

WAYS TO EXPAND YOUR NETWORK



NETWORKING

Networking is the art of building relationships. It involves meeting and speaking with people who can help you locate potential job leads and provide useful information on your industry. With statistics showing that 80% of jobs are never advertised, this proves to be the method used by most employers to fill positions within their company. Below are some helpful tips on how you can start building your network.

Informational Interviews

- Form of networking that puts you in direct contact with professionals to gather information on that industry

Associations/Memberships

- An organization of people with a common purpose (e.g. an industry or occupational association)
- Great way to keep up-to-date on new developments in your industry
- Looks great on your resume – shows employers you are serious about the field
- Great for networking with industry professionals

Attend Workshops

- Companies will often host workshops on campus to recruit students, keep an eye on the events calendar on Mycareer for up-to-date information on those
- The Bissett Student Success Centre hosts a number of career development workshops throughout the academic year, register and attend a few to build your career portfolio.

Internet Listings

- In today's high tech world, many directories/associations are available on-line for you to locate potential contacts
- LinkedIn is an amazing resource to connect with new potential employers and alumni from your alma matter looking to help out the next generation

Specialized Trade or Professional Magazines/Newsletters

- Advertisements can help you locate companies who are currently recruiting
- Provide information on new developments and news in your area

Newspaper Articles/Advertisements

- While only approximately 5% of job opportunities are advertised in newspapers, it is still an excellent place to find news and developments in your field

Volunteering

- Volunteering is a great way to gain experience and learn about your chosen field
- Also an excellent opportunity to make networking contacts with people in your field

Finding a Mentor

- Having a mentor is a great way to meet with someone who can provide guidance in your career path
- More importantly though, they can provide tips on what associations or employers to contact and may also introduce you to some of their network thereby becoming part of your network