



2026 Woman of Distinction Science



Dr. Yaqi Wo

Director of Product Management
PPG Industries

Dr. Yaqi Wo is a currently global product management leader at PPG Industries, a fortune 250 company in the paints and coatings industry, with \$16 billion revenue operating in over 70 countries.

Yaqi excels at cultivating inclusive environments where innovation, diversity, and forward-thinking approaches thrive. Yaqi is global sponsor of PPG's Asian Employee Network (AEN), working with >60 leadership team members globally, she leads the team to focus on people development, supporting profitable business growth, and giving back to the community. She is passionate about fostering an environment where we celebrate diverse teams perform better, through education, exposure, and transparent discussions.

She also leverages her passion, perspective, and expertise, to support new initiatives that have long-lasting impact serving under-represented communities. Yaqi is currently serving as a board of director in Literacy Pittsburgh, as well as finance and investment

subcommittees, expanding tools and resources for free adult education programs, including English, reading, writing, digital skills, and more.

She has received multiple awards recognizing her work in advancing and mentoring other women and girls in the community, including the Young Athena Award of Greater Pittsburgh 2023, a PPG Way Silver Star in 2022, and a PPG Cultural Change Maker award in 2023.

Yaqi holds a doctorate of philosophy in chemistry from the University of Michigan and is currently pursuing a master of business administration degree from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Kenan Flagler Business School. She currently lives in Pittsburgh with her husband David and daughter Emma (4y) and Zoe (9m), and enjoys mixology, exercising, and traveling. She is also a passionate cook and baker who loves to share her love with friends and neighbors through food.