

## Kritsada Wongsa

**High school:** Chiang Rai Municipality 6 **Hometown:** Chiang Rai, Thailand

Majors: B.S. Business Administration ('22) & MS. Tech &

Innovation ('24)

Activities: Graduate Assistant for the Applied Engineering Safety & Technology Department, MU representative to compete at Council for Retails and Sales (CRS) Competition

Internships: Business Development Intern at Immerse International (Millersville, PA), Marketing Intern at Weber

Advertising & Marketing (Lancaster, PA)

**Post-grad plans:** I'd be joining Deloitte as a Solution Analyst for their consulting service in the Human Capital Group.



"It has been my privilege to have such a thoughtful, dedicated and talented student as Kritsada Wongsa in several of my classes over the past few years. Our journey began in earnest in my Advertising class in the fall of 2021 when Kritsada was working on a team competition for Giant Food Stores. The rules limited me to taking only two teams to DeSales University for the regional competition. Kritsada was the most enthusiastic student traveling to the competition. He took already excellent work and honed it. The judges were impressed. This helped catapult our team to a second-place finish and set Kritsada down a new career path. He has only continued to learn and grow since then and I look for him to experience wonderful adventures and achieve great things."

- Dr. Lexi Hutto Associate Professor, Marketing

#### Why Millersville?

I came to Millersville as a transfer student. While I was attending another institution, I lived in the Millersville area. During that time, I occasionally went for walks around the campus with my friends. I fell in love with the campus. Eventually, I transferred to Millersville to complete a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus on Marketing. In addition to the university's fantastic programs, I love its location. It's just a few minutes away from the historic downtown Lancaster and only a few hours from major US cities.

### Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

When I first started, I didn't have high expectations and never imagined I'd reach where I am today. While I knew Millersville was a reputable school, I assumed I would just blend in among the thousands of students. However, I was pleasantly surprised. As a student at Millersville University, I was presented with numerous opportunities. My hard work was acknowledged by both classmates and professors, leading to my selection as the university representative to help in develop the meal sector for a major grocery chain in the Northeast at the CRS competition, where we secured second place. Millersville provided me with invaluable hands-on experience through internships and course development, allowing me to refine my knowledge and skills, and preparing me for my current career path.

#### What surprised you?

The support from the International Programs and Services (IPS) was phenomenal! I felt very well taken care of.

Throughout the semester, the IPS consistently organized events and activities for international students to engage and connect with each other. I truly appreciate the opportunity to get to know friends from all over the world, something I wouldn't have even dared to dream of back when I was a high school student.

#### Who helped you get to where you are now?

I want to extend my gratitude to Dr. Lexi Hutto for her exceptional guidance and invaluable insights as a marketing professor. Under her mentorship, I was encouraged to step out of my comfort zone, explore new opportunities by collaborating with American organizations, and make the most of my experience here in the US. Additionally, I am grateful to Dr. Scott Warner for his instrumental role in guiding me to pursue graduate studies at Millersville. His wonderful support and mentorship have been an important factor in shaping my journey towards success in the technology and innovation field.

#### Advice for the Class of 2028?

As an international student and someone whose English is a second language, I used to feel insecure about my English proficiency. However, someone once told me that this shouldn't be viewed as an obstacle. In fact, having a unique accent or speaking style can sometimes attract even more attention when you speak. I would advise incoming students to embrace their differences, be confident, and overcome their fears. If English is your second language, then let it be. Be yourself, speak with confidence, show empathy, and pursue your dreams. Make the most of your experience and strive towards achieving your own American dreams.

#### Peak experience?

Being offered the Graduate Assistant (GA) position was the peak experience for me at Millersville. Just a couple of months after graduating with my Bachelor's degree, I received a call from Dr. Scott Warner, offering me the GA position in the Applied Engineering, Safety & Technology department. The peak was that I had only one night to think about the offer. While a GA position at Millersville is always an incredible opportunity, the speed of it all caught me off guard. If I said yes, I would have to start my graduate studies the following week! Well, I accepted the offer, and it completely changed my life for the better. Looking back, I'm grateful I made that decision that day.

# Which one(s) of the EPPIIC values of Millersville do you most identify with? Or which of the values do you think best describes your time here at Millersville?

Today, I received job offers from two prominent corporate firms in the US. As I reflect on this achievement, I can't help but attribute it to the impact Millersville has had on shaping me. Of course, it required effort and dedication on my part to prepare for this moment. However, with the invaluable support of Millersville's faculty members, I was equipped to become the best version of myself. This is one of the EPPIIC values I embraced during my time at Millersville, a lesson I will never forget.

#### What will you miss the most?

The campus pond and the two swans, Miller and Sville, are among the things I'll miss the most at Millersville. I love the campus atmosphere and enjoy taking walks around its beautiful grounds, making these peaceful moments by the pond unforgettable.

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