

## UQ MBA Careers Week

Monday				
<p><b>Employer Breakfast with Suncorp</b> <i>7-9.15am</i> Basics are b@d@ss - UQ MBA graduate Sam Rush and Adam Cowan will provide you with an extra lens to view both your business and projects.</p>	<p><b>Interview Skills Sessions</b> <i>8.30am-5pm</i> This one-on-one personal development session will provide insight into your personal communication style in the interview process.</p>	<p><b>Design Thinking 101: What it is and why do you need it?</b> <i>9.30-11.45am</i> Not just another shiny buzzword, Design Thinking is the human-centric approach to innovation proven to work for businesses outperforming peers.</p>	<p><b>Taking the Plunge</b> <i>12-2pm</i> Designed for those building a side hustle, a startup, small business or driving an innovative internal corporate project.</p>	<p><b>The Fundamentals of Buying a Business</b> <i>2-4pm</i> Considering buying your own small - medium-sized business? Learn why and how you should buy and run your own business.</p>
Tuesday				
<p><b>The Board's Role in Managing Risk and Corporate Governance</b> <i>7-9.15am</i> Our panel of highly experienced board members will discuss the primary role of a board of directors.</p>	<p><b>The Role of Consulting Firms in the Public Policy Discourse - Partner, Influencer or Advisor?</b> <i>9.30-11.30am</i> UQ MBA graduate James Blake will share his experience on the formation of public policy and the evolving role of consulting firms.</p>	<p><b>The Importance of Leadership and Leading your Team</b> <i>11.45am-1.45pm</i> Profiled as a 'risk taker' Natalie Waters went from being owner of a sea kayak adventure business, to become part of an Armed Boarding Party.</p>	<p><b>The Art of Speaking with Influence</b> <i>1.45-4pm</i> Voice coach Sally Prosser will give you a suite of tailored tips to unlock a voice of credibility, confidence &amp; charisma.</p>	
Wednesday				
<p><b>Interview Skills Session</b> <i>8.30am-5pm</i> This one-on-one personal development session will provide insight into your personal communication style in the interview process.</p>	<p><b>Round Robin Breakfast with employers</b> <i>7-9.15am</i> Gain exclusive access to senior executives from four companies in a round-robin format.</p>	<p><b>Innovation, Process Machine, AI, Robotics</b> <i>9.30-11.30am</i> The next generation of internal audits will enable technology to deliver impactful insights faster.</p>	<p><b>The New Hustle: Innovating in Business, Creating New Ventures or Developing your Career</b> <i>11.30am-1.45pm</i> This panel of founders, entrepreneurs and innovation managers will guide you through what it takes to build out an entrepreneurial skill set.</p>	<p><b>Progressing your Career to the C-Suite</b> <i>2-4pm</i> In this workshop you will discover the essentials for a successful career transition into the C-Suite with Janelle Van de Velde, a seasoned C-suite Corporate Services Leader and Company Secretary.</p>
Thursday				
<p><b>Presenting Your Personal Best in Person and on Camera</b> <i>7-9.15am</i> This workshop will help you understand how to succinctly persuade your audience or pitch your idea.</p>	<p><b>Optimising Your Online Presence to Advance Your Career</b> <i>9.30am-12pm</i> This session will help you to better understand the value of your digital footprint and align this with your professional experience.</p>	<p><b>Crisis Management</b> <i>12.15-2.30pm</i> When a crisis strikes, there are many actions organisations must take to minimise the impact on your business.</p>		
Friday				
<p><b>How to Ace a Case Study</b> <i>7.15-9.30am</i> Having recently gone through the interview and post-MBA transition process, UQ MBA graduate Rich Nagle will provide valuable insight from his experience.</p>				

**Register your attendance**  
<http://eepurl.com/gAulwb>

### Monday 30 September 2019

#### **Employer Breakfast with Suncorp**

Registration and breakfast: 7am

Session: 7.15–9.15am

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Light breakfast

Join the MBA community for the launch of MBA Careers Week. Over breakfast, Suncorp representatives Adam Cowan and Samantha Rush will present **Basics are b@d@ss**.

Ever seen or been part of a project that delivers something great like a new product, app, or some other ‘cool’ thing? Then later discovered that it doesn’t quite deliver what you need because of some gap in the architecture, or even that it simply doesn’t connect with the rest of your ecosystem?

