

# We're saying Cheers to 10 years of graduates

from the Master of Global Business (MGB) program, which has sent students on journeys around the globe!

A lot has happened since our first MGB cohort wrapped up its epic adventure to Kaohsiung, Taiwan at Sun-Yat Sen University, and Linz, Austria at Johannes Kepler University in 2011. We caught up with a few of this first graduating class and asked them to share where they are now.



**CHERIE  
TONG**

## What was your favourite memory from your time in the MGB?

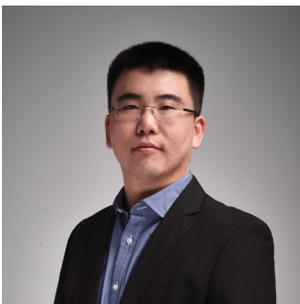
There are too many to choose from and it's hard to pin down just one! We learned Mandarin, in Taiwan, and we had the opportunity to do group-consulting projects on real issues with big companies in Austria, which was an incredible experience. Of course, all our opportunities to travel around Asia and Europe during our off time with friends were beyond memorable.

### **Professional/personal update:**

I was lucky to have an internship opportunity that allowed me to remain abroad, and it really changed the course of my professional and personal life. I began working for a non-profit, and then worked

as a representative of the BC government in Hong Kong. Over the last five years, I transitioned into the private sector. Currently, I am the regional marketing manager for Therabody, a leading tech-wellness company using cutting-edge technology to deliver scientifically validated natural products and services.

Since coming to Hong Kong for my internship as part of the MGB program, I've never left. It's now my 10th year living and working here. I met my husband, who is also an expat, during my time here, and we've made Hong Kong our second home.



**SONNY  
XIN**

## What was your favourite memory from your time in the MGB?

My favourite memories during MGB came from the multi-cultural experiences we had. Learning different cultures from books is one thing; breathing and touching different cultures always brings me great memories.

### **Professional/personal update:**

As part of the MGB internship program, I took a job at Metaio GmbH, a German augmented-reality (AR) company. In 2012, I started a subsidiary company of Metaio in China as a partner. In 2015, I supported Metaio in getting acquired by Apple. A year later, I invested in another AR company, named RealWear, a global leader in industrial

AR solutions. I am currently chairman of the board for RealWear China and board director for RealWear Inc. I also serve as a strategic advisor to IDG Capital, and work as an investment partner to Tencent, Baidu, Xiaomi and SDIC, the largest state-owned investment holding company in China.

I am currently living in Vancouver, BC. I was married the same year I graduated from the MGB program and now have two lovely daughters; one is eight and a half and one is seven. The MGB ended up being the starting point of my career and my family.



**DANIEL  
MCCOMBE**

### What was your favourite memory from your time in the MGB?

My favourite memory was working with my classmates on our capstone project in Austria; the long nights and early mornings gave us a chance to make deeper connections and, when we finally delivered our project, we made sure to celebrate our achievements as a team with a memorable night out.

**Professional/personal update:**

Shortly after the MGB program I took a leap of faith to join Airbus as a young professional in Bangalore, India. It was

there that I met my now-wife Meera, mother to our daughter, Leela, and with another child on the way. We truly live in a globalized world, and in my case, that starts right at home with my multicultural family.

After nearly 10 years at Airbus, I recently joined Jeff Bezos' space venture, Blue Origin, where I am a finance executive leading our New Glenn Orbital Launch Vehicle program. Our mission is to "build the road to space" for future generations to prosper here on Earth.



**HELEN (YANJIE)  
HAN**

### What was your favourite memory from your time in the MGB?

UVic's MGB gave me the chance to travel to so many beautiful cities and immerse myself in the local culture (particularly its food!). The program gave me the opportunity to see the world. All the professors I met were very knowledgeable, and the classmates I met were all very nice and helpful. Not only did the MGB program help me gain academic knowledge, but I was also inspired by how different cultures did things, which made me

reflect on the purpose of my life and shaped me into who I am today

**Professional/personal update:**

After my MGB, I became a regulated Canadian immigration consultant, which is still my profession today. I also became a permanent resident of Canada, got married and am now settled in beautiful BC.

**GUILHERME  
KLEINERT**

### What was your favourite memory from your time in the MGB?

It was definitely the people I met, the incredible atmosphere we had, the trips we took and the hands-on projects we were assigned. Living in those three countries and being able to experience their business culture was one of the most enriching experiences I ever had.

**Professional/personal update:**

The MGB path led me to the field of capital markets, and helping financial institutions expand their business in the Latin America region. I now work for a

Danish bank in Sao Paulo, Brazil. I help it expand its investment platform among institutions such as banks, brokerage firms and investment funds.

My job requires a lot of travelling in the Latin America region and the experience I have had dealing with other cultures in my time with the MGB program helps me better perform at my job every day.

I am now married, with one daughter and a boy due this year!

**JULIAN  
LEGAZPI**

### What was your favourite memory from your time in the MGB?

I really enjoyed the camaraderie I had with my cohort. We had such a diverse set of backgrounds, and everything was equally memorable—from spending time with them in the classroom to eating late-night beef noodles in Taiwan or taking skiing trips in Austria.

**Professional/personal update:**

I ended up turning my MGB thesis into a full-time job at KTM—a motorcycle and sports car manufacturer based in Austria. I became the managing director for the

Asian region, and started a joint venture factory in the Philippines. I have since left them and become an entrepreneur. In 2020 I started an electric motorcycle company based out of Singapore and I spend my free time working for my other start-up—a Fintech business that empowers digitization across Southeast Asia.

Having lived in seven countries since the start of the program, I have now settled in Singapore as my home!