

Hi! My name is Clayton Sinclair IV, and I am a 3rd year at UCI! My pronouns are he/him/his, majoring in Game Design and Interactive Media! A fun fact about me is that I love collecting sneakers, pretty good at video games, and decently good at cooking!

Involvements at UCI:

- Black Gaming Society (2022)
- Black Student Union (2020-2022)
- National Society of Black Engineers (2021)
- Video Game Development Club (2021)
- UCI Esports (2020)

What has been the most fulfilling experience you have had in a leadership role?

The most fulfilling experience in a leadership role was being a project manager for my game design elective in high school. I was essentially the Co-Teacher and it taught me a ton of things about leadership, responsibility, and time management. I was head of my modeling team and also managed the programming, sound, art, and storyboarding teams, it gave me real-world game development experience.

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

The accomplishment I'm most proud of was reaching top 500 on the competitive ladder within Overwatch. It took nearly a year of consistently practicing the game, reviewing my own gameplay back and countless nights of hard practice. Watching many Youtubers, streamers, and proplayers then implementing their mechanics into my own gameplay took a ton of effort as well. And it taught me that if I really put my mind to something I can always eventually accomplish it.

Who is your role model at UCI? How have they impacted you?

My role model at UCI has always been Zeem, he is an immaculate black software engineer who has since graduated. However he tutored me my freshman year, and inspired me to always work hard and take pride in being a black person within STEM. Seeing as there aren't a lot of us at this university, it's important to have perseverance and the strength to continue even in those isolating moments.

Everyone experiences some form of failure in their life, how have you dealt with it?

One of my most hurtful failures in life was not getting into the Paideia School in high school, two of my closest friends from middle school were accepted and I wasn't. However, I didn't let it get me down as I went to Galloway instead with a positive mindset and was able to accomplish some amazing things. I'm immortalized in a mural next to the founder of the school for embodying the school's values. I also won the citizenship award four years in a row which was entirely based on student voting. The award was given to someone who showed the most kindness and empathy within the community each year. I learned that no matter what happens, you must remain positive and do what you can to make the most of your situation.

What advice would you give to your first year self?

My freshman year advice would've been to not be so sad, COVID mentally took a big toll on me and it robbed me of many memories during my freshman year as it was entirely online. However, looking back now that I'm on campus I'm happier than ever, so I would remind myself that no matter how bleak things may appear there will always be light at the end of the tunnel and that no matter what you can never give up.