# Ying Cong (Cathy) Zuo

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#### **SUMMARY**

Curious, hardworking Dean's List student seeking to gain experience in consulting and research. A fast and enthusiastic learner with a particular passion towards food and sustainability. Hoping to create connections between interests and business activity.

## **EDUCATION**

#### University of Toronto, St. George, Faculty of Arts & Science

Sep 2020 - May 2024

Toronto, ON

BComm., Finance & Economics Specialist, Environmental Science Major

- cGPA: 3.64/4.0 | Awards: Dean's List (pending 2021)
- Relevant Coursework: Fundamentals of Management (A+), Principles of Microeconomics & Macroeconomics, Calculus with Proofs, Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies
- Competition: Canada Comeback Challenge Round 2 Qualifier
  - Entered top 50 teams out of 2,800+ competitors; produced solution for aiding Canada restaurants during post-pandemic recovery through regaining consumer confidence; formulated project proposal, scripted and edited pitch video, created design thinking deck

#### American International School of Guangzhou

Aug 2016 - May 2020

Guangzhou, Guangdong

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme

- IB Final Grade: 37/45 | TOEFL: 116/120 | Awards: Highest Honor (1 semester), Honor Roll (8 semesters)
- Extended Essay: Produced 4000-word research paper on accuracy of GMO labelling in soymilk advertisements and impact on consumer perception of product safety; conducted literary research and visual analysis

#### **Cornell University**

Jun 2019 - Jul 2019

Ithaca, NY

School of Hospitality Administration

- **GPA:** 4.0/4.0 | **Course:** HADM1102: Hospitality Operations Management Entrepreneurship in the Food and Beverage Industry
- Completed Summer College course for credit
- Acquired knowledge on restaurant industry management skills, operations, and trends; formulated food truck business plan
  through conducting customer and competitor research, developing business and marketing strategies, interviewing local
  customers and food truck businesses, and collaborating with teammates

#### INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

#### GF Securities Co., Ltd.

Jun 2020 - Aug 2020

Intern, Strategic Customer Relationship Management Department

Guangzhou, Guangdong

- Performed research of 1 strategic client worth 90+ bn. RMB and its respective industry through Wind, corporate official
  websites, and other resources; gained understanding of current status and development trends of the Chinese livestock
  industry
- Learned to write strategic client analysis reports, organized department communication records with said client, and created service record sheets to analyze customer needs

#### Four Points by Sheraton, Dongpu

Jul 2019 - Aug 2019

Management Trainee, The Eatery All Day Dining

Guangzhou, Guangdong

Improved customer dining experience and satisfaction through attending to daily operations and VoC as hostess; identified
and satisfied needs, resolved complaints, communicated with customers, and relayed customer suggestions; received positive
customer feedback

## **EXTRACURRICULARS**

# University of Toronto SDG Student Hub (UTSDG)

Oct 2020 - Present

Toronto, ON

- In process of accomplishing the SDG Students Program Certificate; currently taking 3 online courses in 21th century sustainable development, climate change, and sustainable agriculture
- Participated in sustainability case competition; created and presented solution to reducing household waste in Toronto
- Reviewed and edited 7 submissions for sustainability research journal, aiming to promote SDG awareness and sustainable action in surrounding communities

### Pulse - Associated Student Body

Aug 2016 - Mar 2020

Guangzhou, Guangdong

Management Director

- Managed planning and administration of 10+ major school events (including annual Proms and Winter Formals) to promote school spirit and increase student engagement
- Communicated event plans with venue administrators; led teams of 2-5 members in event planning and marketing; organized weekly meetings for 2 school years

# **AISG Business Club**

Aug 2018 - Mar 2020

COO & Co-Coordinator

Guangzhou, Guangdong

- Led weekly meetings with 20+ students; set and pursued long-term and short-term goals
- Formulated sales and operation plans, managed club business sales twice a week
- Planned and executed 3 Special Sale events (300+ RMB profit per sale)

# **SKILLS, CERTIFICATIONS & OTHERS**

- Skills: Wind, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe Lightroom, Tableau
- Languages: English (Fluent), Mandarin (Fluent), French (Conversational)
- Interests: Coffee (SCA Intermediate Barista Skills Certificate), Restaurant Reviews (3,500+ likes on DianPing.com), Photography, Clarinet