In this session, Adam and Samantha will share their views and expertise, providing you with an extra lens to view both your business and projects. Building ‘cool and shiny’ is great, but to have a sustainable, fit for purpose tool or experience that maximises return on investment, you need the right basics to be in place. What are these basics? What should be in your ‘checklist’ of considerations? Come along to find out.

Session facilitators:

[Adam Cowan](#), Portfolio Manager, Data Engineering, Suncorp Group

[Samantha Rush](#), 2014 UQ MBA graduate & Executive Manager, Suncorp Group

#### **Interview Skills Sessions**

To be run on Monday and Wednesday between 8.30am–5pm with eight sessions per day only. Timeslots will be allocated after selecting which day you are available on the [registration form](#).

Registration: 15 minutes prior to your start time

Session: 45 minutes

Venue: Seminar room 2, UQ Brisbane City

Facilitated by Corporate Trainer and Mentor, [Peter Buckley](#), these sessions will include a filmed mock interview followed by a detailed analysis. On playback, Peter will provide you with first-hand insight into your personal communication style and techniques.

In this one-on-one personal development session you will gain insight into how you communicate your unique value proposition within the interview process, and receive feedback from the point-of-view of both interviewer and interviewee.

This kind of intensive exercise can be challenging for some, testing your long-held beliefs and fears. Peter will share tried and tested techniques providing you with the tools needed to produce a positive, educated and reassuring outcome at every interview.

This opportunity will benefit you by:

- Highlighting default patterns under pressure
- Encouraging natural nervousness as a benefit rather than a negative
- Discussing calming techniques before and during an interview
- Helping to recognise and manage insecurities
- Developing a greater level of comfort and confidence by engaging a formulaic Q&A process
- Making each interview a more engaging product
- Understanding what constitutes making a statement versus directly answering a question
- Enhancing personal promotion and marketability through better communication and confidence

Sessions are limited, so please register your interest early. Time slots will be allocated on first come, first served basis.

### **Design Thinking 101: What it is and why do you need it?**

Registration: 9.30am

Session: 10–11.45am

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

Design thinking is the human-centric approach to innovation. It starts with users and gaining a deep understanding of their needs as the most effective way of designing solutions for them. Design Thinking is a mindset as well as a set of tools to help you solve problems creatively. But you don't need to be a designer to apply the principles of design.

Not just another shiny buzzword, Design Thinking is proven to work in business consistently. According to the Design Management Institute, companies that are 'design-led' have outperformed their peers by 228%. Companies like IBM, Coca-Cola, Whirlpool and Walt Disney have all seen the benefits. Simply put - Design Thinking leads to better products, services and internal processes. Focusing on users' needs makes sense; as if we know what our customers want, we have a better chance of selling our products and services to them.

This hands-on workshop will introduce you to the fundamentals of Design Thinking. You will learn a simple, fun and reusable process taking you from nurturing empathy,

rapid idea generation, right through to sketching and creating interactive prototypes. Experience the power of Design Thinking for yourself and develop an understanding of why being design-led is key to managing successful business.

Session facilitator:

[Patrice Dodd](#), 2018 UQ MBA graduate & Product Development Manager, CANSTAR

### **Taking the Plunge**

Registration: 12pm

Session and lunch: 12.15–2pm

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Light lunch

This workshop will be hosted by Head of BDO Startups, Marc Orchard. Marc has had a background in financial services having built a successful financial services business. He has been at the helm of Fishburner's as the General Manager as they expanded to Brisbane from their Sydney location. He has also mentored and supported a range of startups from the early stages to series A funding through his role in Fishburner's and more recently in creating BDO's new flagship startup program. In this workshop Marc will explore the key skills and personal characteristics likely to improve your business ideas' success, financial essentials, backing your idea in a corporate environment, or making the transitional adjustments required in taking the plunge from salary to startup.

This event is designed for members of our MBA community building a side hustle, a startup, small business or driving an innovative internal corporate project. Discover what it takes to build and test your idea.

Session facilitator:

[Marc Orchard](#), Head of Startups, BDO

### **The Fundamentals of Buying a Business**

Registration: 2pm

Session: 2.15–4pm

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

Considering buying your own small – medium-sized business?

