

# DEI Community Spotlight

## Ruth Yan

Library Director

¡Hola! Bonjour! Dobar dan! Guten tag! Hello!



Hi, my name is Ruth Lingxin Yan, the library director at Allen College. I graduated with a doctoral degree in education and other MA degrees related to library and ESL from UNI and Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia. I was born in a doctor/reverend family in Kunming China. My mother was the head of nurses when I was young, and I firmly believe my mother is feeling proud of me in heaven now watching me work for a college that offers programs for healthcare (especially for nurses). I came to U.S. 30 years ago to further my education.



My background spans from a university English lecturer in China to bilingual education research faculty at UNI, and campus ministry to international students/families at UNI/Wesley Foundation. I have been at Allen College for almost 18 years.

I enjoy tutoring students databases' research skills in the library or online. I have served on the Allen DEI committee for years since I have a passion for helping diversity students, as an immigrant myself! I have read extensively how to help diversity students succeed academically. I firmly believe in hard work and fair opportunities to all regardless of their ethnic background.

I have one daughter who is a pharmacy doctor in Oregon, specializing in caring for the aged adults. We save all our vacation days to visit her a couple times each year. On weekends, my husband and I enjoy cooking and visiting flower gardens. Meanwhile, I volunteer doing outreach ministry to the Asian groups. I am also an intuitive person, enjoying reading extensively and being friends with the honest, authentic people.

I love Mother Teresa's quote very much— "If you cannot do great things, you can always do the small things with greatest love."—I have used this as the ongoing guide for my deacon outreach ministry to help the diversity students and immigrant families.