When Kevin Yip’s big sister was venturing south from their Toronto home to look at colleges in the Northeast United States, Kevin tagged along. Still years from thinking about college, he was moved by the beauty of Princeton’s campus. Although his sister did not ultimately go to Princeton, when it was his turn to go looking, he knew what he wanted: Princeton, with its world-class facilities, strong combination of engineering and liberal arts, and welcoming classes.

His memories and his research did not let him down. During his time as a student Princeton surpassed his expectations, and even held a few surprises. Looking back he marvels at how cosmopolitan the campus was. He made friends among undergraduates, graduate students and professors from across the United States and around the world.

Armed with a degree in Computer Science and certificates in Finance and in Engineering & Management Systems, following graduation Kevin headed to Chicago and a research position at a hedge fund. Then in 2003, he wrestled with a difficult, if also tantalizing, decision: Should he go back to Canada to pursue his childhood dream? “When I was younger, I wanted to either be a lawyer or make video games,” he admits. Law school won, and he is now at a major law firm in Toronto.

While in Chicago and as a law student in Toronto, Kevin went to Reunions and to regional events. In 2006 and out of law school, Kevin answered the regional Toronto Alumni Association Chapter’s call for volunteers. He got an assignment, then more assignments. Two years later he was the chapter president. “Just keep showing up and you’re put in charge!” he laughs.

In addition to being president of the Toronto chapter, he also interviews Princeton applicants through the chapter’s Alumni Schools Committee and is a member of the Alumni Council’s Committee on Careers, serving as vice chair for this year’s Global NetNight (GNN) sub-committee. When Kevin describes what he most enjoys about his volunteer roles, one theme quickly becomes apparent: connecting alumni as well as the broader Princeton community. “Global NetNight is a way to connect regional associations as well as young and older alums to talk about compelling life issues. And at our chapter events, I really enjoy bringing together alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends as often as possible.” Kevin pauses, then smiles again: “With a Princeton connection, you are instantly friends.”