



Dr. Ying Lu

Dr. Ying Lu, was born in Shanghai, China. She initially studied for a Master's degree in immunology, but because her research work was outstanding, Queen's University Medical School invited her to become an advanced student there. From 1990 to 1994 spring, Ying Lu finished medical school in less than four years. During that time there were two years in which she was also studying for a research degree. In the 125 years of Queen's history, she was the only student who got a medical degree and a PhD degree at the same time.



Ying Lu is attracted to ophthalmology, because she feels that the eye is the combination of both art and science. She made up her mind to become an eye physician, so that she could help blind people get their normal sight back. Within the various medical specialities, ophthalmology is one of the most competitive areas. During the year she applied, there were only fourteen students accepted for that specialization, and Queen's University only accepted two students. At that time no one thought she would be accepted, but Ying Lu was selected from among the thousands of medical students.

In the early summer of 1992, Ying Lu applied to an eye clinic in Ottawa for an internship. There she met Brian Leonard, a vitreoretinal surgeon. He is also the founder of Canadian Orbis. He told her the mission of the Orbis Agency is to preserve and to restore sight by strengthening the capacity of local health professionals to prevent and treat blindness in the underdeveloped countries, and that the program has a close relationship with China. Once Ying Lu understood what Orbis was about, she joined without hesitation. In March 2006, she flew with the Orbis Flying Eye Hospital, a state-of-the-art eye surgery and teaching hospital inside a DC-10 aircraft, to Wuhan in the northern part of China, and for two weeks they treated the blind and trained the local doctors.

At the clinic and hospital, Ying Lu is a good doctor. At home she is a good wife and mother. Her husband Pierre Sullivan is a Canadian born in the United States. They were classmates at Queen's University, and he is now Assistant Head and Professor in the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Toronto. Ying Lu is also teaching at the University of Toronto Medical School. Married in 1994, they have three lovely children with ages 6, 8 and 10 years old. Ying Lu feels grateful that her husband was devoted to her parents, and her parents treated her husband as their son. There were never any cultural gaps between them.