

Wharton Work/Life Integration Project

The Life Interests of Wharton Students: 1992 and 2012

Class of 2012 Report Contents and Sample Charts – February 2013

In our survey of 314 graduating seniors in the Class of 2012, we asked questions about career prospects, personal values, family, views on the relationship of work with the rest of life, health and religion, and Wharton. We asked many of these same questions of the Class of 1992 at the time of their graduation, when 460 students responded, and this past fall, when 158 alumni participated in our 20-year follow-up study.

The results allow us to examine how the views expressed by the Class of 2012 at the time of their graduation compare to the views expressed by students 20 years ago, and to explore how the expectations of the Class of 2012 compare to the experiences of alumni 20 years out of Wharton. This document contains the Table of Contents for the entire “Class of 2012 Report” we produced for survey respondents and a few sample charts, underlined in the Table of Contents.

The report has responses for Wharton’s most recent graduating class (labelled “W ‘12”), for the Class of 1992 from 20 years ago (labelled “W ‘92 – Then”), and for the Class of 1992 from this past fall (labelled “W ‘92 – Now”). You will see averages and standard deviations for numerical variables and percentages for each response option for categorical variables. Averages in **red font** indicate a statistically significant ($p < .05$) **decrease** in graduating seniors’ response values over the past 20 years; and averages in **green font** indicate a statistically significant ($p < .05$) **increase** in graduating seniors’ response values between 1992 and 2012. (We have not included statistical differences for categorical variables in this report. To see statistical differences within the Class of 1992 over the past 20 years, please see [sample pages from the Personal Time Capsules](#) we provided to alumni participants.) Dashes mean that the question was not asked or the answer option was not available in that survey version.

For more information about these results and what they mean, look for updates in the [research section](#) of our Web site. And to share your thoughts and see what others have to say about the data, please visit our [online Forum](#) and subscribe to it.

Thank you for your interest in our project, [Prof. Stew Friedman](#), Director (friedman@wharton.upenn.edu)

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Expectations for tenure and salary in your first job.

Responses to the first two questions are in years. In cases where respondents selected a range of time, the mid-point of that range was used. The third question is annual salary in thousands of dollars. In 2012, respondents were asked to select a salary range; numbers in these columns represent the mid-points of those ranges. The fourth question is on a scale from 1 = *much higher than my classmates'* to 5 = *much lower than my classmates'*.

	W '92 – Then		W '12		W '92 – Now	
	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.
After graduation, how many years <i>do you expect to</i> <i>did you</i> remain at your first job?	3.4	4.2	2.0	1.6	2.4	2.1
After graduation, how many years <i>do you expect to</i> <i>did you</i> remain within your first organization?	4.6	4.9	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.7
How much money <i>do you expect to</i> <i>did you</i> earn per year in your first job after graduation?	38.7	16.8	88.2	56.5	40.4	19.6
How would you compare your first job salary to your classmates'?	2.8	1.0	3.0	1.0	3.6	1.0

Factors influencing salary in your first job.

Responses indicate extent of agreement on a scale from 1 = *strongly disagree* to 5 = *strongly agree*.

	W '92 – Then		W '12		W '92 – Now	
	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.
The salary in my first job after graduation <i>will depend</i> <i>depended</i> primarily on market factors in my area of specialization.	3.5	1.1	3.5	1.0	4.0	1.0
The salary in my first job after graduation <i>will depend</i> <i>depended</i> primarily on my skills.	2.9	1.1	3.1	1.0	3.4	1.1

Definition of career success.

Responses indicate extent of agreement on a scale from 1 = *strongly disagree* to 5 = *strongly agree*.

