

Networking Night: Graduate Students

Coordinated by the UTM Career Centre in partnership with the Office of the Vice Dean, Graduate and UTMAGS

Guest Speakers:

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Leigh Rever Associate Director, Mbiotech & Scientific Partner, AdamsRevers & VP Research & Development, Molecular Templates Inc.

Ayman Chit, PhD Health Economics (in progress), Mbiotech. Scientific Advisor and Health Outcomes Scientist, GlaxoSmithKline

Andrew Sinclair, PhD Chemistry. Senior Director, Commercialization, Medical Devices & Physical Sciences, MaRS Innovation

Kathy Russell-Kwan, MA Physical Anthropology. Researcher, Dufferin District School Board

Tina Mann, MSc Chemistry. Regional Continuing Health Education Manager, Pfizer

Raquel Da Cunha, Psy D., MA Clinical Psychology. Clinical Psychologist, Dufferin District School Board and Private Practice

Philip van Wassenaer, MFC (Forestry). Principal Consulting Arborist and Founder, Urban Forest Innovations

Louise Aubin, MES (Environmental Studies). Manager, Environmental Health, Peel Public Health

Kirsten Stein, MScPI. Senior Research and Policy Analyst, SHS Consulting

Ricardo Gomez Insausti, PhD Urban/Regional Economic Development, MA Urban Geography. Senior Vice President Research, BBM Canada

Jonathan Hack, MA Economic Geography. Director, Sierra Planning & Management

Nathaniel Aguda, PhD Economic Geography, MScPI. Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Research and Innovation

Julie Saunder, MScBMC Freelance Scientific Medical Illustration and Editing

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Next Steps

After you attend a networking event, it's important to reflect on what you learned and what your next steps may be.

Take some time to answer/consider the following questions:

- 1. What were two important things that I learned from talking to the representatives today?

- 2. What should I do to follow up on the things I learned?
 - a. additional career research
 - b. set up an appointment with a career counsellor to explore learning
 - c. update resume/CV
 - d. make an appointment for a critique (resume; CV)
 - e. find more contacts to network with
 - f. Other _____

- 3. The next time I am networking, two things I will do differently are:

Self Clarity

The better you know yourself, the more you'll be able to network effectively. Contacts will ask you what you like, what you are good at, what careers you are considering. If you find these questions are difficult to answer, you may want to take some of the following actions. Spending some time considering these questions will help you find answers and will help you determine if there is a fit between you and potential careers you are considering.

Meet with a Career Counsellor:

- to review your skills, interests, values and personality and then use this information to develop potential career options.
 - complete a Myers Briggs personality assessment (MBTI) or
 - Strong Interest Inventory
- to discuss what you learned at the Networking Event, especially if you are concerned about a mismatch between the career options you are considering and what you learned at the event or you see potential barriers to reaching your goal.

Do you need more information about Occupations and Further Education

If you left the networking event feeling that you wanted to know more about careers areas and/or industries, had unanswered questions about what educational preparation would be needed for a career area, these actions may help you to clarify.

- Use the Career Cruising website (access it via your Career Centre account) to research individual occupations identified
- Visit our Career Library to review resources; our Career Assistants can help you locate useful print and web materials
- Review our career information packages for careers of interest to you
- Go to the Explore Careers tab on our website and click on "Resources and Links" in the drop down menu

- Join an association in your area of interest to educate yourself about your industry, make contacts, access job postings
- Access our job postings to review potential employers; be sure to ask a Career Assistant how to access delisted positions, which are expired job postings you can use to better understand what employers are looking for
- Hold an information interview with one of our alumni contacts available through our Career Connections program (check our website for more info)
- Participate in the Extern program to job shadow someone in a career or industry that interests you (check our website for more info)
- Talk to representatives at the Graduate & Professional Schools Fair (October) to learn more about educational programs
- Attend one of our Fairs to talk with employers: Get Experience Fair (September); Business & Government Fair (October); Summer Job Fair (January)

Gaining Experience

Once you have some ideas about potential career areas, you will want to begin accumulating experiences and skills. The following actions will help you start to build your experience so that you will have what employers want in a candidate.

- Attend one of our Fairs to connect with employers and industry representatives: Get Experience Fair (September); Business & Government Fair (October); Summer Job Fair (January)
- Take a look at the Career Centre job postings, including Volunteer, Part-time, Summer, Ontario Work Study (in September & October) and postings for Graduating Students and Recent Graduates
- Get your resume and cover letter in order; use our online Toolkit or attend a Resume and Cover Letter workshop, then have your resume and cover letter critiqued
- Book an appointment to see an Employment Advisor to develop your job search plan
- Attend an Effective Interview workshop and have a practice interview to hone your skills

Keep Building Your Network

Once you have begun to form a network it is important to maintain it. The following are some ideas to help you get started:

- Send a thank you note to any of the representative who were particularly helpful to you
- Consider ways of staying in touch such as sending updates on your research or articles that would be of interest to your new contact
- Seek out opportunities to attend industry or academic conferences to expand your chances of meeting new contacts
- Consider joining a professional social network such as LinkedIn



Keep up-to-date with all the latest information about career fairs, industry panels, networking events and more.

Sign-up for the Career Centre's e-mail newsletter via our home page, add 'Jimmi C' as a friend on Facebook or follow 'jimmiutm' on Twitter!

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