



24<sup>th</sup> Sep - 17<sup>th</sup> Dec

YOUNG  
PROFESSIONALS  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAMME  
2019 IMPACT REPORT

Sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_



Supported by \_\_\_\_\_



The Young Professionals Development Programme (YPDP) is a pioneering initiative launched by the British Chamber of Commerce in China in 2018 and sponsored by Pearson in 2019. This fellowship programme aims to elevate key employability skills of young professionals, develop UK-China relations, and benefit businesses in China and their emerging talent.

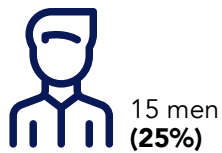
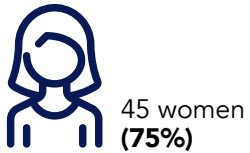
In its second year, 60 fellows took part in eight events over a three-month period, including an initiation ceremony, networking social, five interactive workshops, and a graduation ceremony. The workshops focused on important themes of self-management, leadership, communication, strategic thinking, and entrepreneurship. Each workshop was led by a team of mentors, all of whom are senior representatives of British Chamber member companies with tremendous expertise in their fields.

The programme's five workshop themes were selected to help address a widely recognized issue: higher education is not aptly preparing young people for meaningful work. According to the Youth Employment: UK Employability Review (2017) "young people today will have ten to fourteen jobs by the time they are 38 years old, with the top ten jobs in 2010 not existing in 2004." Furthermore, the UK's Industrial Strategy Green Paper (2017) emphasises "the need for our young people to be able to develop skills required for the highly paid, highly skilled jobs of the future."



This year's cohort of 60 young professionals represented a wide range of perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences; spanning 11 nationalities and 15 industries. Throughout the YPDP, fellows demonstrated a commitment to professional development and network-building through expert mentorship and peer-learning.

**GENDER**



**INDUSTRY**

Education	<b>20</b>	Government	<b>2</b>	Media & Comms	<b>1</b>
Consulting	<b>9</b>	F&B	<b>2</b>	Culture	<b>1</b>
Business	<b>8</b>	Health	<b>2</b>	Development	<b>1</b>
Accounting	<b>6</b>	Finance	<b>2</b>	Branding	<b>1</b>
Advisory	<b>3</b>	R&D	<b>1</b>	Retail	<b>1</b>

**NATIONALITY**



**33**



**12**



**5**



**3**



**1**



**1**



**1**



**1**



**1**

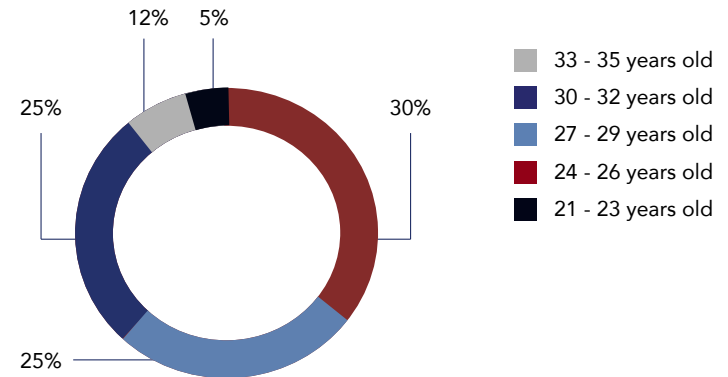


**1**



**1**

**AGE**





## — | Mentors

This year's mentor team featured senior representatives of five prestigious and proactive British Chamber member companies: KPMG, Brunswick, CKGSB, Rolls Royce, and Venture Education. All of the mentors volunteered their time to support the YPDP by offering their industry expertise, professional insights, and personal reflections to help expedite the fellows' learning.



**Ying Yu**  
Partner -  
Government & Public  
Services Advisory



**Daisy Shen**  
Partner -  
Deal Advisory



**Jenny Yao**  
Partner -  
Head of Healthcare



**Jonathan Dong**  
Partner



**St John Moore**  
Partner -  
Head of Beijing



**Rachael Layfield**  
Director



**Ira Zaka**  
Assistant Director,  
Global Marketing &  
Communications



**May Xia**  
Assistant Dean



**Julian MacCormac**  
Country Director -  
Greater China



**Troy Wang**  
Vice President -  
Customers



**Helen Twite**  
Vice President -  
Commercial



**Julian Fisher**  
Cofounder &  
Senior Partner

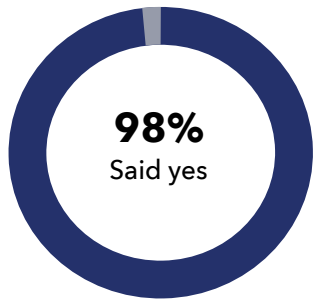


**Zhubei**  
Cofounder &  
Senior Partner

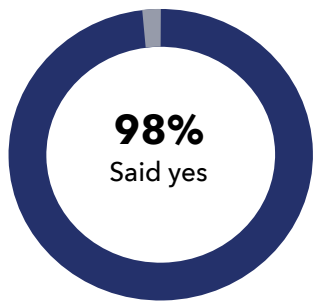


In order to effectively measure the impact of the YPDP, fellows were asked to complete a post-programme survey providing their subjective feedback on the experience. The following results demonstrate how valuable the fellows found participating in the YPDP to be, and speaks to the overall success of the programme.

