

LEAD THE CHARGE

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 OLIVER WYMAN



What's your role and responsibility?

I am currently a Senior Consultant, and the Core Consultant Group (CCG) Lead for Asia Pacific Region (APR) at Oliver Wyman, based in the Hong Kong office. Currently for client-facing projects, I mainly focus on helping foreign asset and wealth managers enter China. For the internal management role, I am responsible for regional initiatives from culture enhancement to consultant training.

What's driving you to be a consultant?

My passion for consulting comes from blending the strategy with implementation. Before joining Oliver Wyman, I was a Special Advisor to the CEO of an Oliver Wyman client. Oliver Wyman assisted my previous employer in defining its Chinese market strategy, and I was the one being hired to support its implementation. It was an incredibly rewarding journey to going into a new market, but I was thinking about what if I can also try to be on the side of formulating it. With the experience of execution in mind, I feel there can be additional value-added for the clients as a consultant.

How do you like the company as well as the Core Consultant Group?

I am proud to be a part of the OW family and committed to building the CCG mainly because of two reasons:

First, Oliver Wyman has a unique collegiate culture. You rarely feel the hierarchy here, and everyone, from the most senior Partners to the new joiners, is ready to help you whenever you need it.

Second, the growth opportunities are incredible, in terms of both knowledge capturing and career progression. Within the firm, consultants from Core Consultant Group act as the backbone of delivering the impact to our clients. We currently have over 150 CCGs across nine offices in the Asia Pacific region. The number is continuously growing.

What's different/outstanding being a young professional leader, community, or project-wise?

Being entrepreneurial, being impact-driven, and being reflective, which are the elements I

valued the most. As a leader, it is vital to be the one looking for improvement areas and committed to making them happen. As a professional, it is critical to think from the client's perspectives about what matters most to them and then focus your effort on these topics of high impact.

And as a young person, there is nothing more important than to learn through reflections. It is beneficial to spend five minutes at the end of each day to reflect what you have not done today, then to compare them with what you did. Knowing what is left on your daily to-do list can be a good exercise to sharpen your work focus for the second day continuously. I believe there is always a better practice, then the best practice.

What activity/culture you like the most at OW?

I would say I enjoy the mentorship the most. Each consultant has a mentor who is usually a senior person in the firm. We will have regular catch-ups on various topics, from career planning to some tips sharing for the development objectives. My mentor always invites me for a meal to have open discussions sharing his experiences, as well as guiding me not only to navigate through the firm, but to formulate my professional career plan.

What advice do you want to share with newcomers and school students?

Be an active learner and be who you are. New joiners and applicants straight from school often worry about their shortage of the right knowledge base. Consulting is a demanding career where no one knows the answer to every challenge. People are willing and able to help you. They are either your mentor, your buddy, or simply anyone around you. However, to get their decent help, you need to actively reach them out. At Oliver Wyman, it is unnecessary to worry about asking "stupid questions". Colleagues tend to encourage you to think more and ask more.

What's your hobby if not at work?

I am a photographer and a golfer outside of work. As travel is an essential piece of the consulting life, photography serves as an excellent way for me to capture my life moments, and to share with people around us. Golf is something that can bring me into my own nature after long days of working in the office. It also helps me stay focused on self-improvement rather than competitions, which I find very useful for both my professional and personal life.

A fun fact in your life.

I was an Oneworld Emerald flyer before I joined Oliver Wyman, and after the first year here, I have been downgraded to Sapphire, and now to Ruby... The good side of the fact is that you may not be necessary to become a road warrior as a consultant. 

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