

Hi. I'm Alex.

GLOBAL PROPERTY RETROCESSION BROKER, LONDON

ALL ABOUT ME

I studied economics at the University of Leeds and graduated in July 2013. I moved to London that summer after earning a position in the Guy Carpenter Graduate Program and have been taking advantage of working and living in central London since. In my spare time, I enjoy watching and (occasionally) playing football, tennis and cycling. I also love eating and cooking, and frequently spend my weekends sampling the many restaurants available on my doorstep.

MY ROLE ASPIRATIONS

Many graduate brokers are encouraged to get a grounding as both an analyst and a broker. I do analytical work and broking, which includes meeting with markets and clients. Each day is different and I get many opportunities to work with client teams on live projects, while honing both technical and soft skills. Looking ahead, as I grow my career I hope to be respected by my colleagues and to contribute to moving the industry forward.

WHY I CHOSE RE/INSURANCE

After starting at Guy Carpenter, I quickly realized it ticked all the boxes that I regarded as important for a career – relevant, global, commercial, social, offering travel opportunities and a culture of meritocracy. I had not grown up dreaming of a career in reinsurance. While I was relatively well informed of the job market for graduates, (re)insurance is not particularly well represented in recruiting at UK universities. However, after being contacted by a recruiter in my final term, I sent a speculative application. As I went through the application process, I began to understand the industry and decided I wanted to be part of it.

WHAT SURPRISED ME MOST?

What has surprised me the most is that I think it is probably one of the most social, fast moving, fun and relevant industries in the world. I have found that when you tell people you work in reinsurance, they sometimes glaze over, having heard the word “insurance.” I was particularly surprised by how social it is. Reinsurance is one of the few industries that still does business face to face. It affords opportunities to travel and be involved in work early in your career that very few of your peers will experience. The industry is built on trust and that can only be gained once you really get to know the people you are dealing with, whether in a meeting room, over dinner or at a global sporting event.