Career success means...	W '92 – Then		W '12		W '92 – Now	
	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.
... having flexibility in determining your work hours.	3.4	1.0	3.5	1.1	4.1	0.9
... having time for yourself.	3.9	0.9	4.1	1.0	4.0	0.9
... helping other people.	3.5	1.1	3.7	1.1	3.7	1.0
... working on challenging tasks.	4.4	0.7	4.4	0.8	4.2	0.9
... having social status and prestige.	3.5	1.1	3.7	1.0	3.0	1.0
... being creative in your work	4.0	0.9	3.8	1.1	3.8	1.0
... having power and influence.	3.6	1.1	3.9	0.9	3.2	1.0
... having time for your family.	4.5	0.8	4.5	0.9	4.6	0.7
... ensuring a comfortable retirement.	4.2	0.9	4.3	0.9	4.4	0.8
... having secure employment.	3.9	1.0	4.2	1.0	3.8	1.1
... living in a preferred geographical area.	3.7	1.1	3.9	1.1	4.1	1.0
... being respected by others at work.	4.4	0.8	4.5	0.7	4.3	0.8
... earning a great deal of money.	3.7	1.0	3.8	1.0	3.4	1.0
... advancing rapidly to high-level positions.	3.7	1.0	3.9	0.9	3.2	1.0
... enjoying your work.	4.8	0.5	4.7	0.6	4.6	0.7

Timing of children.

Responses are in years. Averages are presented for men (M), women (W), and total respondents.

	W '92 – Then				W '12				W '92 – Now			
	Average			S.D.	Average			S.D.	Average			S.D.
	M	W	Total		M	W	Total		M	W	Total	
How old <i>were you do you expect to be</i> at the time of birth or adoption of your <u>youngest</u> child?	31.9	31.4	31.7	2.8	33.5	32.7	33.2	2.7	36.9	37.1	36.9	4.2
How old <i>were you do you expect to be</i> at the time of birth or adoption of your <u>second-to-youngest</u> child?	29.6	29.1	29.4	2.6	31.3	30.3	30.9	2.4	34.3	33.6	34.1	4.3
How old <i>were you do you expect to be</i> at the time of birth or adoption of your <u>third-to-youngest</u> child?	28.4	27.4	28.0	2.8	30.0	29.0	29.7	2.1	32.9	32.2	32.7	3.4

Average weekly time use.

Responses are in hours per week. Some categories of time use were only included in the 2012 surveys. For both “W ‘12” and “W ‘92 – Now,” individuals’ responses had to sum to 168 hours per week.

	W ‘92 – Then		W ‘12		W ‘92 – Now	
	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.	Avg.	S.D.
Working and work-related activities	55.3	16.0	70.1	19.9	52.9	18.0
Caring for and helping children	2.1	8.0	1.2	5.1	24.2	18.3
Household activities	7.9	8.4	6.7	5.2	9.0	6.0
Leisure and sports	24.4	19.7	18.9	11.4	12.8	9.4
Personal care activities (including sleep)	—	—	55.3	12.1	57.2	9.9
Caring for and helping family members other than children	—	—	3.1	4.2	2.8	5.9
Purchasing goods and services	—	—	5.0	3.8	4.2	3.2
Organization, civic and religious activities	—	—	2.6	3.1	2.7	3.9
Educational activities	—	—	5.3	10.2	2.1	5.0

How do you see your career and life unfolding over the next 20 years?

- Over the next 20 years, I plan to be fully-employed. I hope to receive my FSA credentials while continuing work. And I hope to have children in about 10 or so years.
- Hopefully I am able to have a fulfilling career. I am not opposed to staying at home and becoming a full-time mother if that's what the situation demands. I at least hope that if one parent is required to stay at home, that my husband considers my career and his on an equal playing field and of equal importance.
- I plan on starting several different businesses and living in many cities around the world. Expanding my network, spotting opportunities, executing, and having fun.
- Thank for a wonderful opportunity to consider my future career path (I wish there had been more dialogue about this when I was starting off at Wharton!)
- I bet things will work out differently than I've planned.
- good material standard of living
- I just want to be happy.
- Plan to go into academia...become a professor.
- Hopefully I get to take the "road less traveled" sometime in my career path. Cookie-cutter career paths are secure but boring after a while.
- In 10 years, I would like to be in a specialized, high-ranking, well-paid role at an organization that works towards international development or another good cause. I hope to continue to develop my professional and technical skills to achieve my career goals, especially in the next 10 years. In 20 years (by 42), I hope I have a family (with or without children) that is stable and is a source of happiness in my life. I would be surprised if I stopped my career entirely to have children at any point. Long term (in the next 10-20 years), I expect to either move back to [STATE] or continue to live in a large, liberal metropolis.
- I expect to be crushing it.
- Right now I see three very distinct paths in front of me, whereas last year going into my junior year internship I saw only 1. I walked into my junior year internship at an investment bank thinking I would do the internship, my 2 analyst years, then go off to Private Equity as an analyst, return to business school for my MBA, and then go back to private equity as a partner-track associate. What changed in my life over last summer was that I discovered that I actually enjoyed investment banking. My fellow summer interns got progressively more tired and exhausted over the summer, while I got up every morning excited to go into work. In 6 weeks I start my job as an analyst at the same bank, and my thought process right now is that I'll give it a go, but also do recruiting for private equity. If I am able to land a job with a highly prestigious private equity fund, I'll follow my original plan, but if not, I'll just stick with investment banking and try to climb the corporate ladder within the bank. I feel relatively secure in this knowledge (although layoffs and financial shocks can always happen) because unlike many of my compatriots who see banking as a hellish stepping stone to something else, I'm not actually afraid of the concept of staying in investment banking. My third, back-up, plan in case I burn out or something catastrophic changes in my life / the world and finance is no longer a good choice for me, is to translate my passions for technology and films into working for either a tech company in a business development capacity, or a film studio in a production role. But as always... who knows?

