Alumni Careers

MBA class of 2017/18
Celebrating Alumni

This report follows the publication of the MBA Employment Report for MBA 17-18, introduced by Stuart Jagot, Director of Career Development, presenting information on our graduates’ outcome data relating to salaries, locations, industries, and employers.

Here we feature a selection of alumni career transition stories, introduced by Viola Polakowska, Head of Alumni Relations.

‘I am delighted to introduce some of the achievements of the School’s newest alumni. I would like to extend my congratulations to not only those featured here but every single alumnus/a that has completed one of our programmes and gone on to take strides in their professional careers.

As well as their own personal dedication and the support of our Career Development Team, you will notice that many acknowledge the network available to them as an alumnus/a of the School as one of the key attributes for success.

With over 20,000 members in 149 countries, there is huge depth and variety across our alumni network. As well as being open to the School’s degree, postgraduate diploma and on-campus executive education alumni, the network also welcomes other Oxonians from across the University that share our interest in business.

The alumni network can bring together individuals that share similarities beyond their education. Members successfully pursue careers in a wide spectrum of industries and functions, and many make significant transitions across sectors and the globe; whether it be based on geography or industry, the alumni network provides a supportive environment for both professional and personal development.

I am delighted to celebrate the success of our MBA 2017/18 alumni and to see the positive impact a strong alumni network can have for its members.’

Viola Polakowska
Associate Director of Alumni Relations
Said Business School, University of Oxford
‘The Oxford 1+1 MPP/MBA allowed me to explore the intersection between business and government and gave me a global outlook. I’m now running the organisational restructure of an $800m US government agency, before returning to McKinsey to pursue a specialisation in public sector consulting.’

Eleanor Brown
Senior Associate (on secondment as a Government Innovation Fellow with Harvard Kennedy School)
McKinsey & Company
United States / Australia
‘Oxford is raising the standard of leadership excellence and challenging the global status quo. My MBA experience is allowing me to shape Tesla’s global strategy in novel and innovative ways.’

Mustapha El Akkari
Global Supply Manager
Tesla
United States
‘The Oxford MBA enabled me to transition from a technical actuary to a business managerial role. It gave me the knowledge and confidence to participate at the forefront of strategy, operations, and innovation, to help shape the company’s development.’

Tina Yang
Head of Operations
Legal & General Reinsurance
Bermuda
‘The Oxford MBA programme’s international focus, emphasis on sustainable business, and engagement with the broader Oxford academic community were all integral in guiding me towards a career in global clean energy.’

Joe Byrne
Corporate Strategy / M&A Analyst
Vestas Wind Systems A/S
Denmark
‘Thanks to the Oxford MBA, the professors, and my colleagues, I developed the confidence to go after my dream transition from data analytics to product management. I am now part of a fantastic team and have already built and delivered a large-scale sales force optimisation tool.’

Senjuti Bhattacharia
Senior Product Manager
Agoda.com
Thailand
'The Oxford MBA enabled me to transition from banking into Fintech and better understand how the sector will evolve. The connections I made and what I learned at Oxford was an invaluable step in my career.'

Alec McLaurin
Business Development
Plaid
United States
‘The diversity of thought and experience I encountered at Oxford helped grow my business acumen. In turn, that has contributed to my greater ability to service clients that come from a wide set of industries and unlock their hidden potential.’

Sara Kushma
Client Partner
Facebook
United Kingdom
‘The Oxford MBA helped me make a ‘triple jump’. The Careers team were invaluable in helping me with this challenging transition, playing a pivotal role in my career journey, throughout the MBA.’

G Dinesh Kumar
Presidential Management Associate
Estée Lauder Companies
Hong Kong, Singapore, New York
‘Being part of such an international cohort of incredible classmates during my time on the Oxford MBA prepared me for making the jump from working in the US to working across truly global teams and initiatives in my new role.’

Moriah Baxevane-Connell
Cloud Program Manager
Google
United Kingdom
‘The Oxford MBA exceeded my expectations and enabled me to change careers to a tech role in Europe. It was inspiring to spend a year with some of the brightest future business leaders in an idyllic and intellectually stimulating setting.’

Christopher Schildt
Senior Customer Strategy & Operations Manager
Uber
United Kingdom
‘I moved from designing offshore platforms for the world’s largest O&G companies to designing digital transformation strategies for the world’s largest enterprises. The guidance, support, and perspectives from the Oxford community, both within the School and the wider University, have proven invaluable.’

Zeella Labram
Customer Success Manager
Microsoft
Ireland
‘The Oxford MBA opened a lot of doors and was a huge boost in helping me switch careers from public relations to consulting. I feel the overall experience exposed me to a lot of interesting opportunities. I hope to utilise both the coursework and global network in my career moving forward.’

John Forristal
Senior Consultant, Strategy & Analytics
Deloitte Consulting
United States
‘By being immersed in a programme where both faculty and students challenge the status quo, the Oxford MBA has equipped me with the multi-disciplinary skills needed to be more effective in my career and, with the ongoing support of my peers, a successful leader in the future.’

**Julia Windsor**
Consultant
AlixPartners
United Kingdom
‘The Oxford MBA allowed me to take a step back and challenge my thinking on the purpose of businesses, how they should operate, and how to improve their performance. Beyond the in-class experience, I was able to make lifelong friends who I will depend on for the rest of my career.’

Kunal Shah
Director, Operations Advisory
KPMG
United States
‘My time at Oxford was a wonderful whirlwind and being part of such an amazing class was a real privilege. Bringing together people from all over the world who were willing to collaborate and share their wealth of knowledge and experience was an incredible once in a lifetime opportunity.’

Paige Halam-Andres
Director of New Ventures
Highline BETA
Canada
‘My time at Oxford provided an opportunity to broaden my outlook, push my core business skills further, and make new connections, all of which were instrumental to a successful pivot from energy operations to strategy consulting.’

Oluseye ‘Bayo Owolabi
Consultant
The Boston Consulting Group
United Kingdom
‘Through the array of co-curricular offerings at Oxford, I applied my MBA learning, built relevant experience and deepened my networks. These steps were critical for a career transition from non-profit consulting to impact investing, and securing my dream role in London.’

Tori Hellrung
Associate
CDC Group
United Kingdom