

# UHM CHINESE FLAGSHIP SNAPSHOT BULLETIN



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP  
Creating Global Professionals



FALL 2022 ISSUE 01 (05)  
October 2022

## ORIENTATION & OUTREACH



Hsin-Tzu Jen, Man Ian Woo, the President of UH, Dr. David Lassner and Noelani Lommanson (from left to right) at Welina Mānoa 2022

## Welina Mānoa 2022

August 22, 2022

The First Day of the School Kick-Off event, Welina Mānoa 2022, was held on August 22 at the Campus Center Courtyard, Kuykendall Lawn, and Legacy Pathway. The Chinese Language Flagship Center (CLFC) also attended the event by hosting a table staffed by our students, Man Ian Woo and Noelani Lommanson, along with the Center's Graduate Assistant (GA), Hsin-Tzu Jen, and the Program Coordinator, Orion Young.

During the event, many students stopped for a casual chat with Man Ian and Noelani, who both shared their experiences as Chinese Flagship majors and how they benefited from the various resources provided by the program. Both also shared with prospective students their future plans; Man Ian is leaving for Taiwan later this August to start her Capstone Year at National Yang-Ming Chiao-Tung University as the Fall 2022-Spring 2023 cohort, and Noelani is preparing her Capstone application for the Fall 2023-Spring 2024 application phase.

During the event, the President of the University of Hawai'i (UH), Dr. David Lassner, also joined us for a celebration photo for the success of Welina Mānoa 2022! (Jen)

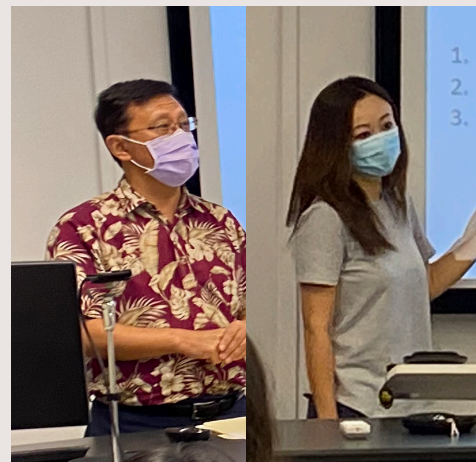
## CLFC Welcome Back Bash

September 5, 2022

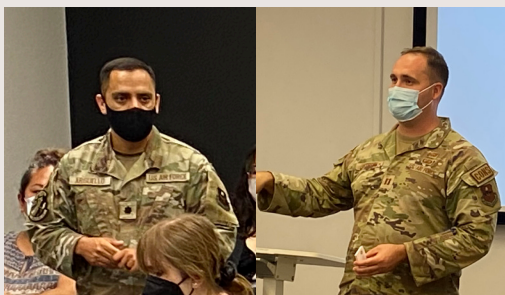
The Chinese Language Flagship Center (CLFC) Director, Prof Song Jiang, Associate Director, Prof Li 'Julie' Jiang, the Program Coordinator Orion Young, and the GA Hsin-Tzu Jen led an orientation on September 5, 2022 welcoming current students and several incoming students – 23 students in total. Seventeen attended the event in person, held at a Center for Language and Technology multimedia conference room, with six other student attendees joining via Zoom. The other Chinese Flagship students who could not make it were sent the presentation slides.

Items covered at the orientation include topics like Recognition of Achievements, Activities & Deadlines for Fall 2022, Capstone Year Programs & Pre-Capstone Application Support, Tutoring Programs, Extracurricular Activities, Expectations, ROTC, etc. Goodie bags were handed-out as an afternoon snack for all in-person attendees.

All three UH ROTC programs' commanding officers attended, several ROTC staff members, and even one cadet, and were given some time to promote their program. The Army ROTC even asked a native-Mandarin speaking graduate student/cadet to speak in Chinese to our CLFC students briefly. Prof S Jiang also used this opportunity to interact with all three commanding officers. (Orion)



CLFC Director Prof Song Jiang announcing upcoming activities with CLFC Associate Director Prof Li Julie Jiang (from left to right) briefing upcoming Capstone cohorts of important deadlines



Air Force ROTC Commanding Officer LT COL Michael Arguello and Air Force ROTC Recruiter CPT Spencer Jacobson (from left to right) exchanging ideas with CLFC Director Prof Song Jiang and the other ROTC Commanding Officers