- I am unsure are the path I want my career to take, and I expect to change fields at least once during the early part of my career (possibly after going to business school).
- I hope to achieve great career and family success.
- I want to live, laugh, and learn.
- Unexpected/unplanned events are probably going to alter any plans I have now.
- moderately successful in everything, but not necessarily at “the top” of anything
- I’m excited!
- Even though I love the east coast and New York City, I have a feeling I might be moving to Texas or some other state with less taxes. If not, then I might actually even move to a different country.
- COMPANY for 1 year / Stanford Master’s in EE for 2 years / Large multinational high tech firm 2 years / Working in family business
- To be honest, I thought harder about my future during this survey than I have in a while. I’m honestly just trying to take it one year at a time. My biggest goal is to never let my career get in the way of personal development...though I’m not sure what that means for me right now. I just want to be happy, I guess that’s a lot more complicated than I thought.
- I fully expect to completely change directions multiple times, either to satisfy new interests or after having realized I didn’t like the career direction in which I was heading. I would like to become successful enough so that I could reasonably expect to move into any field I find interesting and be taken seriously based on my previous accomplishments.
- I’ll probably be very successful, happy, healthy, and with a beautiful wife.
- I think I set relatively modest expectations because I want to be open-minded as to how things will actually unfold. I hope that no matter what happens, I accept the decisions I make and the position in life that I am in.
- Uncertain, want to do start-up but work in bigger firms before that.
- My current life plan is to work in consulting for 2-3 years, go to business school for 2 years, then continue working in consulting or work for a technology company and attain an executive position. I hope to get married around age 28-30 and have 2-3 children by age 38. At retirement, I would consider running for public office, working for a non-profit organization, or starting my own small business. What I’d like to tell myself in 20 years: I hope you are happy and successful with your career. I hope you married the woman you love and you love her forever. I hope you are a good father, son, and brother. I hope you have healthy and happy children. I hope you find meaning in your life everyday.
- I hope I’m in a happy relationship.
- I hope that I am in a long-term relationship and have figured out a way to advance my career/make time for my family.
- Overall Plan: Spend a few years in consulting, go to MBA, a couple more years in consulting, then enter a client in Corporate Strategy/Business Dev in late 20’s, coinciding with marrying and settling down..continue to move up the corporate ladder from there on
- I’m ready for a journey, with all the ups and the downs along the way.
- I am very interested in technology and would like to get involved with startups. I am starting my career in investment banking and am interested to see if I end up in tech/vc or pursue banking/PE/hedge funds.

