

A Career without Borders

Every job has its challenges, but how many involve mediating a dispute between Venezuelans and Americans, fighting against human trafficking in Cyprus, or promoting America's interests at the United Nations? As a foreign service officer working for the US Department of State, Jason Chue 96OX 98C must "analyze issues on the spot and think critically"—skills he honed at Oxford and Emory. "A liberal arts degree was perfect preparation for life as a diplomat. I regularly draw on my studies in psychology, linguistics, and theater," he said.



Jason Chue 96OX 98C once considered a career in law but has found "a perfect fit" working as a foreign service officer with the US Department of State.

Foreign service officers represent the interests of the US and Americans abroad, whether that means processing visas, facilitating business operations, or helping a fellow American in a difficult situation. Chue has been assigned to Venezuela and Cyprus; his next assignment will be in Taiwan. While assigned to Venezuela, he made travel arrangements for an American after a yachting accident left the man comatose. The man's Venezuelan friends, believing they were acting in his best interests, attempted to keep him in Venezuela, in defiance of his family's wishes. Chue helped negotiate the situ-

ation, visited him in the hospital, and helped get him back to the US.

Growing up in New York City, Chue attended Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan with more than three thousand other students. How did a boy from the big city end up in Oxford, Georgia? "I'd applied almost exclusively to Northeast schools, but while visiting Oxford, I was offered a full Robert W. Woodruff scholarship. That tipped the scales. I very much appreciated that and never looked back."

The transition to life in a small Southern town wasn't easy, but Chue came to appreciate the "strong sense of community at Oxford" and the opportunities to interact with professors outside of class. Asked which professors inspired him, he replied, "Where do I start?" and followed with a gratitude list that could rival an Oscar acceptance speech. "I have so many positive memories of professors like Patti Owen-Smith, Clark Lemons, and Delia Nisbet, who provided mentorship and had real passion for their areas of study," Chue said.

After graduating from Emory, Chue pursued a law degree at Columbia Law School. He received a JD and was working in the profession when 9/11 happened. Like many, the tragedy prompted Chue to reexamine his life. Realizing that he wasn't passionate about commercial litigation and that "time is short," he changed direction and found the "perfect fit" in the US Foreign Service.

Chue, who speaks more than five languages, says foreign language courses were his "most valuable and practical" classes and encourages students to study a language. "We're competing against workers from all countries," he said. He also urges students to look beyond a traditional career track. "Emory has great resources to help students pursue a nontraditional path." As Chue knows, there are no limits to where you can go when you follow the path less taken.

—Nancy Moreland

ADAM MEYER LEADS OXFORD DEVELOPMENT



Adam Meyer, assistant dean for development and alumni relations

Adam Meyer has been named assistant dean for development and alumni relations at Oxford College. In this role, he oversees all efforts of Oxford's Office of Development and Alumni Relations. In announcing the appointment, Dean Stephen Bowen noted that "Adam quickly understood what is exceptional about Oxford and why its alumni are so dedicated to their alma mater. I'm already hearing from friends of the college who say that Adam is an excellent fit."

Meyer joined Oxford from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, where he was director of development for the College of Liberal Arts. Prior to that role he was director of development for the Honors College at the University of Alabama. He brings extensive experience to his Oxford role, including working closely with deans, key volunteers, and alumni and managing a development team. He also built a successful alumni board of advisers and cultivated a pool of high-capacity major gift prospects and donors. His career began in academics at Ball State University and Butler University, where he taught courses on African literature, Zimbabwe, and business writing.

A native of Minnesota, Meyer received a BA in African history from Georgetown University. He received both an MA in English with emphasis on English as a second language and a PhD in English from Michigan State University. His dissertation focused on language and literacy in Zimbabwe. He speaks English, French, and Shona, a major language of Zimbabwe.

Meyer's son Gavin is a student at Ball State University. Meyer and his wife, Kim Gentry, director of development for the University of Georgia's Office of the Vice President for Research, live in Covington.

ALUMNI CALENDAR

Emory Cares Alumni Service, November 10, 2012

Alumni, faculty students, parents, and friends gather in the name of community service. For more information please contact Amanda and Chris Arrendale 99OX 01C at 770.910.0179 or arrendale@bellsouth.net.

Alumni Reunion Weekend, April 26–27, 2013

Gatherings for classes with years ending in '3 or '8. Register by phone at 770.784.8414 or online in early 2013. The Class of 1963 will hold its 50th reunion and Golden Eagles (members of Oxford classes of 1962 or earlier) will also hold their reunion on Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Oxford College Commencement, May 11, 2013

Check often for updates: oxford.emory.edu/alumni_and_friends