A member’s view: Hoi Yan Kinki Lam

Briefings



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Trust Tax Assistant, Larking Gowen LLP

This month’s ATT member spotlight is on Hoi Yan Kinki Lam, Associate in Tax and Trust Tax Assistant at Larking Gowen LLP.

How did you find out about a career in tax?

Originally, I did not consider a career in tax. However, my first job in an accountancy firm was in their tax team. I found tax to be fascinating and also challenging and decided that it was a career for me.

Why is the ATT qualification important?

The ATT qualification has helped me to understand the implications of different taxes such as income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance tax and corporation tax. I now use the knowledge from my studies in practice to support and improve my skills and performance at work.

Why did you pursue a career in tax?

Tax legislation changes often and can be complicated, so I like the challenge of staying up to date and figuring out the best way to apply them. Although, I have no direct experience on advising clients on tax planning, I am sure it will be rewarding to make a difference by helping them plan their finances confidently and correctly.

How would you describe yourself in three words?

Approachable, determined and organised.

Who has influenced you in your career so far?

A key influence in my tax career are the people I work with at Larking Gowen, who emphasised the importance of staying curious, always asking questions and challenging myself. They encouraged me to look at tax legislation and truly understand the reasoning behind the rules and application of those in various situations. This approach has taught me to think critically, stay updated on changes and seek out solutions for clients. Their commitment to both technical excellence and client services showed me how valuable it is to be thorough, adaptable and client focused. This perspective has shaped my approach and continues to guide me as I develop my career.

What advice would you give to someone thinking of doing the ATT qualification?

If you are considering doing the ATT qualification, my advice would be to go for it. It will give you a strong foundation and credibility to progress your career in tax but be prepared for a career that requires continuous learning.

What are your predictions for tax advisers and the tax industry in the future?

The future for tax advisers and the tax industry is likely to involve significant changes, primarily driven by technology, regulation changes and a growing focus on sustainability. Therefore, the tax industry will demand adaptability, technical knowledge and a client focused approach, making it essential for future tax advisers

to be flexible, proficient in use of modern technology and forward thinking.

What advice would you give to your future self?

Stay curious and adaptable. Keeping up to date with technical knowledge and technology is essential but building strong relationships with clients by communicating clearly and understanding their needs is equally important. Also, don’t forget to prioritise work-life balance, take time for yourself to stay motivated and energised for the long term.

Tell me something about yourself that others may not know about you.

I came to England 11 years ago. At that time, I was struggling to communicate with others in English. Studying in a second language is not easy but achievable – nothing is impossible if you have a clear goal.

Contact

If you would like to take part in A member’s view, please contact Melanie Dragu at: mdragu@ciot.org.uk