- I really want to be successful in the technology world in a marketing role. I want to have a successful career, a relationship, etc. I want 2 kids and 2 dogs. I want a town house in the city. I want my kids to go to private school. I want to marry someone successful and someone who loves me and my family.
- I am excited to see what happens in my career over the next 20 years. I hope to end up fulfilled and happy with whatever it is I end up doing.
- I want to have owned and sold successful businesses in the next 20 years that will have enabled me to travel the world for both work and leisure. With the capital I hope to attain from these ventures, I wish to start a business that is centered around the Do Well by Doing Good mantra. By age 42, I wish to have a few children and a great family life.
- I really hope that I am happy and caring.
- Honestly, I only perceive career as a “means to an end.” Wharton provided me the opportunity from the very beginning to be exposed to “real world” experiences, which are a far cry my expectations. I have very unique perspectives and high standards and high levels of dissatisfaction, thus I have long given up the notion of having a job I would “love” per se. I want to be constantly intellectually stimulated and challenged but realistically speaking, this won’t happen until I venture into academia and actually be successful at it. I realize that having a tenure-tracked position at an elite university in the humanities is probably harder than making millions at a finance job, which means that my hopes for obtaining my “dream job” are very limited. But that doesn’t mean I will not try at all. The future is all up in the air.
- I eventually would like to use my finance education to move into a position in which I can make a difference (ex. World Bank, IMF, government position)
- Work==>MBA and/or JD==>Work
- I really hope to raise a family that will keep me happy in the long run.
- Public intellectual.
- I will need to rededicate myself fully to developing my own investment frameworks if I wish to achieve the type of success I have dreamed of since a very young age. I will need to develop an investing track record and will need my own infrastructure of research mechanisms so as to best achieve this. Most importantly, I must avoid complacency at all costs. I must continue to increase my expectations for my own performance.
- work intensely, probably sacrificing the life part of work-life balance for the next five or six years. Then shift to a more family focus and getting a better work-life balance.
- Family will change everything
- I would really like to take these two years to get some experience in Finance and in the corporate world then look to switch industries. Ideally, I would like to move into an industry where I would be able to make use of the broad spectrum of business skills I have picked up at Wharton as opposed to just a financial services company. I dont know how long I’d want to stay in NYC as I find the city a bit superficial and agenda-driven but the most important thing for me is to maintain my relationships with my friends and family and find work that I truly find interesting.
- Reminder to self: Follow Christ, and find your passion in line with glorifying God.
- It’s very hard to say. At this point, I have no job offers, but more importantly, I have no specific career ambitions. In short, I’m rather lost.
- I might move abroad, and things would change
- Perhaps I’ll take upon religion.. We’ll see.

- I am really grateful for my Wharton experience. I expect that the people I met here, will remain lifelong friends and professional contacts. I also expect that the skills I gained will carry me quite far in my career.
- I wish to move back to the west coast with my family.
- I expect the following: 1. I will be a consultant for the next 3 years 2. I will attend graduate school to get two of the following degrees: MBA, MPA, PhD (Political Economy), JD 3. I will return to my consulting job to work off my school debts for another 2-3 years 4. I will decide whether to change careers again at that point (approx. 5-8 years from present)
- I see my life unfolding over the next 20 years back in my country of origin. Although career success is a priority to me, if it means that I need to put one over the other, I feel that family is a greater priority to me.
- I hope that my career/life have unexpected surprises, turning out differently than I anticipate (hopefully in a good way)
- I think I am in a very unique situation because I'm a submatriculation student. I think this program has awarded me a very rare opportunity to pursue both a family and a successful career early in my life. I hope that I'm able to do all of the family things I want to in the future while still having a fulfilling career.
- I was never a business-type person. I was a creative-type for as long as I can remember, but it was not until early adulthood that I recognized the difference. Taking Wharton classes was less an academic struggle, and more an emotional one. I feel that I've found my niche in the creative world, and while the pay is substantially lower than the Wharton average, I feel that my interdisciplinary studies will pay off. I hope to become an executive in an entertainment based company in the next 20 years.
- I just hope that I can always find happiness in what I am doing and have the audacity to move on to other positions/organizations if I ever find this is not true. I hope I will learn to work without stressing myself out and maybe even get to a point where I don't even think of my job as "work." I hope I never put money before have a truly fulfilling life (family, friends, activities, & fun)
- I am very confident in where I am starting and excited to actually get started. I am even more excited to see what unforeseen changes come ahead, and hope that I may be open to them.
- After graduate school I plan on entering the family business (for-profit education) and expanding it globally. Then, after selling it I plan on entering into politics by running for political office and/or fundraising for various political campaigns.
- Excited to see it unfold.
- have no idea how life will turn out
- I hope that I do not get stuck in a rut in which I am unhappy. I don't want to be unhappy at my job. I'm going to spend so much time in my life working, that I hope I am able to get the courage to take risky chances and follow what actually brings me satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment.
- I think I will change locations and jobs multiple times.
- I hope to live a fulfilling life, both professionally and personally. I specifically chose not to pursue investment banking because I knew the demands on my time would be too great. With that said I go in with my eyes open knowing that occasionally I will be asked to make sacrifices. I remain optimistic simply because my parents were successful in managing their careers (even with my mother making more money and success than my father).

