

## **Katherine Milic**

### **How did you get started out in your career?**

I never really knew exactly what I wanted to do. I enjoyed a number of different things. And when I went to university I did a very generalist degree, a double in arts and science. And the science component really taught me to be very analytical, study facts, empirical evidence, things like that. Whereas the arts degree was quite good at teaching me to communicate, it was probably a softer skill. So I think those two things have held me in good stead for the rest of my career. I pretty much applied analysis and probably a little bit of creativity in communication to nearly every job that I've had.

### **How do you define success and being successful?**

Success for me is being good at what you do, but also being happy. So it's pretty simple. I just think if you love what you do and are good at it that's a measurement of success.

### **Did you or do you have mentors?**

I haven't had any formal mentoring, but along my path or my journey throughout my career there has definitely been people that have guided me in certain areas or issues. So people that are a good sounding board, people that listen and people that offer sound advice have always held me in good stead.

### **How do you balance work and life?**

I think for me a lot of my personal life, the hobbies and things that I'm interested in actually transgress to my professional life. So things like loving architecture and interior design and exhibitions and things like that also help me with my work. But I'm able to cut off from that with things like exercise. I suppose the other thing that I always think about is the example of the good old Blackberry which is an absolutely godsend at work, but I'm able to on the weekend completely switch off from looking at work emails and just using it as a social network. So I find it quite easy to switch off in that way.

### **What has worked for you and good advice for someone coming up in their career?**

I think the one thing that has held me in good stead is my generalist degrees, so being quite analytical and creative at the same time. So I would say following a passion to begin with is something that's really important if you want to be happy in your job. I also think increasing your knowledge wherever

possible is really important, so gleaning from the people around you or always looking for ways to do further study or read another magazine article or focus on industry analysis and things like that. The other thing I think is just to always focus on your communication and that doesn't mean necessarily how you communicate with others, but also how they communicate with you, so focussing on that.

**Apart from the Law, what would your dream career be?**

Dream career, I've danced, or I danced since I was four years old, I learnt tap dancing, classical ballet and jazz, so if I had the skill set I would've loved to be a tap dancer in the chorus line of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street on Broadway in New York!

**Who is a women you find inspirational? Why?**

One person that was really inspirational to me was my grandmother. She lived in close proximity to me for 20 years and she was an optimist, she was self educated and she was a really grounded person and was able to offer me great advice and perspective on world issues, on current affairs, on relationships, as well as just things that happen in life and I think that she was a wonderful person in that respect.