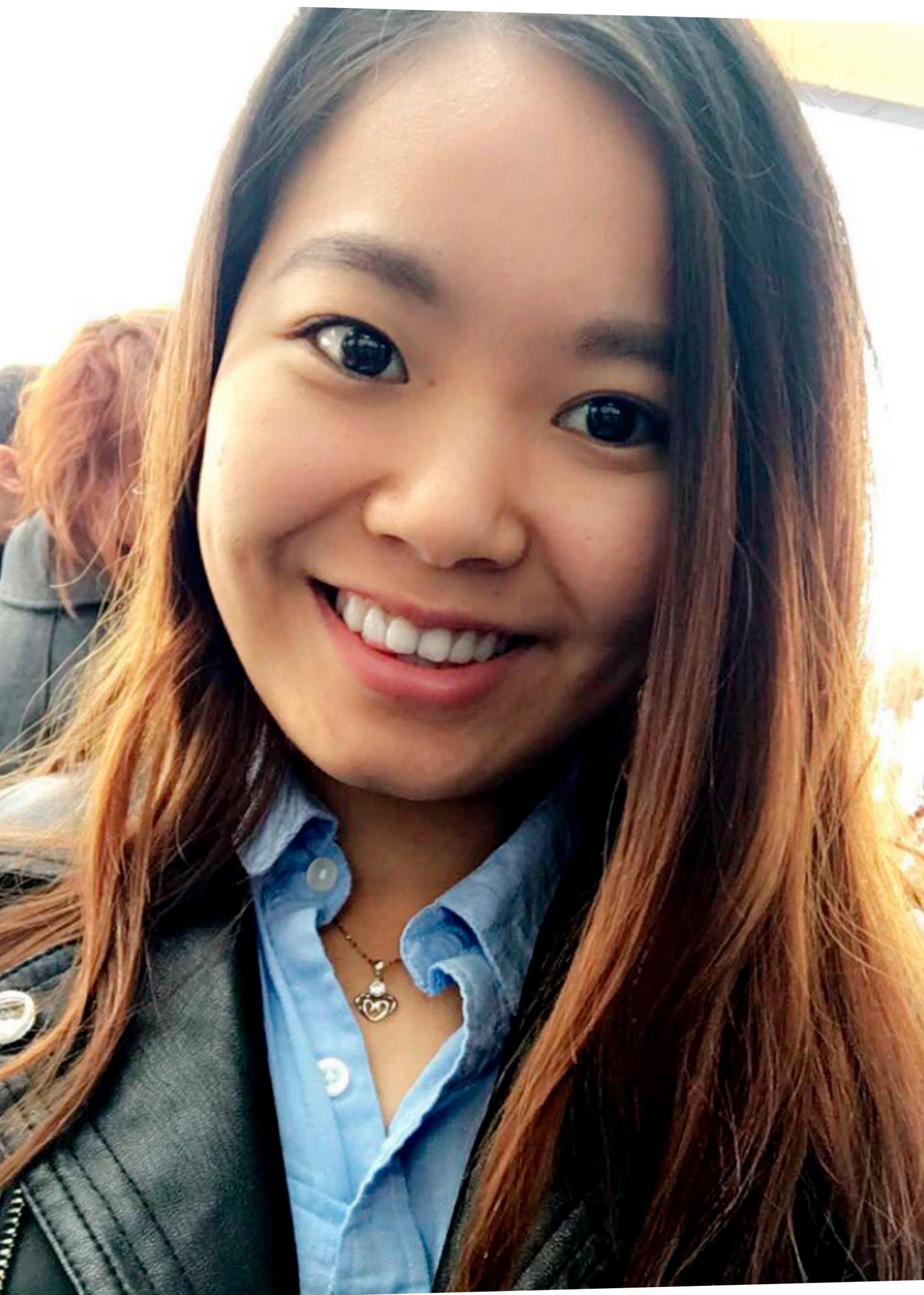


Juliy's internship at Microsoft



Juliy Hehad

Juliy Hehad to move heaven and earth to obtain her internship at Microsoft, but in the end it was all well worth it: "Because of this internship I improved my communication and presentation skills and overall I grew much more confident."

Juliy was in Nice for her study abroad when Microsoft was hiring new interns. "I was very interested in having my internship there. With a minor in consumer trends, I didn't know much about technology yet. This was the perfect opportunity to broaden my view. I wanted it so badly, that I even flew back to the Netherlands for the interview. In the middle of my exams! Yes, it was pretty nerve wrecking", she recalls.

So much more

When she started her internship, she didn't really know what the position was about. "I was going to operate as a channel manager, a position that was specifically designed for Microsoft. I worked with the top 200 of Microsoft's partners, making sure I connected costumers to the right channels. That was very interesting and made me learn much about the Dutch market and culture. And also about the company: Microsoft does so much more than selling technology! They also have many projects to contribute to society. For instance, did you know that they develop artificial intelligence to detect mosquitoes, in order to prevent diseases?"

Confidence

It was the first time for Juliy to act in such a realistic work situation, and she did feel pretty overwhelmed. "Microsoft is a very big company and I wasn't sure if I was going to fit in. I did get the opportunity to learn outside of my comfort zone and that gave me a lot of confidence. By nature I am pretty shy, so in that way I gained a lot. But I also learned that a medium sized or smaller company would suit me better. That's something you have to experience: you don't know until you try."