

Michelle Zircone: I'm Michelle Cercone a Senior Manager in Advisory. I've just returned to Atlanta from the London office on a four-year rotation.

So I've gone from Big Ben to The Big Chicken, from the London Underground to the Atlanta Underground, from fish and chips to The Varsity and from Abbey Road to Peachtree Road.

I actually lived on Abbey Road, across from the famous Abbey Road studios, in a quaint little studio apartment, just very tiny, with a room and a kitchen and a bathroom.

It was always interesting to walk outside my flat because there's always tourists outside taking photos, walking, stopping traffic, taking photos, going across the famous Abbey crossing, where the Beatles took their famous album cover.

I joined the firm in July of 2004 in the Atlanta office and having done a study abroad program in university, I knew that I wanted another opportunity to work globally.

And, once I hit the three-year requirement of working with the firm, I immediately applied for global opportunity to work abroad. As soon as I told my partners and mentor that I wanted to do this, they were 110% behind me, and tried to introduce me to the individuals I needed to know.

Maureen Scully: One of the great things that KPMG has to offer and is what attracted me to the firm is that you can go on a global assignment at any stage in your career.

They offer global internships where you spend a few weeks first in the US getting to know the firm and then you get to go abroad. You can also start to do long-term assignments when you're just at the in-charge level.

I went to Sydney, Australia after only three years of working in the DC office and now I've moved on to the London office as a manager for another long-term assignment.

Michelle Cercone: A global rotation is really like applying for a new job. You fill out an application, go through an interview process, go through the acceptance and then, for me, in three months time, I was packing my bags for London.

For anyone who's interested in the global secondment, they can talk to their performance managers and tell them you're interested and then you can also go out to the global mobility website and you can see all of the job postings online that are available worldwide.

And if they aren't online then you can ask your performance manager, your partner to introduce you to someone in that country to get started.

Simon Kho: At any given time you'll find that we have over 3000 professionals operating outside of their home country. And these aren't just one off opportunities. If you look at the roster of our professionals currently in London, you'll find 50-60 people from the US alone.

If you look anywhere else in the world, you'll see those opportunities. And it's not just in one practice. So if you're looking at audit, or tax, or advisory the door will be open to you in any of those areas as well.

Michelle Cercone: The firm invests a tremendous amount of resources in global rotations, but they also get a wealth of benefit back from it. Now that I'm back at Atlanta I'm bringing back, you know, technical insurance skills. I'm bringing back experience working with a brand new regulation and I'm also bringing back a global network with me that I'll be able to draw on when I need it here.

Olawale Atijosan: The benefits of bringing together a global team are that you get the best ideas from different regions of the world. I mean, from a personal point of view, it just makes working in the London office really exciting, just because we get to meet a range of different cultures, but also, I think that it means that we get to push and innovate a lot, because we have so many different ideas coming together in the same place. It definitely helps our innovation.

Michelle Cercone: Doing a global rotation, I've really got the opportunity to have a different experience than I would have in Atlanta. In Atlanta I was in a general advisory business working across sectors.

And when I came to London working specifically in financial services, I was able to specialize in a sector and now that's really opened doors for me coming back to work in a different

department in advisory and to specialize and to keep that specialization in insurance and financial services.

Along with the technical skills that I've brought back, I've also brought a number of intangible benefits that I have now just working with people and, you know, working with such a variety of cultures from all over the world has really allowed me to learn how to flex my style in management and working with people so that I'll be a better performance manager, I will be more adaptable to work with our global clients. I just have a better understanding of how global operations work.

The funny thing about coming back to Atlanta is that when I went to my storage unit, I noticed my storage unit is actually bigger than my flat that I had in London, but thankfully I have all these great experiences to take with me, like, you know, running in the park on a weekends and going to café's with friends and meeting up for the theater in the West End.

It was such a great experience to walk through a city amongst all the great architecture and historical landmarks, even where the kings and queens and have walked, well, and the Beatles too.

Working abroad is such a rewarding experience and a growing experience for me personally and professionally. I would definitely recommend a global rotation to anybody and KPMG is a great place to start your career.

My name is Michelle Cercone, and this is my life at KPMG.

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