

Deakin University

Full name: Janelle Kwon
Year graduated from Deakin: 2008
Course name: Bachelor of Food Science & Nutrition (Hons.)
Campus: Burwood

What is your current job and what does it entail?

I am a Product Development and Sensory Technologist at Sensient Technologies, a manufacturer of flavours and colour for the food industry. In my product development role I work within the beverage application team to create new beverages for customers using the flavours we manufacture. This can include anything from a cookies and cream flavour for flavoured milk to a lemonade flavour for soft drink. As a sensory technologist, I conduct a variety of sensory tests to compare our flavours to market products or target products.

What are the things you enjoy most about your job and what have been your career highlights to date?

I really enjoy being able to use my creative imagination when developing new beverages. In the past I have made some unique flavours such as cherry ripe chocolate milk, fuji apple and lime juice, and pink grapefruit and lychee soft drink.

My career highlight was when I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to go the UK and Sweden for training.

What do you intend to do in the future?

I would like to further progress in my product development role by continuing to learn more in this area as well as possibly other application areas.

How do you feel your Deakin course has helped your career – both in obtaining your current position, and in the future development of your career?

My Deakin course was a great start to my career as it covered a wide range of topics and exposed me to many different employment opportunities in the food industry. In particular I found the industry placement to be extremely valuable as it allowed me to use the theory I learnt in my studies in a real life situation. It was also a means of getting my foot in the door and finding my first professional role as a graduate.