- At this stage I am very uncertain about where my career will take me, which is a little unsettling for me. While I am excited for my first job, I don't see it as a long term career path. I am putting significant thought into going back to medical school in 2 years and going into healthcare long-term.
- My goal is to run my own company by 26 years old.
- Being very successful and happy in love with my partner.
- I couldn't have imagined what I'd be doing with my life five years ago, and it's equally hard to forecast what I'll value or where I'll be another five years from now, so a lot of my answers are rather noncommittal.
- I plan to seek a high profile position which will give me the influence I need to make a positive on impact on communities which I identify as being in need of support. I will choose the communities I wish to support based on where I believe I will be able to have the greatest impact.
- I hope to have a successful career
- Awesomely.
- I'm taking risks early on to develop an understanding of the future of technology. I have accepted a lower salary than I would normally have accepted with the hopes of learning for a period of time and making myself more valuable, either for re-negotiating salary at my current job or for finding a new job. I have been having health problems. I could fill in for my family business, but am currently pursuing a career in tech. I would love to somehow ditch this entirely to pursue a career in entertainment. I want to write a screenplay and see it through to production. I could also see myself as an artist manager
- Always wanted to work abroad.
- To become successful in all of my future endeavors.
- Even though I don't want such things to happen, but I believe that I will eventually go through some rough times in my career because of an inevitable recession within the next 20 years of my life.
- A lot of things happen in life that we do not plan, but I think at all times asking oneself about what is and continuing to strive for the ideal balance, and making explicit decisions about how to spend your time on different aspects of life will be of great importance to overall career, relationship and life success
- I believe much more will progress/unfold following graduate school.
- I anticipate staying in the US for around 7 - 10 years, transitioning from investment banking to private equity and then possibly the corporate sector - Richemont maybe - before moving back to [COUNTRY] and becoming involved in privatization and business there. Possible political ideas.
- I would overall, like to be in a long-term marriage with a stable job and income.
- Right now I am a little uncertain how my life/career will progress. I plan to try out banking, see if I like it, and let that determine my next step. Penn was an incredible experience and I look forward to the opportunities ahead of me.
- So many things seem uncertain to me right now, but I really hope that I can "have it all" and that my experiences over the coming years help to inform my definition of what "having it all" actually means. I really hope to have a life that is full of love and full of space for constant learning and personal growth along the way. I see some dicotomy between this and the way my career ambitions look right now, but only time will tell...
- Hopefully - I have true passion and desire for what career i end up pursuing. I want to enjoy my job as opposed to simply going through the motions of it.

