

CHRISTINE YOUNG

Chartered Accountant | Experienced Senior Leader | Head of Finance | Community Focused

07349761868 ce_young@hotmail.com [Christine Young](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

SUMMARY

I am a dual-qualified Senior Leader (Law & Finance) with over 25 years of experience in progressive and mission-driven environments. Currently serving as Head of Finance for the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford, with a developed understanding of collegiate governance, restricted fund accounting, and academic stakeholder management. Proven track record in overseeing multi-disciplinary support functions, including Estates, IT, and Operations. Expert in translating complex financial data into strategic insights for non-finance Boards and Committees. I am passionate about higher education and committed to managing financial sustainability and performance excellence.

In a complex environment I am continuously learning and enthusiastic about the possibilities of modern technologies.

As a manager I value communication and teamwork, and a coaching approach that gets team members working to their potential.

EXPERIENCE

Head of Finance – Current 08/2025

[Faculty of Law, Oxford University](#) Oxford, England

- Service focused in a period of change within the Finance team and faculty.
- Thoughtful ability to navigate a complex environment in a short time to participate in continuous improvement and digital transformation initiatives.
- Pro-active in problem solving, agile in finding solutions using a collaborative approach.
- Adept at managing endowments and donor funding.
- Ability to build relationships across functional leads to support academic governance committees. Natural communicator.

Audit Risk & Compliance Committee 06/2024-07/2025

[International Taekwon-Do Federation](#) Lausanne, Switzerland

- The ITF is a major International Sporting Organisation headquartered in Switzerland.
- Working with an international panel of professionals overseeing all aspects of audit, risk and compliance including statutory reports.
- Monitoring and review of governance regulations and reporting on financial controls.
- Working as key advisory panel to the International Board. Reporting to an international congress with 70+ country federation representatives.

Director – Operations & Finance 11/2013 - 2024

[The Martial Arts Academy](#) Tauranga, New Zealand

- Co-founder & Lead for Operations, Finance and Technical syllabus.
- Responsible for all finance functions, monthly management reporting, payroll, budgeting, forecasting, and Annual tax accounting.
- Grew from start-up to one of the largest centers for martial arts training in New Zealand with 8 different martial arts codes, 16 high level coaches, 500+ students ranging in age from 5years to over 70 years.
- Highlights include mentoring and developing young coaches to reach their potential.

Consultant 04/2006 - 12/2013

[Baker Tilly International](#) Tauranga, New Zealand

- Mentored and supported clients in CFO and Finance Controller roles.
- Supporting client finance teams in reporting, analysis, and technical advice.
- Specialist in due diligence reporting for acquisition or sale purposes.
- High level technical reporting advisory, on GAAP, IFRS and NZFRS compliance.
- Advanced financial modelling for cash flows, forecasting, and M&A business case scenarios.
- Sector experience including real estate, FMCG, light industry, SMEs.



KEY EXPERIENCE

- ★ Collegiate Governance & Trustee Advisory: Skilled in advising governing bodies on financial risks and compliance. Expertise in internal and external financial reporting. Experienced liaison with external auditors.
- ★ Financial Stewardship & Asset Oversight: Technical expertise in all aspects of accounting requirements, budgeting, forecasting, analysis, assurance and asset management.
- ★ Leadership & Management: An effective communicator of financial analysis to non-finance Boards. Experienced in leading a shared service team comprising finance, operations/facilities and IT.
- ★ People & Teams: Mentoring team reports, encouraging continuous learning and high performance. Experienced people manager.

SKILLS

- Concise Communication Style
- Comprehensive Senior Finance Expertise
- Internal & External Reporting
- High IT aptitude, especially excel and Microsoft365.
- Legal & Contractual Acumen
- Analytical and Principled
- Adaptable Problem Solver

AWARDS

- New Zealand Martial Arts Hall of Fame Inductee 2024
- For services to the martial arts community. Including services representing NZ as an International Referee.

EXPERIENCE

Finance Director 01/2000 - 07/2005
[August.one Communications Ltd](#) London, UK

- Led a global finance function, including oversight of offices in APAC and EMEA.
- Board level input into strategy, planning and risk management.
- Coached a finance team of 4 and 7 other personnel in support functions, IT and Operations, through organizational change, through mergers and down-sizing.
- Innovated and implemented financial board reports to support strategic decision-making.
- Oversaw multi-country finance reporting and mentored offshore finance staff.

Group Financial Controller 09/1996 - 1999
[APOLLO LEISURE GROUP LIMITED](#) Oxford, UK

- Large entertainment group, theatre owning, live venue operator, licensed premises.
- Held the role of Group Management Accountant prior to promotion to Group FC.
- Direct report from a team of 8 accountants overseeing consolidated monthly management reports.
- Lead accountant on major systems project to modernize accounting functions and reporting integration.
- Promoted to Group FC with line reports of 28 in finance team including all ledger departments, being cashflow, payroll, accounts payable and receivables.
- Implemented robust operational financial controls by writing operating procedures and finance policies.

Accountant BAS/Tax 02/1993 - 04/1996
[Deloitte](#) Wellington, New Zealand

- Client service facing, big four training to Chartered Accountant qualification.
- Experience in providing business advisory services as well as Tax.
- Usual range of clients and exposure to multiple industries.
- Extensive and comprehensive technical skills acquisition.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Chartered Accountant admitted 1996
[Australia New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants](#) New Zealand

- Excellence award for top 10 qualifying exam mark in final qualifying exam 1995
- 25 years' service plaque awarded 2022

Solicitor & Barrister 1995
[High Court of New Zealand](#) New Zealand

- Admitted to the bar in New Zealand - fully qualified.
- Well versed in legal jargon and commercial legalese.
- Contract negotiation experience.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Commerce & Accounting 02/1988 - 11/1992
[Victoria University of Wellington](#) Wellington, N Z

Bachelor of Laws 02/1988 - 11/1992
[Victoria University of Wellington](#) Wellington, N Z

LANGUAGES

English Native ●●●●● French Intermediate ●●●●●
Cantonese Intermediate ●●●●●

COMMUNITY

International Taekwondo
Foundation of New Zealand
HIGH PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR
01/2013 - 05/2019

Director of the high-performance programme for the development of athletes for international representative competition. During this time the New Zealand Taekwondo team achieved podium placings of 3rd 2013, 1st 2015, 3rd 2017, 3rd 2019 in overall country placings at World Championship competition.

Advanced Coach Educator
Sport New Zealand
03/2020 - 03/2023

I was selected to join a 2-year part time residential leadership programme fostering excellence in coaching and to be a National Sport Coach developer. I was one of 16 coaches to take part in workshops on advanced pedagogy, frameworks for national sports development, and general leadership in a non-profit environment.

Volunteering
Chair – Body Corporate Oceans 346
Management Chair of a housing association, since 2018 – current.

International Working Group for
Women in Sport
World Conference - Presenter
11/2022

Presented 3 papers at the International Women & Girls in Sport world conference. Held in-person in Auckland New Zealand and online worldwide.

English Tutor – English Language Partners (NZ NGO)
Volunteer English tutor for new migrants. 2021-2024

INTERESTS

Martial Arts Instructor
25+ years in martial arts.
Head instructor, which includes modern teaching pedagogy, training junior instructors, mentoring and coaching including being the NZ Team Coach.

Administratively
Organising chair of major events including symposiums, conferences, national championships and International courses.