Army ROTC LT COL Jerrod Melander and one of his cadets (from left to right) share their program details with the CLFC students

## ROTC On-Site Visit Promotion

August 26, 2022



CLFC Director Prof Jiang encouraged the Air Force ROTC officer candidates to join the Chinese Flagship Program at UHM for their professional development

At the invitation of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Air Force ROTC (UHM AFROTC) Commanding Officer LT COL Michael Arguello, the Chinese Language Flagship Center (CLFC) Director Prof Song Jiang, the Program Coordinator Orion Young, and the GA Hsin-Tzu Jen attended their Aerospace Studies First Lab of the Fall 2022 Semester, which was held at the Athletics PE/A Auditorium on August 26, 2022. Orion spoke about the Domestic Capstone Program at DLI Monterey as a possible option for the AFROTC officer candidates. Hsin-Tzu promoted the biweekly Chinese Corner as both a language and cultural opportunity. Prof Jiang emphasized individualized academic advising to tailor 4-year plans to the needs of incoming Flagship students.



Air Force ROTC cadets and officers at Aerospace Studies First Lab of the Fall 2022 Semester while CLFC gave our introduction

We would also like to thank the AFROTC Office Manager Kara Otineru and our UHM Korean Language Flagship Center colleagues for coordinating this opportunity! LT COL Arguello and Kara, as well as their counterparts at Army ROTC and Navy ROTC, in turn, spoke at the CLFC Welcome Back Orientation on September 2, 2022, to promote the ROTC with our Chinese Flagship students.

We look forward to continued collaboration with our ROTC counterparts! (Orion)

## RECRUITMENT

### CLFC Recruitment Meeting Fall 2022

October 10, 2022

On October 10, 2022, the UHM Chinese Flagship Associate Director, Prof Li 'Julie' Jiang, led a meeting attended by three faculty members, eight instructors/GAs, two Student Ambassadors, and a Student Council member. The purpose of the meeting was to kindle a campus-wide interest in Chinese language learning and to increase overall Chinese program enrollment. The faculty and instructors were quizzed on their Chinese majors, minors, and Flagship

Program knowledge. The current situation was assessed, challenges were identified, and good news was shared. New initiatives and other existing activities to promote Chinese at UHM were highlighted as well. The information included things like new coursework as well as current and future study abroad program options. The workshop concluded with a brainstorming session and closing remarks by Prof Song Jiang



Prof Li 'Julie' Jiang began quizzing the attendees on their Chinese majors, minors, and Flagship Program knowledge

and Prof Li 'Julie' Jiang. The following week, the two Student Ambassadors, Noelani Lommasson and Molly Wolyn, with the help of Student Council Member Alysa Choy, carried out classroom outreach to all of the eleven UHM CHN courses. Each outreach session included a 5-10 minute presentation which the instructors jointly presented with the support of the visiting Student Ambassadors/ Student Council member. Brochures were made available to any potential student interested in learning more about the program.

Instructors held a debriefing meeting a month later on November 7 to redouble recruitment efforts. Before this follow-up meeting, instructors provided Prof Li Jiang with names and background information of outstanding students they identified as worthy of nomination to join the Chinese Flagship. (Orion)



Jacob Algrim, Jiaxin Tian, Xiao Ye and Jia Liu giving their answers to the quizzed questions (from left to right)



Prof Haidan Wang suggesting some recruitment ideas and how to better engage students

## ACTIVITIES

### Welcome Back Bash Chinese Section

August 26, 2022

After a long, restful, and productive summer, the Chinese Section in EALL decided to host a Welcome Back Bash for the faculty, staff, and students. The event was held on Friday, August 26, 2022 at the D Courtyard of the UHM Biomedical Building. Shortly after, the Chinese Section Coordinator Associate Professor Dr. Yun Peng warmly

welcomed all the participants. Everyone then shared their summer experiences and what they anticipated for the upcoming Fall 2022 semester. The new Student Ambassador, Molly Wolyn, and Student Assistant, Monica Mau, also shared their own experience with the new CLFC students. (Jen)



Molly Wolyn and Monica Mau (from left to right) are getting their first tray of refreshments for the afternoon



Chinese Section Coordinator Prof Yun Peng (far right) welcomed faculty members and students to the Welcome Back Bash

### Chinese Corner

September 12, 2022: Mid-Autumn Festival

The first Chinese Corner of the Fall 2022 semester was held on September 12, 2022 at Moore Hall 120. There was a turnout of about 25 participants, the majority being Chinese-major students from the regular BA program and the Chinese Flagship BA program at the University of Hawai'i at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), along with teachers from the Chinese department and friends from the UHM community.