**Would you recommend the YPDP to another young professional?**



**Would you participate in a similar programme in the future?**

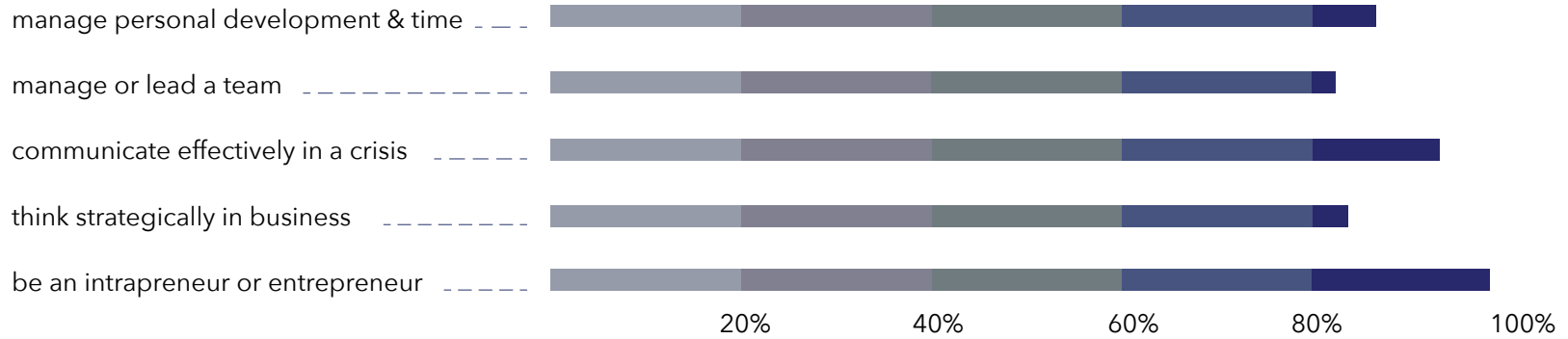


**100%**

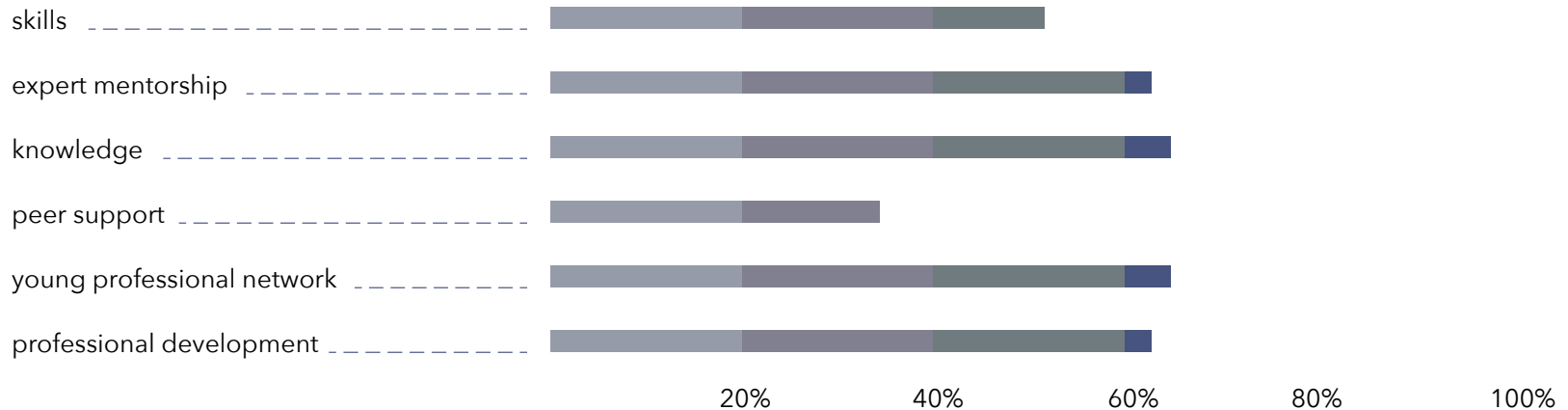
of respondents said that the YPDP met or exceeded their expectations

**% of respondents who said that the YPDP:**

**increased confidence in their ability to:**



**helped them to gain:**





I've found the YPDP to be extremely valuable in not only gaining new knowledge but also broadening my network and connections.

