

# Alumni PROFILES

## GLEN BERTRAM (BCom (Hons) '04, LLB (Hons) '06)



AT THE AGE of just 24, Glen Bertram left a promising job with UBS to co-found his own financial services company, Rismark. Together with his friend and business partner, he built it into a flourishing firm with over 20 employees, the support of institutions like Macquarie Bank and “a real office to boot”.

Today, the ambitious 26-year-old has returned to work for his former employer as an Associate Director, saying that his current role managing investment portfolios allows him more direct contact with the financial markets he loves.

A talented tennis player, Glen initially planned to carve out a successful career in sport rather than business. He played doubles as a teenager with Lleyton Hewitt as the second-highest ranked Australian junior, then achieved a world ATP ranking on the men's tour shortly before leaving sport to pursue his finance career.

“Stopping playing was a very difficult decision, but with the benefit of hindsight, it might have been a good decision,” he says. “I love what I am doing now.”

### TAKE 5

**What book is on your bedside table?**  
The Alan Jones biography.

**What periodical can't you do without?**  
*AFR*, sadly.

**Where are you most likely to be found on the weekend?**  
The beach.

**Best advice you've been given?**  
Nothing ever goes up in a straight line.

**Proudest achievement of your career?**  
Getting my first job. It's a nice feeling when someone is prepared to pay you to effectively teach you. It's a vote of confidence in your potential.

*To read more about Glen, Rebecca and Olivia, please visit our website at [www.econ.usyd.edu.au/alumni/profiles](http://www.econ.usyd.edu.au/alumni/profiles)*

## BEC HAMILTON (BEc(SocSc) (Hons) '03)



ONLY TEN YEARS ago, Rebecca was handing out flyers outside Target to earn a living and believed she would never go to university. Since then, she has received the University Medal from the University of Sydney and been accepted onto a full scholarship at Harvard, where she recently graduated with Master of Public Policy and Juris Doctor of Law degrees.

During the final year of her graduate degree, Harvard University Press published Rebecca's research on the impact of the citizen advocacy movement for Darfur on United States Executive Branch decisions. Since graduating, she has begun working at the International Criminal Court in the Hague, where she hopes to play a role in helping prevent genocide into the future.

Rebecca is a passionate advocate for the cause of genocide prevention, thanks in part to her experiences working with displaced populations in the Sudan in 2004. She co-founded the Harvard Darfur Action Group, which pushed Harvard to become the first university to divest from companies doing

business with the Government of Sudan. She is also working to build a permanent constituency against genocide through the Washington-based NGO, the Genocide Intervention Network.

### TAKE 5

**At University, where were you most likely to be found?**

Picnic tables outside Manning.

**What book is on your bedside table?**

*The River of Lost Footsteps*, a history of Burma.

**Your childhood ambition?**

All I wanted to do was sing and dance.

**What periodical can't you do without?**

*New York Times*.

**Best advice you can offer?**

When something instils both excitement (of possibility) and terror (of failure) in me in equal parts, it's usually the right thing to be doing.

## OLIVIA JING-SHU JI (MCom '03)



ONE OF THE first crop of Internet executives in China, Olivia began her business career assisting in the start-up of Netease, now China's leading web portal. Next, at the age of just 23, she went on to build up her own online empire, the popular web community cultureinchina.com. As the youngest COO in China, she garnered widespread media attention.

But she then made the bold decision to interrupt her career and enrol in a Master of Commerce at the University of Sydney. "Coming to Sydney was not an easy decision to make, but it has been proved to be a right and smart one," says Olivia, who is currently Head of the TV Division at Ringier International.

This year, Olivia created a scholarship in her own name at the Faculty of Economics and Business to honour the best international student in a postgraduate degree. "I would

like to see more and more success stories out of Sydney Uni graduates. Also, this is my way to say "thank you" to my uni," she says.

### TAKE 5

**What book is on your bedside table?**

*Lonely Planet Cambodia*.

**What periodical can't you do without?**

Used to be *Business Week*, now I get it on the Internet.

**What makes you laugh?**

Friends, business, flowers, shoes...life itself.

**Your childhood ambition?**

Be a happy person, be respected and successful.

**Do you have a hidden talent?**

Definitely dancing.