The event began with a warm welcome from our Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn, followed by a presentation from the CLFC GA Hsin-Tzu Jen about the history of the Mid-Autumn Festival and some cultural stories. Afterward, everyone was given time to discuss their experiences with the Mid-Autumn Festival and what they thought of the things they had just learned. Then, participants played a trivia

### What is Chinese Corner?

The Chinese Corner is a biweekly event organized by CLFC in collaboration with the Center for Chinese Studies. The event is open to all UHM Chinese language learners, students from both the Chinese Section and Chinese Language Flagship, as well as the general public. The purpose of this event is to offer a space for our students to practice speaking Chinese, and also to promote Chinese language learning beyond our University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus. Our UH Chinese Flagship students, along with several native-speaking UH instructors, as well as other Flagship program staff, will be present to share and engage with participants in Chinese.

game about Mid-Autumn Festival stories and general facts. The top three winners of the game received a mooncake as a prize. At the end of the event, everyone enjoyed some mini-mooncakes sponsored by the Chinese Language Flagship Center and Center for Chinese Studies and continued to chat about their experiences with Chinese culture, language progress, and other topics. This large turnout spells great things for the Chinese Corners to come this semester! (Monica)



The attendees formed small groups to prepare for the quiz at the end of the event

**September 26, 2022: Chinese Slang Words & Memes**



Molly Wolyn and Monica Mau (from left to right) introduced popular Chinese slang words and memes to the participants

After two weeks, the second Chinese Corner, held on September 26, 2022, had the theme of Chinese Slang Words & Memes. This Chinese Corner was organized by Student Ambassador Molly Wolyn and Student Assistants Monica Mau. During the event, Molly and Monica introduced some of the most trendy Chinese slang words and memes to the participants and invited them to create their own Chinese memes. At the end of the event, every participant voted for the most successful memes and the winner was awarded a prize! (Jen)

**October 10, 2022: Chinese Games**

On October 10, 2022, the third Chinese Corner was held at Moore Hall 112. The session's theme was planned by Jiaxin Tian Laoshi, featuring various games requiring some basic knowledge of the Chinese language. The participants were divided into two groups and were instructed to play three different games in order to win the entire contest. After an intense competition playing Guess What I am Writing game, Name It category game, and Character Map game, the winning team was awarded Starbucks gift cards! (Jen)



Yu-An Lee Laoshi, Jing Wu Laoshi, and Jiaxin Tian Laoshi (from left to right) gave instructions to participants on how to proceed with each game

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

**New ROTC Students**

Cecelia Unger

Cecelia is a Freshman enrolled in UHM's Navy ROTC and is currently in CHN 201. Cecelia's interest in the UHM Chinese Language Flagship Center stems from four years of studying Mandarin Chinese in high school. Cecelia began taking Mandarin Chinese in order to be in the same class with a close friend but quickly became very interested in the language and the culture. Cecelia feels that not only will her study of Mandarin allow her to communicate, but it will also allow her to understand better the Chinese people's challenges from a cultural viewpoint.

Cecelia says: "Immersion learning has been proven to be the most beneficial way of learning a language. Having the opportunity to travel to either China or Taiwan would allow me to learn Chinese in a more natural way than just classroom instruction."





Alexander Ochoa

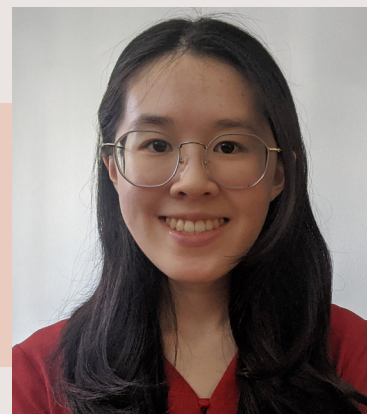
Alexander is a Sophomore enrolled in UHM's Air Force ROTC, and is currently in CHN 301. In high school, Alexander began studying Chinese as his third language after four years of French. At the same time, he was made aware of the importance that those familiar with foreign languages will have within the military and began exploring his options. He eventually decided that he would join the ROTC. Through studying with the Chinese Flagship Program, Alexander hopes to go beyond the Air Force's high language standards. To Alexander, Chinese is the foundation of his future career in the Air Force, yet his goals aren't simply tied to his aspirations in the military -- he would also be satisfying his own curiosity.