The YPDP was an incredible experience, utilizing the Beijing network is one of the most powerful things you can do for your career.

**The YPDP provided the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with like-minded professionals and up-skill personally on leadership capabilities for the future.**

The YPDP gave me the opportunity to think outside the box as well as engage with other young professionals. Networking can be quite challenging in a new place and being able to find a group of peers who are motivated, engaged and active in the community is something that is hard to come by.

The YPDP has helped me to develop skills that will help me in my current role but also develop marketable skills for the future.

**This programme encouraged me to spend more time focussing on my own professional development and encouraged me to reflect on new ways to help myself grow.**

I highly recommend the YPDP. It really pushed me outside my comfort zone and by the end I felt very enthused about my career and personal development.

This course has taught me that all of us have a lot of skills within ourselves and it's about self reflecting and learning to bring those out.

**YPDP is great for anyone who has even the smallest desire to better themselves both professionally and personally.**





It was great to mentor such a talented and diverse group from the younger generation. Sharing my experience, I drew a lot of strength from their eagerness for self-development, innovative ideas and working together as a team.

**Daisy Shen**

Partner - Deal Advisory, KPMG



It was great to work with such an interesting group of young professionals and share our thoughts on strategic thinking, prioritising and making choices in an ever-changing world.

**Julian MacCormac**

Country Director - China, Rolls Royce



It is a real privilege to once again have the opportunity to serve as a mentor on YPDP. The Brunswick team is thrilled to have been able to contribute to this invaluable programme, helping young professionals build their skills and further develop their careers.

**St. John Moore**

Partner - Head of Beijing, Brunswick



The YPDP cohort was incredibly positive, engaged and brave. In many ways they encapsulate the entrepreneurial spirit just by being on the programme; they have given their time and energy to engage in self-discovery and continuous growth. In Charlotte, the YPDP Director, they have an incredible role model of someone who makes ideas happen.

**Julian Fisher**

Cofounder, Venture Education

This was a learning opportunity for me – you are the future, tomorrow is in your hands.

**May Xia**

Assistant Dean, CKGSB



## — | **Parting Thoughts**

Enhancing and expanding the Young Professionals Development Programme in its second year has been a deeply rewarding experience. This sense of fulfillment is further compounded by the overwhelmingly positive feedback we received from the fellows, many of whom expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the 2019 cohort of this important and impactful British Chamber initiative.

“The YDPD gave us an opportunity to meet with some of the most inspiring professionals in Beijing and to learn a variety of new skills. It's incredibly rare to gain this kind of access to these intelligent and ambitious professionals. I'm very grateful I did the programme this year!”

**“It's a sheer privilege to be part of the programme to learn and grow with a group of amazing people!”**

**“I'm happy and proud to be part of this programme. It's impressive, inspiring, and influential.”**

“This programme is well designed and organised for young professionals; offering great mentors, resources, and experiences.”

**“I learned a lot during these weeks! Come here if you want to get better and better!”**

“Thank you. Best training I've ever had.”







We wish our fellows the best of luck on their journeys towards becoming globally competitive individuals!



## Special Mentions



**Vivian Lv**  
**Vice President - Corporate Affairs, Pearson**

Vivian is a representative of the YPDP 2019 sponsor, Pearson, the world's learning company with more than 24,000 employees operating in 70 countries. Pearson combines world-class educational content and assessment, powered by services and technology, to enable more effective teaching and personalized learning at scale. They believe that wherever learning flourishes so do people. We are grateful for Pearson's endorsement of the YPDP as a valuable learning opportunity in China and Vivian's ongoing support throughout the programme.



**Charlotte Smith**  
**YPDP Director & YP Forum Co-chair**

Charlotte conceived of the YPDP as a way to meet a market need for professional development opportunities targeting young professionals in China. With her passion for innovative programming and effective leadership, and with the support of the British Chamber team, she is thrilled to continue expanding the reach of this unique and impactful fellowship programme.



**Nathan Cornwell**  
**YP Forum Co-chair**

Earlier this year, Nathan joined the British Chamber as YP Forum Co-chair, and has since demonstrated an unwavering commitment and show of support to the YPDP. Reporting on each programme event, coordinating supplementary socials, offering an extra pair of hands at every opportunity, and generally making everyone feel positive and at ease; he has been invaluable in ensuring the success of the YPDP 2019.





The British Chamber of Commerce in China is a membership organisation for British business focused on boosting UK-China trade and investment. We operate as an independent, not-for-profit organisation with a strong and diverse membership. With over two decades' worth of business experience in China, we provide advocacy, advice and networking opportunities for our members, helping their business reach its full potential in one of the world's fastest growing markets.

<https://www.britishchamber.cn/>