

octagon

Gavin Zhang '18

Beijing & Shanghai, China

Work Experience

- Compiled lifestyle and fitness related events in Beijing
- Created event proposals and event evaluations for MasterCard in the form of PowerPoint presentations
- Drafted invitations and itineraries for MasterCard VIP guests to the Audi LMS Cup in Taiwan
- Conducted research on suitable corporate sponsors for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics
- Translated partnership proposals from Chinese companies wanting to work with soon-to-open Shanghai Disneyland
- Wrote reports on Octagon-managed athletes



Beijing Office



Shanghai Office

Rewarding Aspects

- I was given a lot of freedom as well as responsibilities
 - e.g. My supervisor let me call the management of Hong Kong Disneyland on behalf of Octagon for research purposes
- I got to see events I planned carried out in person (see next slide for photos), and this made the preparatory efforts more meaningful
- My colleagues were mostly young people, so I found the work environment enjoyable and made many friends over the course of the internship

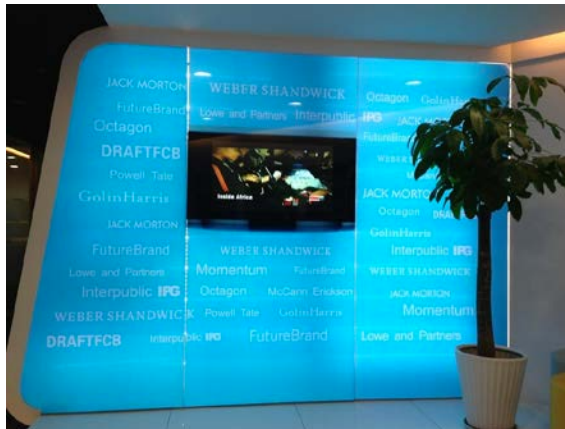
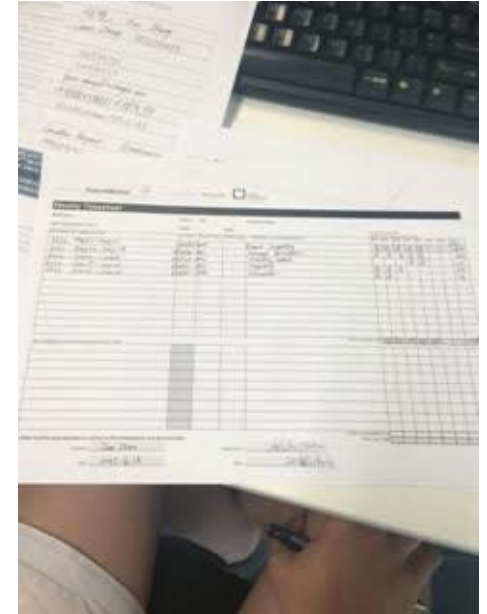
Fieldwork



Impact on Organization

- My translation of partnership proposals made communication between Disney and Octagon's clients possible, directly benefiting Octagon's business
- My research on suitable corporate sponsors for 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics gave Octagon Beijing some potential clients it could approach in the next few years
- I contributed in company meetings by offering my knowledge and experiences gained from the Western world, which usually resulted in more holistic discussions of the problem at hand

In the Office



Impact on Self

- Beijing and Shanghai are fun places to be and both offer myriad opportunities; however,
 - Cost of living is high relative to wages
 - Professional environment not very standardized
 - Can be inconvenient & unhealthy for those without abundant wealth and resources
- Therefore, even though I wish to return to East Asia in the long run (most likely China), my IIP experience has veered me toward the decision of working in a more standardized environment like New York City or Hong Kong immediately after college



Thank you!