



Finance Leadership Team Member: Wendi Fogelson

Joined Finance in: 1988

Occupation: Senior Vice President, Global Tax

Day job: I lead the management of the company's tax affairs around the world, which includes tax compliance, reporting, planning and business support, and monitoring and influencing global tax legislation and regulation.

First job at Amex: Tax Counsel in the Corporate Tax Department.

Perfect day at the office: A day that is equal parts: 1) having meetings with my team and colleagues; and 2) having downtime to get myself mentally organized and able to accomplish quiet work. Having time for lunch is also nice!

Most memorable on-the-job learning experience: Shortly after I joined the company, we got ourselves into a serious and potentially costly dispute with the IRS - in large part because we had not treated our IRS agents with the respect to which they were entitled. I was asked to step in to ensure the company wasn't at risk - this took a couple of years of working with my Tax colleagues throughout the company to meet the IRS' substantive needs and to mend the relationship by treating them as partners, not adversaries. It was a huge learning experience that has shaped our relationship with the IRS to this day.

Best advice ever received: Fear nothing, stretch yourself, and go where you haven't gone before. The people in my career who gave me that advice gave me enough rope to hang myself, but they never actually let the noose get too tight.

Ideal PTO day: wake up without an alarm clock, go for a long walk, then do something great outside - golfing, skiing, boating or fishing...at night, anything that involves music and dancing.

Interesting item bought on personal Amex card: I used my card to co-sponsor a cancer survivor's 150 mile run through the Sahara desert.

Hobbies: I'm a music fanatic - from concerts to festivals, with a range of styles from Zydeco (a New Orleans blues style) to rock and roll to jazz...if you can't dance to it, I'm not interested!