Owen Garrick ’90
Chair, Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees

Some choose Princeton for the beauty of its campus or the quality of its faculty. Owen Garrick ’90 chose Princeton for a very different reason: the absence of his big sister. He smiles, “I had no interest in being the kid brother on the campus at Brown!”

Yet before his high school graduation, Owen learned another excellent reason to choose Princeton: the extraordinary engagement of its alumni. In the first two minutes of the admitted students reception he attended, an alumnus offered him a summer job. It was his first alumni experience and, he now notes, “it was the quintessential alumni experience.”

Following that summer job, Owen went on to have four “great” years at Princeton, majoring in Psychology. The next eight years were busy, with two years out in the “business side” of healthcare, then six years going to Yale Medical School and Wharton Business School, receiving both his MD and MBA degrees in 1998. With degrees completed, Owen threw himself with gusto into the world of alumni volunteering.

He has been fully engaged ever since, from his first Alumni Careers mentoring on Long Island to his Alumni Schools Committee interviewing today in Oakland, CA, where he now lives and is President and COO of Bridge Clinical Research. He has led fundraising efforts for his class and has sat on both the Annual Giving National Committee and the Connect Steering Committee. And he is a P-rade marshal of many years standing (or is that marching).

For the past three years, Owen has been serving on the Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees, this year chairing the committee. “What a fantastic experience! I am awed by the alumni I’ve met who are doing critical, life-changing work,” he enthuses. “And also what a profound responsibility: to help create a ballot of exceptional alumni who will play such a large part in the life of the University.” He pauses. “What a journey, from that first alumni job offer to helping ensure the future health of the University. I am honored.”

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