior Unit, Harvard Business School

E vtan [at] hbs.edu  
T 1 (617) 500 2461  
F 1 (617) 496 5794  
M 32 Chatham St., Apt. 4,  
Cambridge, MA 02139

---

## EDUCATION, RESEARCH

HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES and HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL Cambridge and Boston, Mass.

DEGREE PhD, Organizational Behavior and Sociology (ongoing, expected 2013).

RESEARCH Diffuse organizations; knowledge creation and cross-domain transfer; scale-freedom.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY HARVARD COLLEGE Cambridge, Mass.

DEGREE AB, Social Studies, *summa cum laude*, (2005).

THESIS *Leverage* (an essay on information structure and transmission in American haute cuisine).

ADVISORS Theodore C. Bestor; Kiku Adatto, Irene J. Winter, John R. Stilgoe.

## AWARDS

2005 Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize (for *Leverage*)

Noma-Reischauer Prize (for *Leverage*)

2004 Phi Beta Kappa

2002 Detur Prize for academic excellence

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

2005 Clarendon Fellowship at Oxford University (declined)

2004 Carol K. Pforzheimer Research Fellowship

Reischauer Institute Research Fellowship

2003 Carol K. Pforzheimer Research Fellowship

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

HARVARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES Cambridge, Mass.

2009 Engineering Sciences 147: Social change at the intersection of art and science

Teaching fellow for undergraduate class on interdisciplinary concept development;

Faculty: David Edwards.

ANDERSON RANCH ART FOUNDATION WOOD AND SCULPTURE PROGRAM Snowmass Village, Colo.

2008 Sculpture, joinery, case construction, lathe technique, bamboo, surface treatment, art history;

Teaching fellow for intensive 1-2 week workshops and seminars;

Faculty: Merryl Saylan, Paul Bowen, Jenna Goldberg, David Ellsworth, Tom Huang, Holly Block.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ORGANISMIC AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY Cambridge, Mass.

2004 - 2005 Biology 95hf: Agriculture, economics, and biology;

Teaching fellow for interdisciplinary advanced undergraduate field and research seminar, full-year;

Faculty: Glenn Adelson.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY WRITING PROGRAMS AT HARVARD COLLEGE AND HARVARD EXTENSION SCHOOL Cambridge, Mass.

2002 - 2005 Tutorial program in the Writing Center, Harvard College;

Taught individual writing tutorials on argument, style, and structure;

Director: Jane Rosenszweig (2002), Maxine Rodburg (2002 - 2004).

2001 - 2004 Tutorial program in the Writing Center, Harvard Extension;

2009 Taught individual writing tutorials on argument, style, and structure for ESL and returning students;

Director: Thomas Jehn.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS BY INVITATION

- 2009 13<sup>th</sup> Aage Sørensen Conference at Stockholm University; Stockholm, Sweden  
“*A theory of amorphous boundaries, with notes on structure, information efficiency, and innovation*”
- 2009 Transatlantic Doctoral Conference at London Business School; London, United Kingdom  
“*Extensions to closure theory to account for a state of diffusion in organizations*”
- 2008 The Climate Project Southeastern and Southern Conferences; Washington, DC and Austin, TX  
“*Using visualized geographic data in climate change education*”
- 2007 Symposium of the Encyclopedia of Life Consortium; Chicago, IL  
“*Designing for emergent data and schema interchange*”

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PRODUCT MARKETING MANAGER AND PRODUCT MANAGER GOOGLE INC., MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIF. August 2005 to May 2008

### GENOMICS, TAXONOMY, AND STRUCTURED DATA SEARCH

- » Initiated keystone project to develop genomics and bioinformatics data handling capacity at Google.
- » Initiated cross-functional development of a structured-data handling service using existing infrastructure.
- » Managed data and domain relationships with the Área de Conservación Guanacaste (Costa Rica), the International Barcode of Life (Canada), and the Encyclopedia of Life Consortium.

### PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

- » Developed partner strategy and restructured global imagery licensing for Google Earth and Maps products.
- » Negotiated Maps deals with jetBlue and VirginAmerica reaching over 28mm passengers annually.
- » Initiated, negotiated, and managed multiple-engagement relationships with Warner Brothers, The Climate Project, Electronic Arts, National Geographic, the United Nations Environment Programme, and others.
- » Product lead for Google’s \$35mm Lunar XPRIZE program.
- » Product Marketing Manager for Google Earth Outreach, the public interest division for Earth and Maps.
- » Negotiated Google AdWords partnerships with a 40x return on partnership investment after 3 months.

### STRATEGIC MESSAGING

- » Developed product and business section of Google’s 2005 SEC 10-K filing.
- » Positioned and messaged product strategy for Q4/05 and Q1/06 earnings announcements.
- » Sourced and negotiated lectures by thinkers and authors including E. O. Wilson, Harold Varmus, Joseph Stiglitz, George Soros, Edward Tufte, Jeffrey Sachs, Douglas Engelbart, and Malcolm Gladwell.

FOUNDING TEAM MEMBER STUDENT LOANS AND EDUCATIONAL ACCESS, SINGAPORE June 2001 to present

- » Developed business model for low-interest, unsubsidized student loans, then worked with the Monetary Authority of Singapore to change banking regulations to legalize low-interest, high-quantum student loans.

LOGISTICIAN, RANK OF 2<sup>ND</sup> SERGEANT ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE ARMED FORCES January 1999 to May 2001 (reserve ongoing)

- » Led 12-man specialist signals logistics team.
- » Provided signal equipment support for humanitarian missions to Taiwan and East Timor (2000).

## ACTIVITIES

DESIGN EDITOR HARVARD ADVOCATE, CAMBRIDGE, MASS. September 2002 to September 2003

- » Elected officer with managerial and training oversight for a 4-person design team .
- » Designed and produced 3 issues of a periodical journal of art, literature, poetry, and criticism (founded 1866).

QUARTERMASTER SHENG-LI, RAFFLES MARINA, SINGAPORE January 1999 to September 2001

- » Logician for *Sheng-Li*, a 6-man J-24 class boat sailing out of Raffles Marina.
- » With Randall Lim, taught introductory classes in J-24 handling.