- Hope it all works out.
- Failing at first, trying hard, and eventually finding purpose and meaning.
- I plan to spend a portion of my career in China.
- I think that I will have two major struggles and debates to deal with: 1) Split between wanting to be socially fulfilled and do non-profit work vs. higher pay and private sector opportunities 2) Struggling how to advance in my career while balancing the extremely important component in life of raising and spending time with my family
- Whatever I enjoy with whoever wants to be a part of it.
- I anticipate going to medical school and becoming a doctor. This is not the typical career path for a Wharton undergrad but I think my Wharton experience and the grueling time spent focused on career selection helped me find a path that will be challenging, rewarding, fulfilling, and something I can remain passionate about day-in and day-out. This career choice drives many of the differences between my goals in 5 and 10 years in comparison to my fellow classmates, as I won't have a first-job until I begin my residency, which won't be for another 5-6 years.
- I am concerned about the current economic climate will affect my ability to find and retain full-time work. I am also concerned that I will not be able to live up to the expectations that employers will likely have of my because of my Wharton degree. I am curious about the extent to which international opportunities will promote, hinder, or delay my professional growth. I sincerely hope that I am able to balance a rich family life, have time for leisure, maintain personal health, and pursue an exciting, fulfilling and somewhat lucrative career.
- coming back to the family business, trying to apply what i've learned from Wharton
- Hopefully learning and pursuing career advancement in an industry with which I have no moral qualms that can be said to benefit the community. I believe firmly in the idea of corporate citizenship and providing a positive return to the shareholders other than and in addition to the stockholders.
- I am very excited to compare these answers to the actual results of my life.
- Hopefully, I will able to reach a point where I will both be able to make enough money to pursue my hobbies and have enough time to execute on the pursuit.
- Startups. Period.
- I have one great dream, which is to start my own hedged fund one day. I foresee this whether with or without an MBA and am taking steps to make this a reality some time in my late 20s.
- I see myself working for a large, private corporation for a few years to gain experience, make contacts, and learn how a real estate development business should be run. In the meantime, I suspect that my wife and I will continue to learn valuable lessons and begin a family. Then, when the time is right, I expect to go back to the family business where I will be able to work with my father and brother (and other family members). I expect to use the experience I will gain beforehand to the betterment of the family business and, eventually, gain a large equity interest in the company. I expect to be successful and to be an owner of many assets.
- When asked by interviewers where I see myself in five years, I always answer, "I don't know. Hopefully somewhere in finance. At the very least doing something I like." As my career unfolds over the next 20 years, I maintain this sentiment - I truly am not sure where I will end up, although I do have expectations, but more important I hope to be doing something I can enjoy.
- I expect to be really truly happy, because well, I have faith that life only gets better and better.

- My current plan is to begin in consulting and make the transition into the world of professional nonfiction writing within two years. I've chosen to start in consulting for two reasons: first, that I can save a portion of my salary to subsidize the first few years of writing I do and the financial hardship that is likely to come with that, and second because it will keep many doors open for me (e.g., hospitality management, entertainment management, entrepreneurship) should I no longer want to pursue writing down the road.
- I think my career and life in the next 10 years is going to be drastically different from my career and life in the following 10 years. I think the next 10 years will be incredibly dynamic and involve a lot of personal growth; I think it will be an extension of my education and preparation for the following 10 years. The following 10 years will be when I have reached the crux of my career and it will be the time when I need to exercise all that I learned at school and also in the workplace. After a career in industry, I hope to return to academia and continue learning.
- I'm excited to see what transpires and how the plans change. As I move to [CITY], who knows where I will have lived in the next 20 years.
- It's really hard for me to think about where I will be in my career 20 years down the road. I hope to move into a successful company at that point and become either a CFO or a CEO. I may also start up my own company with a group of partners as well.
- I think I will hold a variety of related but different jobs over the next few years, starting by networking within [COMPANY] also with contacts I have made in the entertainment industry. While I have an idea of what I'd like to be doing in the next few years, I am interested to see how my career progresses and the turns it will take. While my first job is an 18-24 month program, it still feels a bit like I will be losing the safety net of knowing what is coming up next, as it was for years of being in school. It's scary— but also very exciting.
- Long-term relationship, marriage, children, career advancement and success
- I definitely think it is challenging even in current day for women to balance career and family. Although things are getting better, there nonetheless is the burden of having to carry a child for 9 months that will inevitably interrupt a career. On a different note, I think my Wharton education, combined with my College education, was the best undergrad education I could have received and prepares me for the real world to the most extent possible at this age.
- If you're reading this in 20 years, hopefully you have a family and have at this point realized (and made good on your promise) that work is just a means to an end. The reason for living isn't to make a lot of money from work, it's to hopefully make a lot of money from work so you can use that money to do everything you have ever wanted to do and help the world somehow. If you've become the every-day go-to-work, come home, go-to-bed type, do something about it. Pick up a hobby or something. Go out on weeknights. Finally, and most importantly, make sure that you will be remembered as making the world a better place than it was before you entered it. Speak to you in 20 more ...
- I think I have a big decision to make in a couple of years when deciding whether continue a career at a firm, start my own business or work with my father. I think my top choice would be to start my own business but we have to see how things play out.
- I foresee a lot of change in the world and a lot of opportunity as a result, which as a Wharton student I will be able to capitalize on in my career and life over the next 20 years.
- Advancing, but maintaining a strong work-life balance
- I have dreams and aspirations, but I also want to be open-minded so I see different and unexpected opportunities when they come my way.
- I will hopefully run my own company and some how balance owning/running a business and having a family.
- We will see.
- I honestly don't know where I'll end up, but I'm not stressed about it. Wharton has given me the tools to follow my dreams whatever they might be.

