



## **John Cabot University**

### ***ALUMNI PROFILE***



**Francesca Romana Zerenghi**  
**BA, English Literature, Class of 2007**  
**Dubai, United Arab Emirates**  
*Interviewed December 2008*

*What was your career path after graduating from JCU?*

After graduation, I worked at HarperCollins in London, within the Rights/Copyright Department. I then transitioned into a career as a trader in the energy sector. I worked as a Junior Trader and Trading Analyst for Biodiesel Energy Trading, Ltd. in London, where I set up the trading desk for the company. I then moved to Dubai, where I am now embarking on a new career as a trader at O.W. Bunker, focusing on the shipping and bunkering industry.

*Tell us a little about your current position.*

My business depends on the shipping market, which, like all markets, is extremely volatile. But I enjoy the extremes of this position and the volatility. Every day, you have the chance to handle different unexpected challenges.

*What is it like living in Dubai?*

Distracting! But, still, if I could live anywhere in the world, this would be it. I accept Dubai the way it is, with its defects and advantages.

*Where will you take your next vacation?*

I plan to go to the Maldives, just for a change.

*What are you reading these days?*

Hmm... the Financial Times?! I also spend a lot of time on [www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com).

*If you could relive any day in your life, what would it be?*

The day I decided to become independent, living on my own and taking care of myself. It was a great feeling.

*Which of your JCU courses or experiences have been the most valuable in your professional life?*

My internship at the Fulbright Commission gave me an amazing networking opportunity, and I was able to acquire working skills which I've found extremely useful in my current industry.

*What was your favorite extra-curricular activity during your college days?*

I enjoyed contributing as a co-editor and writer for the Culture and Arts section of the school newspaper, *The Matthew*.

*What advice would you give to students attending JCU today?*

Now you study; later you enjoy life.