

## Elizabeth Miller '81 Lecture

### Risk Taking and Its Rewards: A Conversation on Leadership and Entrepreneurship

#### Jeannie Cho Lee '90



Jeannie Cho Lee is the first Asian Master of Wine (MW) and an award-winning author, wine critic, judge and educator. Jeannie's pioneering book, *Asian Palate*, exploring Asian food and wine pairings in ten Asian culinary capitals, won the Gourmand award for Best Food and Wine Pairing Book in the World in 2010 as well as the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP) award and the Organisation Internationale de la Vigne et du Vin (OIV) award in 2011. *Asian Palate* is now available in both English and Simplified Chinese.

Jeannie's second book, *Mastering Wine for the Asian Palate*, was released in September 2011 and her Asian book tour to 12 major cities was completed in November 2011. *Mastering Wine* provides a fresh Asian perspective to understanding and appreciating wine by broadening the wine lexicon. Jeannie introduces a new set of Asian descriptors such as red dates, persimmons and ginkgo nuts to describe wine. The Simplified Chinese version of *Mastering Wine for the*

*Asian Palate*, was launched to an enthusiastic audience in mainland China in August 2012.

Jeannie was born in Korea and has lived in Hong Kong since early 1994 where she started her publishing career with financial publications such as *Asia Inc*, *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *The Asset*, before moving on to lifestyle and wine publications such as *Wine Spectator*, *The World of Fine Wine*, *Wine Business International*, *Revue du Vin* and *Tatler*. Currently, Jeannie is Contributing Editor for *Decanter* UK and a monthly columnist for mainland China's *China Business News* as well as the largest English newspaper in Hong Kong, the *South China Morning Post*. She pens monthly columns in *Noblesse China*, *Noblesse South Korea*, *Wine* magazine in Guangzhou and *Wine Press* in Shanghai.

Jeannie was appointed as Professor of Wine at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University where she is involved in creating a new Master's degree program in International Wine Management. She is also a Wine Consultant for Galaxy Macau, responsible for the master wine list of over 50 F&B outlets, as well as for Singapore Airlines, involved in selecting all the wines served on all routes. Recognised for her contributions to the wine industry, Jeannie won the Vintality Award in 2009 and was named the 26<sup>th</sup> most powerful person in wine by *Decanter* magazine in 2011.

Jeannie holds a Certificat de Cuisine from Cordon Bleu and her love for food and wine inspired her to found AsianPalate.com, a site that celebrates the confluence of Asian food and wine. Jeannie is a Master Sake Sommelier from Japan's Sake Service Institute and is a Certified Wine Educator from UK's Wine & Spirits Education Trust as well as the US Society of Wine Educators. Jeannie's interest in wine began at Oxford University where she spent her junior year before returning to Smith College where she graduated with a dual degree in Government and Sociology. Jeannie then went on to obtain a Master's degree in Public Policy & International Relations from Harvard University.

#### Annie Morita '90



Annie is an executive at DreamWorks Animation SKG and currently serves as Chief of Staff for Oriental DreamWorks, a joint venture family branded entertainment company with DreamWorks Animation SKG and three companies in China (China Media Capital/CMC; Shanghai Media Group/SMG; and Shanghai Alliance Investment Ltd./SAIL). Based in Shanghai, this is a first-of-its-kind enterprise to locally conceive, produce, and distribute high-quality creative content and family entertainment experiences in China and for China as well as for export to the rest of the world. Prior to this, Annie was head of digital strategy and new business development for DreamWorks Animation SKG.

An entertainment and marketing veteran, Annie has held management positions at Electronic Arts, Sony Pictures Entertainment, and Warner Bros. Studios. She began her career at Turner Broadcasting System, having worked for Cable News Network (CNN) during her junior year abroad in China, and served as an international assignment editor in Atlanta before moving to Hong Kong to launch Turner Broadcasting's efforts in the Asia Pacific region. Annie served on the core team that brought Cable

News Network (CNN) and TNT & Cartoon Network to Asia.

Annie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. She is an active volunteer for the College and served on the Board of Trustees from 2006 - 2011. Annie also holds a master's diploma in baking and patisserie from Le Cordon Bleu.