- I understand my career aspirations will affect my family aspirations. In the short term, I plan to focus on my career, however, in the long term, I see family being more important.
- I think I will have to forgo career opportunities in the future for family reasons.
- I'll expect to be happy with my job by learning how to deal with different pressures of the family business.
- I look forward to rereading my responses when I'm a billionaire.
- I would eventually like to be a non-profit wedding planner, but I am not sure if the job would be as I envision it now. I would just like to be happy in whatever I am doing and have a great family. The latter is the most important to me.
- I am not sure how it will unfold but I sincerely hope to place my relationships and family at the forefront of my decisions.
- I hope it is an exciting, fun, fulfilling and happy ride.
- I hope that over the next 20 years, I find a career and life path that I'm happy to be on and that I believe is right for me.
- I would like to be doing marketing for a brand in the future.
- I'm very excited to see what life has in store. Its been a great 4 years, but I am ready to see what the world is really like out there.
- Ought to be interesting. Hope it all works out.
- I would like to further my education in a non traditional sense - for example, taking language classes or seminars outside of work. I would also like to engage in broader community and leadership oriented activities - for example mentoring, or non-profit work on weekends.
- I want to get a job somewhere in the sports industry, preferably accounting/finance related. If that doesn't work out, I'll probably end up getting my CPA and going down that path.
- I don't know where or what I'll be doing 20 years from now. But I will be working and I will definitely have started a family.
- At the moment, I am deeply in love with a smart, hard-working, beautiful woman. At the same time, I am pursuing a startup in the event planning industry. Life is interesting and I have no idea what will happen. I know I do not want to work in the corporate world, and I will only run my own business in the future.
- My biggest worry is balancing career and family because I think both are necessary for fulfillment. Wonder if it's worth having kids when you aren't there to raise them.
- I expect to work hard for the first few jobs until going to business school. After business school, if I am financially stable, I hope to pursue a more personally fulfilling job.
- I do not plan on having a family. I simply want to focus on becoming a top executive at a Fortune 100 company within the next 20 years.
- I would like to maintain the strong friendships that I currently have and continue to the long-term relationship that I have. I would like to work for a couple of years and then return to school, either going abroad on a Fulbright Scholarship or attending Penn for an MBA and/or JD. After that I would like to get more involved in entrepreneurship and advocacy, while also pursuing career opportunities in policy or the technology sector. I would like to continue to develop my basket of skills, adding languages and computer programming as well as a more advanced knowledge of trading. I would like to be married and start a family within the next 10 years. I would also like to travel a great deal prior to that and, if possible, when I have a family. I would also like to pursue semi-professional soccer opportunities in the US and potentially abroad. I would like to have job that allows me to have a life, not a job that is my life. I'd like to make a difference in alleviating poverty and bringing happiness to others.

