

1. Why did you join the program? Tell us your story!

I have always been fascinated by people and relationship. I decided to leave China and come to the U.S. to study psychology. Before joining the program, I was doing research in social psychology. I studied the effect of ostracism and understood the pain it can cause. As a foreigner, a female, and a minority, I have experienced different forms of ostracism such as discrimination and biases. Hence, I want to make the workplace better for everyone who comes after me. People stay awake for about 15 hours everyday, and dedicate about 65% of their time to work. A better workplace translates to a wholesome person. I want to become an advocate for an inclusive and healthy workplace. To do so, I need more than textbook knowledge, which is why I joined our program at TC.

2. What are your strongest motivators in running for the OHDCC VP position you have chosen?

As a first-year student, I have benefited a lot from OHDCC. I have grown personally and professionally. The first OHDCC event was the time where I made some of my first friends at TC. To complete a full cycle, it is time for me to give back to my community. I want OHDCC to continue to be the place where people form bonds personally and professionally. More importantly, I want OHDCC to be the place where people feel that they belong.

3. What do you hope to accomplish (i.e. vision, action plan) in the next year in this VP position?

My vision is to help the leadership team to create a community where everyone belongs. As VP of Alumni Engagement, my job is to start engaging OHDCC members from day one. A good alumni engagement starts with good member experience. People are more willing to stay engaged and give back to OHDCC when they transition from members to alumni. I will use different communication channels to gather feedback from alumni, and current members (in-person meetings, emails, phone calls, etc.) and help the leadership team design the most needed and wanted engagement activities. I will better utilize online platform to make tailored information more accessible to various student groups (international students, part-time students, etc.). I will create an orientation committee to partner alumni and second-year students with new students from day one to make sure that they experience OHDCC to the fullest. To fulfill my vision of an inclusive community, my strategy is to make the orientation committee, the online information center, and the feedback systems memorable and valuable and become the highlights of OHDCC.

4. Thinking back to your last leadership experience how would your peers describe you as a leader?

Coming from a collectivist culture, I always put others' needs and desires before mine. My teammates would describe me as an adaptive, reliable, humorous, and hardworking team captain who have always appreciated everyone's input. At the same time, I love to challenge people to think from different perspectives. I always ask: what can we do to make it better? I do not care about how we get to the finish line, as long as we come up with a collective solution, which will get us there beautifully and efficiently!

5. Using only pictures, tell us something we don't know about you (e.g., GIF, photo of yourself, drawing, etc.)