Alexander sums up his experience with speaking with native speakers here at UHM: "You can tell in peoples' eyes the moment you start speaking their language their excitement and curiosity, and it's contagious. It makes conversations so much more exciting and, to an extent, fun."

## Featured Student Council Members

Cara Tan

Cara Tan is currently working on her undergraduate degrees in both Economics and Chinese at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. This semester, she is taking CHN 411 Advanced Mandarin Conversation and CHN 470 Language and Culture of China. Cara was also part of the cohort that studied at the National Tsinghua University in Taiwan this past summer. In the future, she hopes to use Chinese to aid her in 1) pursuing a career in healthcare, healthcare economics and policy, and 2) connecting with more people. Outside of class, Cara enjoys participating in the University's symphony and works as a peer advisor at the Manoa Advising Center.



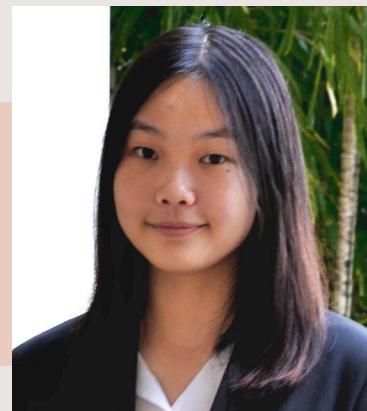
Ian Nostrand

Ian is a Chinese major and a student in the Chinese Flagship program. He is currently enrolled in Chinese 201 and enjoy all things Chinese-related. He enjoys riding dirtbikes and going out and exploring new places. He is currently enrolled in UHM's Chinese Flagship program because he wishes to reach his ultimate goal to become completely fluent in Chinese. Upon becoming fluent, he wishes to use these skills by partnering with Chinese companies with the goals of expanding their trade to the United States, while also aiding them in finding specific markets within the U.S. to sell their products.



Monica Mau

Monica is a second-year student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; she graduated in 2021 from Kalani High School. She is currently majoring in Management Information Systems, Finance, and Chinese Flagship. This semester she is taking two Chinese classes: CHN 401 and CHN 411. She enjoys going shopping, watching Korean dramas, and trying new food places in her free time. She is studying Chinese in the hopes of gaining a near-fluent and professionally proficient level some day. As a business major, she wants to use her Chinese skills to work with global companies and network with professionals in Chinese-speaking regions.



## CLFC Student Council Meeting

September 27, 2022

The first Chinese Language Flagship Center Student Council meeting of Fall 2022 was held on September 27, 2022. The meeting was attended in-person by Director Prof Song Jiang, GA Hsin-Tzu Jen, Molly Wolyn, Maysa Segovia, Monica Mau, Cara Tan, and Noelani Lommasson. Madeleine Lynch joined the meeting remotely. During the meeting, the CLFC staff and council members went through several organizational and developmental issues at hand, brainstormed promotional strategies, proposed arrangements for social events such as an overnight camping trip, and other future plans. (Jen)

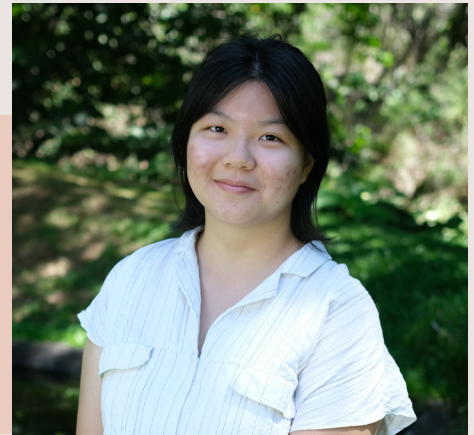


CLFC GA Hsin-Tzu Jen (left) briefing the agenda to the CLFC Student Council members and CLFC Director Prof Jiang for this semester

