

## In Focus

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### **Professor Kalun Tsé: "China cannot rest on its laurels"**

Kalun Tsé is Professor of Corporate Finance. He is the classic example of a Nyenrode lecturer with corporate experience having worked in London's City after his academic training. We discuss radical changes and Nyenrode's strength. Born in Hong Kong, Kalun Tsé is watching the developments of the Chinese economy with the greatest of interest.

#### **What makes us unique?**

"A lot of things are changing at the moment, in the broader educational arena and at Nyenrode itself," Kalun Tsé tells us. "In my opinion, it's generally for the good. We are so busy at Nyenrode that we sometimes fail to see what differentiates us from other programs. We train people to think for themselves and to be able to roll up their sleeves and get on with the job at hand. We're a relatively small university with a close bond between students, teaching staff and employees. Nyenrode has a fantastic network. For the greatest part, our students live and study on campus. These are all things that are tough to copy. And in my opinion, it's all about the extra things we have to offer."

#### **Intuition**

"If you want to apply what you have learned in practice, you have to really understand what is going on, and you have to be able to really listen. As a lecturer, you have to be able to communicate in such a way that what you are saying comes across clearly and so that what you are saying can be truly understood. It is critical that students not only receive the knowledge, but also develop an associated intuitive feeling. I personally worked as a consultant in London's City. And I have to say, it still benefits me as a lecturer."

#### **Insight and instruments**

"My professional area is corporate finance. That is by definition an area with a strong theoretical basis. Of course that's important. But I also approach the material from a highly practical perspective, by giving students an insight and teaching them which instruments they can use. After all when it comes down to it, the objective of a company, whatever the size, is to be able to manage its financial resources effectively. The translation from theory to practical applicability is therefore always relevant. And that's the basis of Nyenrode."

#### **China's enormous economic experiment**

"Of course my background means that I am extremely interested in the economic developments in China. The corporate finance arena is particularly underdeveloped there as a result of the previously centrally-directed economic system. But it is developing fast. There's an enormous economic experiment going on in China. That does not mean that it will be an instant success story. China will also have to remain on guard and look to the future. India and certain African countries are certainly challenging China economically. In other words, China cannot rest on its laurels."