- I will progress quickly in my career and make lots of money.
- I plan on returning to school sometime in the next five years and will choose the location of my job with much consideration to the location of my family and friends.
- I hope to expand my family businesses and start new ones that dramatically improve the lives of several people and create some disruptive change in the economy.
- I believe that having a strong relationship with a partner is a great support for having future success in career. I hope that I am able to retain both my job and my relationship and let both flourish as a pair rather than as separate and independent parts of my life
- I'm very curious and excited to find out.
- I expect to have two successful businesses under my belt.
- Be able to retire within the next 20 years if I wish
- I'd like to continue, on a daily basis, to be able to draw on my 4 year Wharton undergrad experience.
- There are going to be ups and downs.
- Perhaps be involved in/running an organization out of work, perhaps swing dance exchanges.
- A lot of fun
- Have you conquered the tech world yet?
- I hope to have a successful career that will allow me to achieve financial security for myself and my family. I want to be able to provide my children with all the resources necessary for them to achieve their full potential and be happy.
- I have unwavering views on the importance of my faith and family. Although my career is of the utmost importance to me, it will always be secondary to these other two things.
- I would like to work in consulting for 2-3 years and then perhaps pursue a JD or MBA. I hope to enter into a longterm relationship in grad school and marry after graduation at 25. I then hope to work for 2-3 more years before having my first child at 28. In those 8 years I would like to work abroad in China for a year or two or perhaps raise my child there while he/she is a baby/toddler. Depending on the balance of my work and family life, I would be willing to trade career advancement for more time spent at home caring for my husband and child.
- Within the next 20 years, I hope to become happily married with several children and financially secure from my occupation.
- Hope to move to Europe by age 26. Focus on and eventually start or work for/on smaller tech focused business.
- Might move back to the U.S. for an MBA or career change.
- I am full of hope over what I will accomplish over the course of my career. This is just the beginning, and with hard work and focus, I believe that I can accomplish my dreams and achieve success.
- I will make decisions to at various points that will allow me to develop a passionate, successful, and fulfilling career.
- Although I'm excited to start my career in real estate, I wouldn't be surprised if I eventually became a professional photographer

- Make it to partner, children, film school
- In the next 2 years I will complete the program in Investment Banking at [COMPANY] to solidify my technical financial skills. After this feat I hope to move to either London or South Africa and pursue either management consulting or PE. At some point I will gain a Masters at LSE, Oxford, or some other well known international institution. I hope to ultimately work in Africa and work towards the betterment of African businesses. I am open to working for a multinational, a bank, a PE shop or even start up my own business in Africa. I am also open to working for the World Bank or UN as well. In terms of life goals in the next 20 years being in a meaningful relationship would be great and having children would be amazing. Other things I hope to do are climb mount kilimanjaro (this 22 birthday), live in a Spanish speaking country, live on an island for a few months, go sky diving in Dubai, visit an Ashram, do a wine tasting in Italy. Spiritually I hope to maintain the level of happiness and mental peace I have now. I don't aim to become very religious but rather to gain an appreciation for many religions and educating myself as much as possible.
- I hope to take the inspiration I learned from Wharton and apply it to a career that I am passionate about
- I want to work (as a full-time employee) for the next 5-7 years, then start my own business, then sell it around 15 years from now, then go back to school and become a professor or be an executive consultant 20 years from now
- I am hoping to attain success in my career by age 35. I would like it to be in an entrepreneurial setting after having gained a lot of experience working in large corporations. At that point I would like to start a family and devote a significant amount of time to it.
- I want to eventually get a PhD, but I am afraid that once I start working the lifestyle and money will prevent me from going back and getting one.
- Still open about the possibility of doing a Stanford MBA, and trying to get into tech. Realize it's a difficult transition and will continue to explore the possibility. Certainly not wedded to real estate or private equity.
- I hope you do great work and create an amazing family. Remember to always volunteer, travel, and find creative outlets!
- My mom is a doctor my dad is a chemist. Both work hard and doing well in their careers and raised 3 kids. i view them as my role models
- Hope to be able to travel through work (at least a bit). Would like to pursue graduate degree, either in public policy (MPA) or business (MBA).
- I hope to 1) make a lot of money in finance and 2) subsequently use it to advance my political ambitions, in whatever form I find appropriate at the time.
- I'm going to take what I need for me and my family to live a good life
- It is my personal opinion that I must remain flexible to adapt my career to new personal and professional opportunities and not be too glued to a set path.
- Although I greatly value my career, I believe that real happiness will come for me from having a functional family.
- I plan to be a career woman and attentive mother.
- At some point I believe I will have to sacrifice my career to focus on the family. I believe it's incredibly important a child not be raised by a nanny, and rather knows the parents quite well. I believe relationships are sacrificed if parents are not actively with children throughout their youth.