

market this.

**What have been some barriers you have found marketing this program to Australians?**

I've had to explain to candidates that a professional path to the US is not as hard as people have made it out in the past. I wanted to bring the attitude to Australian candidates that you can do this, you can work in New York and earn the dollars you want to earn, and why not? That's a real sort of American attitude I think, and I noticed it was a bit hard when I first went to Australia and started marketing this. From the first session there was a lot of students wanting to try it out for the sake of seeking what it's about, and now it's just inundation and we are really culling people who are not ready.

**Where did you graduate law school?**

I graduated from Bond University in 1998.

**Then what did you do?**

I went off to work at KPMG Legal, a consultant to KPMG, after working for Philips Fox while I was studying.

**How intensive is the New York Bar exam?**

The examination itself is two days, six hours each day.

**Sounds like a blast.**

It's extremely rigorous and very taxing. It's like a marathon, you really have to stick to it and I find there is a lot of had holding on our part. You find students that are very smart, and really know their stuff, and it's just trying to keep those candidates on the right path and keeping them positive.

**Do you have a sense for the number of senior partners working in the US that are Australian?**

There are a few I either know or I have placed at law firms including Freshfields [Bruckhaus Deringer], DLA Piper, Seyfarth Shaw. Recently I placed two senior Australians who had left Minter Ellison in San Francisco to join Seyfarth Shaw. In that example it was really an acquisition by Seyfarth Shaw with the two main guys leaving and bringing a good sized portable business.

**Do you place people in firms outside the US as well?**

Yes, I'm currently working with a high profile partner at the moment who is seeking to move out of the firm based in Tokyo, looking to move to a UK based firm. There is also a law firm in India wanting to merge with a UK based firm.

**You've been here over seven years, do you intend to return to Australia?**

Things are going well here. I'd love to go back to live one day and I feel there is a place in Australia, especially because my husband [Timothy O'Brian] part owns a national pub chain back home [P J O'Brian's], I still see moving back as the end goal. But the way things are going it makes it pretty hard at the moment. I have three kids as well and we are enjoying New York.

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**Source:** Matt Smith

**Released:** 11th February, 2008 04:00 PM

**Author:** Amalie Browne

**Phone:** (212) 682-2885

**Email:** [amalie@advance.org](mailto:amalie@advance.org)

**Website:** [www.advance.org](http://www.advance.org)

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