## Student Assistants

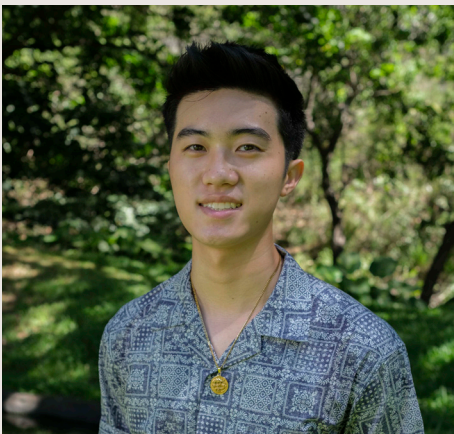
Angela Chen

Angela was born in Guangzhou but raised in Honolulu for most of her life. Her alma mater, President Theodore Roosevelt High School, is part of the graduating Class of 2019. She is triple majoring in the Academy of Creative Media, Japanese, and Asian Studies and is also one of the new Student Tech Assistants for Chinese Flagship. Her area of specialty is design-related projects, ranging from newsletter layouts to design elements, logos, and more. Outside of life's usual hustle and bustle, she finds peace in illustration and listening to music. In the future, she looks forward to being able to visit Guangzhou once more and perhaps studying abroad in Japan someday too.



Darwin Do

Darwin is one of the Student Tech Assistants at the Chinese Flagship. He is mainly responsible for photographing events, photography post-production, and selecting photos for the Chinese Language Flagship Center's media production, including the program newsletter and the program website. He graduated from Iolani School in 2022, where he built up his photography expertise for four years. There, he studied all forms of photography, ranging from studio to film. Darwin also spent his time at Iolani studying Chinese, capping his senior year off with the AP level course, as well as membership to the National Chinese Honors Society. Darwin is currently a Freshman planning on majoring in Psychology or Biology at UHM. In his free time, Darwin enjoys watching basketball and supporting his alma mater, the Raiders, as well as the Chicago Bulls.



Molly Wolyn

Molly has been in the Chinese Flagship Program for about a year and a half, and recently started working with the CLFC as the Student Ambassador. In addition to her Chinese with a Flagship Specialization major, she is also majoring in Food Science and Nutrition here at UHM. She is currently in her pre-capstone year and hopes to qualify for the Spring 2024 Capstone Year in Taiwan. When not at home or school, you can usually find her wandering aimlessly around the city to find good spots to eat. Molly hails from Colorado and does miss the four seasons, however, she enjoys not having to have an extensive wardrobe to accommodate the weather here.



# Current Capstone Students

## Jinny Wang

I can't believe it's been a month since I arrived in Taiwan. In this short period of time, I have already experienced so many ups and downs. Before coming to Taiwan, I was really excited to explore the city. But after school started, I've come to realize that this is actually an intensive study abroad program and that I actually have to... study. I honestly thought I would have more time for myself to go out and have fun, but this program is much more rigorous than I ever imagined.

The workload has kept me busy most of the time, but I do feel like I'm starting to improve my Chinese little by little. Furthermore, the teachers and staff in Taiwan have been very understanding. They're always willing to make adjustments or help students along the way if we can't handle it, so don't be too intimidated to apply for capstone!

Moreover, this program arranged a trip to the city of Tainan and a host family for us to understand Taiwan's culture and history better. I have to say that when I'm not stuck in my room studying and improving my Chinese, Taiwan is a really beautiful place with cheap and delicious food. For example, I went to Dan Shui Old Street last week, saw an amazing view of the river and mountains, and ate some delicious street food that I probably should've taken pictures of (but I ate it before I could do so). Lastly, I have to say that I'm lucky to have met so many amazing and lovely people from this program, as well as a few local Taiwanese students as well. They've been incredibly friendly and supportive, so it's nice to know I have them by my side.



Newly-starting Capstone Year students, Man lan Woo and Jinny Wang, meeting with continuing Capstone Year students, Lauren O'Connell and Stella Jones



Man lan Woo and Jinny Wang in their Tainan cultural exploration trip on the top floor of the famous Hayashi Department Store in Tainan

## Man lan Woo

I am Man lan (her). I am currently abroad in Taiwan at the National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University for my Chinese Flagship Capstone year. It has only been a little over a month, but it has been a life-changing experience. Not only have I gotten the chance to study at one of the most prestigious universities in Taiwan and to meet local Taiwanese students, but I have also gotten the opportunity to meet other Flagship students across the United States. A regular school day here for me is going to class, studying at a cafe with friends, doing club activities, and enjoying some alone time before bed.

