

## **Chun-Yen Wang**

### **Statement of Purpose**

English is playing an ever increasing role in peoples' lives necessitated by advancement in technology, globalization and the Internet. Communication is used not only for simple daily conversation but also for engaging in trade. It plays an essential part in obtaining knowledge, understanding culture and facilitating information dissemination. Right now it is transparent to see that English is the dominant language in a world which is demanding the use of English with ever increasing frequency. On the other hand, if one observes the development in China over recent years, together with growth trends, Chinese is fast becoming the second most influentially spoken language throughout the world. Bridging these divergent languages and cultures will become vitally important as commerce and trade between countries increases.

Taiwan is well-known for her electronic technology industry and more importantly the core of her economy is based on exportation. This accelerates international interaction between Taiwan and the world. It is also to be realised that the phenomenon reveals urgency and high demand in the fields of translating and interpreting professionals in Taiwan.

As a university student, my professor invited me to work with him to translate his research project pertaining to the catering market in Taiwan. From here my interest has grown. It was a great opportunity for me to learn how to connect and define the two languages. I learnt a lot from this experience and have sort to increase my knowledge in this area ever since. I also realize that translating can be a rather demanding and challenging task; however it is for theses very reasons along with a love of language that I wish to follow this path in life.

To expand my knowledge and exposure further, I have over the last two years also taught as an English teacher in a private language school in Taiwan. Thjs has provided opportunities to get involved in an English-speaking working environment where I could converse with and provide translation to native speakers and help them communicate more effectively with some of my colleagues.

As an extra circular activity I also participated in several language exchanges. Face to face conversation allowed me to see and interpret both the non verbal expression and mannerisms of native speakers as well as their speech. During the time we practiced, I came to understand that languages are not lifeless. Language usage could be comprehended or defined so differently through people in the light of one's understanding. For instance, I found that phraseology and cultural differences also had a bearing on understanding. I felt every conversation was fascinating and inspiring at the same time.

**Visiting the UK 5 years ago, it was my pleasure to participate in a summer study programme. I was completely impressed by my English teachers' extensive knowledge and their professionalism. In addition, the solid language courses also helped my English improve substantially. As far as I am concerned, England is not only known as the birthplace of English but is also famous for its mature, comprehensive as well as professional education system. Therefore, undoubtedly, the UK is a more and more popular destination within which to study. Sentiments that I agree with strongly.**

**One Further reason as to why the UK is my primary choice of location in which to study includes an ever increasing thirst for enhancing my knowledge of the UK's history. This is a subject which has fascinated me for many years. If I obtain the opportunity to study in the UK it will enable me to immerse myself in both its history and culture first hand. I truly yearn to absorb all that the UK has to offer.**

In the future I hope to use my language skills in England. With the 2012 Olympics being held in London, clear translation in the fields of transportation, hotels and tour guide brochures will ensure a positive experience for visitors from many different countries and subsequently boost England's image and reputation. As an international student in the UK, it would make me proud to become part of this. To participate in an international affair, explore England's rich cultural heritage and its effect on language would be a dream come true.

On the successful completion of my masters' degree in the UK I will be able to fulfill my potential and attain my goals. Having the ability to then work anywhere in the world with a confidence in my own abilities would make all the hard work worth it.