A lot of feelings, lot of feelings, a lot of pride, a lot of joy. You know we never got the opportunity and to see your second child graduate it’s a huge achievement for us.

I was sitting while I was waiting got Gabby to get her photos taken and I was turning to another mother and commenting how it just seemed like yesterday she was in kinder and always working hard and, and she here and working in her profession it’s great. At the end of our course we had a day, I think it was call career day, and there was a career centre that helps you write up your resume and do one key selection criteria which is vital to attend an interview and they check through that with me and they were really supportive and patient and went through draft after draft until I finally got it perfect. They even check how I was going after I stopped seeing them to make sure that I got my dream job, and I did so it’s definitely thanks to them.

I have a graduate job with Ernst and Young starting the middle of next year. Congratulations, thank you. How to mum and dad feel about that? Very proud. Amazed that she’s managed to land a really good job at a very good firm, so she’s pretty well set I think.

La Trobe has over 154,000 alumni living and working in over 100 countries around the globe. Many of which are excelling in many different industries and areas of expertise. I think the qualities that La Trobe graduates have are their ability and desire to really make a change and really make a contribution and their very bold and innovative thinkers and they have a real passion to challenge the status quo and really drive change.

Our alumni are some of the most influential of their generation we have Bill Kelty and Garry Weaven who are architects of superannuation in Australia and because of the bold changes that they made we are all benefitting from that. There is Professor Tim Flannery who is an international expert and authority on climate change. Dr Patricia Edgar, a pioneer of children’s media and television. Dr Geoff Raby the former Australian ambassador to China and Tony Elwood the direct of the National Gallery of Victoria. This is just a flavour of some of the fantastic alumni we have here at La Trobe.

Well I studied at La Trobe University Bendigo campus and I was in the fine art faculty. The thing that I remember is the degree of care that came from the staff at La Trobe when they were looking at your folio or looking at something you have just written, they’d really want to unpack that, they’d really want to come back and you through your strengths, your weaknesses and make sure you made informed decisions when you were actually trying to develop your own ability. And I think when you see a mentor and professional staff you really respect, and I really did respect the staff that thought me, it actually inspires you to want to show them that it meant something and that you’ll take it somewhere and I carry that with me still today, I think about the people that supported me and I occasional still see them and you know, they say their proud of me but I was proud to be a part of that development. I work with over 300 people who work in the arts and the National Gallery of Victoria and I see the passion that drives them every single day. If they’re not working in something that they love, they’re not going to be able to be satisfied and good at what they do. So whatever you do, support yourself and have the support around you that understands what you need to do is about you passion and your personal drive.