

I have spent my whole life experiencing how international trade could change a country as well as individual lives. I witnessed 20 years of economic changes in China dramatically reshaped the landscape and social structure of my country. At the same time my family gradually raised its standard of living and thus, is able to provide financial support for my master's degree program in North California. This miracle is what inspired me to pursue my Bachelor's degree in International Economics and Trade and Master's degree in International Trade Policy, from which I acquired a solid economics foundation and substantial international trade knowledge.

With the ambition for further promoting trade between China and the U.S., I have been actively engaged in 3 trade associations and 6 trade events in California for the past year: one year of experience at the Monterey Bay International Trade Association facilitating trade for small and medium size enterprises; a full time internship at the World Trade Center San Diego working for organizing trade events; attending the 9th Annual Trade Policy Forum 2007 organized by California Council for International Trade. Through participation in these activities, I realized that the gap of understanding between US and China on trade issues in California's business world is as wide as the physical barrier which separates them geographically. I am consequently very eager to contribute to improving this unnecessary disparity between the two nations.

My personal determination along with my work proved to be vital when I was interning in Washington D.C. for the Vice President of Technology and Trade Policy for the Information Technology Industry Council, an industry association of 41 leading IT companies. During my summer internship there, I collected data for the USTR, attended information meetings regarding Microsoft's policy initiatives in their office, and prepared for the meeting in which the U.S. IT industry signed a contract with a law firm, filing a case against the EU in the WTO. At the end, I was very impressed by the intelligence, talents, and vision in the US-China trade circle in the USTR, the Department of Commerce, and the private sector, who are continuously placing great efforts in promoting this bilateral trade relationship. The exposure in D.C. ensured me that the trade policy group there is so respectful and the dynamics between the trade policy community and the business world is so fascinating that it will interest me for my whole career.

Equipped with these understanding and insights, I became motivated to work in the International Trade and Commercial Diplomacy Club at the Monterey Institute of International Studies on a US-China Trade Conference aiming at working with the government and private sectors from both the U.S. and China to facilitate communication, decrease the misperceptions and trade barriers as well as improve the working atmosphere in this field. I circulated the conference proposal in both D.C. and Beijing trade circles for 3 months. Many officials from the USTR and the Department of Commerce; from the Department for WTO affairs and from the Department for American & Oceanian Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce of China are very interested in attending. The trade club team and I strongly believe that this conference would be a great contribution to the North California trade community.

Having been born to a family of politicians; and having been raised in Beijing, the center of China's policy world, for 20 years has provided me with a sharp acumen in dealing with policy issues. As a result of my life and work experiences, especially the past year's practices in the

business and trade policy community in California and D.C., I strongly believe that the improvement in communication efficiency and further mutual understanding between the U.S. and China on trade issues is a highly valuable and profoundly meaningful work. This progress would benefit not only the group working on the issues but also a large population related to the U.S.-China bilateral trade on both sides. My career mission is to contribute my passion, intelligence, and day-to-day efforts to the U.S.-China trade field, to make a difference.