

Jenny M. Fenton, FCCA

EXPERIENCE

Pavilion Financial Corporation
Senior Vice President, Corporate Initiatives

Private Equity Fund Management Company
Director of Fund Investments

Jenny was responsible for all aspects of fund investment, including sourcing and execution of both primary and secondary transactions. She recruited and managed the investment team and was also instrumental in the acquisition of a highly successful management contract of two funds of funds as well as partial buyout of investors.

Global financial services and insurance company
Analyst / Financial Controller

Jenny oversaw all of the financial aspects of the private equity portfolio including reviewing the financial aspects of all investment proposals going for approval and valuing all investment holdings. She was responsible for 35 fund investments held by firm, around half of which were in Europe and half in the USA, many of which were financed through intermediary structures.

Superintendent of Finance, General Insurance

Jenny was responsible for preparation of quarterly and annual accounts as well as annual government returns.

Trainee

She spent time in Group Finance and Property Finance, and was heavily involved in all aspects of the graduate recruitment and training scheme for the finance function.

EDUCATION

Reading University
BA (Hons) Economics and Accounting

Chartered Association of Certified Accountants
Qualified Certified Accountant

INTERESTS

Family, walking, gardening.

“ AS we grew, I focused less on investing and more on operations, working somewhat less than a five-day workweek so as to juggle both home and work life and be very involved in the lives of our two boys. ”

“ I recall being put on the board of a precision engineering company in the North of England – goodness only knows what these engineers thought when I turned up in a 1980s power suit. ”

“ At the age of 24, I was in charge of 12 people. We had one computer between us. Desk sizes were by job grade and you knew you had made it when you were given a chair with arm rests. ”

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I've held many positions within three companies over the course of my career. I was never fixated on title. If it needed to be done, I did it. Juggling work life balance was not a "thing" then, you just did what you had to, both at home and the office, to make it work. In my newest role, I am learning new skills and enjoying working with a larger company with a wider group of businesses.

Balance is a challenge:

The greatest challenge is keeping everything in balance. Up until the age of 40 you are considered 'too young'. After 50 you are probably considered 'past your best' but between 40 and 50 the juggling act of children and work is likely to be at its most intense.

Family is forever:

Family is the most important thing to help me through difficult times. Colleagues come and go as roles change or people move on, but family is forever. The resources needed most are a flexible working environment, accepting that women often wear many hats but can work just as effectively from home in the evening after putting the children to bed or after eating supper with their partner.

Best and worst traits:

My school reports always said that I was conscientious. It was a word that I hated but it probably does sum me up. I

like to be well prepared. I like to know what I am doing and I like to be methodical about the way I do it. However, I do not have the need to be accurate to the last penny and I am happy for a job to be 'good enough' if it enables us to keep moving forward and meet deadlines. A trait that has held me back would be that I have never felt comfortable with pushing myself forward. This is a common failing with women but one that employers can recognize and accommodate.

Prized leadership characteristic:

Empathy. For clients, staff and shareholders, enabling you to understand their position.