On the weekends, I take the MRT (Taipei metro) to explore the different parts of Taipei: shopping, sightseeing, and exploring different night markets, cafes, and restaurants. Three-day weekends and breaks here mean traveling down to the other parts of Taiwan. It is fascinating how different it is in different parts of Taiwan. You can explore urban, suburban, and rural life within a few hours of high-speed rail. As was anticipated, the food and people here are incredible. I never imagined living abroad for a year, but I am glad I took the opportunity to do so, as it has helped me become a better and more capable person. I encourage anyone looking for a challenge or a change in their life to join the Chinese Flagship Program, and I am sure you will not be disappointed!

# Fall 2021-Spring 2022 Capstone Cohort Graduates

Adriana Choi, Elizabeth Yeung, and Xiao Yi Zhao successfully completed their Taiwan Capstone Year, returning to Hawai'i this past summer after ten months at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University where they studied Chinese intensively in the Fall of 2021 and then were placed in internships and attended direct enrollment courses in the Spring of 2022.

This Fall 2022, Adriana has one remaining semester in her second major with the Shidler Business College here on the UHM campus. She hopes to return to Taiwan upon graduation. Shortly after graduation, Elizabeth has already found work where she will use her language skills with

Chinese-speaking counterparts. Xiao Yi graduated with a double major in Chinese and French. Like Adriana, Xiao Yi is also back on the UHM campus, but this time she is enrolled in grad school at the Richardson School of Law.

On the part of the entire Flagship community -- including our federal funders -- we want to extend congratulations to all three of them for receiving their Language Flagship Completion certificates after successfully completing their Capstone Year and post-program language assessments, including the OPI, reading, and listening components. (Orion)

## Reflections by Alumni

### 1. How best can precapstone students prepare for departure to Taiwan?

*"I think the best way to help precapstone students be prepared for their capstone year is to remind them to keep an open mind to what you'll be learning and experiencing in another country. Especially if you've never been abroad before. It's really easy for people to not get the most out of the experience by not immersing themselves in the local communities because it is tempting to stick to things you are comfortable with and remain close-minded and closed off to the world around you. I encourage precapstone students to really engage and make new friends within the local community on their own! You'll learn a lot!" (Adriana)*

*"The best way for students to prepare for the departure to Taiwan is to try to watch media content produced by Taiwanese people, whether it is travel or food vlogs or other content, so you can have a better understanding of the area and how the locals interact. Also, this process will help students with getting used to the Taiwanese accent because a lot of times we are so used to being exposed to the mainland accent that it makes it difficult to adapt to the Taiwanese accent immediately." (Elizabeth)*

### 2. What was rewarding about your Capstone experience?

*"I think the most rewarding experience that I got through Capstone was being able to make lifelong friends that I still keep in touch with (they also help me a lot with brushing up my Chinese since it's been pretty dormant when I got back)." (Adriana)*

*"The most rewarding experience of the Capstone year is being able to take classes in Chinese and experiencing the Taiwanese educational system along with local students. Also, the internship is very valuable as you are able to use your language skills in a professional setting." (Elizabeth)*

### 3. Where were your favorite places to visit in Taipei and the rest of Taiwan?

*"My favorite places to visit in Taipei definitely had to be Taipei Main Station because it is the most convenient place to be in Taipei and Yuanshan station because they always have crafts fairs, really cool food events, and also queer events hosted there!" (Adriana)*

*"My favorite place in Taipei is Ximending, since it has the best mix of shopping, food, and entertainment. Ximending is so convenient because it caters to locals and foreigners alike. As for the rest of Taiwan, I enjoyed Yilan the most because there are many beautiful beaches and mountains to explore. I felt like Yilan was similar to Hawaii in the sense that you are able to go to the mountain to hike and then cool off with a stroll at the beach." (Elizabeth)*

### 4. How has your Chinese Flagship experience helped you with your future academic studies and/or professional career?

*"Chinese Flagship experience has helped given me clarity with what I'd potentially want to use Chinese for in my future career. I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity that Flagship has offered me, and the experiences that I had abroad will forever be cherished." (Adriana)*

*"After graduation, I was able to resume my career in the beauty industry, and am currently working at an international luxury beauty brand. This allows me to use Chinese to communicate with different contract manufacturers and clients. It's amazing to be able to bridge the gap of communication between the English and Chinese speakers." (Elizabeth)*



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