



An America-China Exchange

Grace Yu

Grace began her career in the high tech industry and worked over 15 years in that sector prior to becoming an active PTA volunteer. Trained as an electrical engineer, Grace worked for IBM in the late 1970s and early 80s, designing in-house control systems at its East Fishkill IC manufacturing facility. Subsequently, Grace worked for Sun Microsystems in its Installed Base Business unit and was instrumental in starting up and managing Sun's Remanufactured Systems product line.

Since retiring from the high tech sector, Grace worked over 12 years for the Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) of Palo Alto Unified School District in Santa Clara County, California. In addition to volunteering to lead a number of large scale activities for the PTAs, Grace held various executive and board positions, including one year as the Henry M Gunn High School PTSA President, two years as the Executive VP, several terms as the Treasurer, and other positions throughout her 12-year involvement with the PTAs. Through her work with the PTAs and the Gunn High School administration in response to a number of crises involving the youth in her community, Grace became a firm believer that social-emotional resiliency of youth is equally important to academic success.

Born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, Grace immigrated to the US and completed her undergraduate and graduate education in the United States. She holds a bachelor degree in electrical engineering from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, a MBA in Finance and a MA in International Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. In 2013, Grace started a small international relocation business with two partners and is principally responsible for the operations of the business venture. Grace is married to Dr. Peter Yu, an Oncologist with the Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF) and the president-elect of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). Peter and Grace have three college-aged children, Stanley, James, and Catherine, all enrolled in Boston University. The Yus enjoy skiing, playing tennis, reading and cooking together. Although the family all enjoy listening to music they diverge in their musical tastes. Peter enjoys classical music; Grace, rock n' roll; Stanley, jazz; James, the blues; and Catherine, Pop. Peter is a wine enthusiast and loves reading detective and mystery novels. Grace's passion is operational management where she enjoys helping organizations to build structure and processes in order to fulfill their mission and maximize their impacts. In her spare time, Grace likes to read fictions with an interesting plot and staying in touch with the latest high tech development through reading and connecting with people working in the industry.