Alexander Simmons, will walk you through why and how you should buy and run your own business, covering:

- Why you would want to go into business ownership

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- Why someone would sell you a business
- Why investors would give you money
- Introduction to the search fund model
- Raising funds
- The search for an enduringly profitable company
- Negotiating and closing
- Operating the business
- Exit
- Typical searcher profile

Session facilitator:

[Alexander Simmons](#), Founder of Voyager Equity

### Tuesday 1 October 2019

#### **The Board's Role in Managing Risk and Corporate Governance**

Registration: 7am

Session and breakfast: 7.15–9.15am

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Sit-down breakfast

Corporate governance was once more straightforward when boards were predominately focused on just overseeing.

Please join us and our highly experienced panel of board members, in discussing the primary role of a board of directors. The discussion will focus on how they tackle risk and governance in an environment where they are highly scrutinized by a variety of stakeholders (e.g. regulators, shareholders, media and analysts).

Furthermore, our panel will delve into whether a board member's role is to simply oversee executive management's activities, or whether they should take an active role as a strategic partner, working alongside management to deal with the organisations toughest problems. Most importantly, the discussion will unpack what is the board's role in relation to risk, governance and culture, and how do they build a 'Risk Intelligent' organisation?

The panel will include:

- [Jason Titman](#), Executive Chairman, intergr8 Group
- [Eugenie Buckley](#), Managing Director, Suiko Consulting
- [Associate Professor Sarah Kelly](#), Marketing Discipline Leader, UQ Business School
- [Melanie Mayne-Wilson](#), State Manager – Queensland, Australian Institute of Company Directors
- [Mick Barnes](#), 2016 UQ MBA graduate & General Secretary, Queensland Police Union of Employees

Moderator:

[Lisa Coffey](#), 2018 UQ MBA graduate & Manager, Deloitte

#### **The Role of Consulting Firms in the Public Policy Discourse – Partner, Influencer or Advisor?**

Registration: 9.30am

Session: 9.45–11.30am

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

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James Blake has a unique background, having had roles in the different dimensions of public policy formation. Once a public servant, turned political advisor, then advocate turned consultant – James will share his experience on the formation of public policy and the evolving role of consulting firms in shaping, forming and critiquing public policy choices.

Session facilitator:

[James Blake](#), 2016 UQ MBA graduate & Director at Deloitte Access Economics, Deloitte

### **The Importance of Leadership and Leading your Team**

Registration: 11.45am

Session and lunch: 12–1.45pm

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Two-course lunch

Join us over a two-course lunch as we hear from Natalie Waters. Profiled as a ‘risk taker’ Natalie went from being owner of a sea kayak adventure business, to become part of an Armed Boarding Party, patrolling the Southern Ocean. This dangerous and male dominated role saw her patrolling the top end of Australia in the fight against drug trafficking & illegal immigration.

Over the next 13 years she would take up various government roles both in Australia and the Middle East. Natalie is now a Human Behavioural Profiler who teaches codes and patterns of human behaviour.

Session facilitator:

[Natalie Waters](#), Human Behavioural Profiler & Development and Success Coach

### **The Art of Speaking with Influence**

Registration: 1.45pm

Session: 2–4pm

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

Every time you speak, the content you provide only takes your words so far – the delivery makes all the difference!

In this afternoon workshop, voice coach Sally Prosser will give you a suite of tailored tips that you can apply straight away to unlock a voice of credibility, confidence & charisma that leaves real impact every time you speak. You will learn how to control your voice, power your sound and engage your audience.

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Sally has reported for major TV networks, been a spokesperson for Queensland's largest water company, run workshops at prestigious universities and presented at dozens of events.

Session facilitator:

[Sally Prosser](#), Voice and Presentation Coach, Sally Prosser Voice

### Wednesday 2 October 2019

#### **Interview Skills Sessions**

To be run on Monday and Wednesday between 8.30am–5pm with eight sessions per day only. Timeslots will be allocated after selecting which day you are available on the [registration form](#).

Registration: 15 minutes prior to your start time

Session: 45 minutes

Venue: Seminar room 2, UQ Brisbane City

#### **Round Robin Breakfast with Employers**

Registration and breakfast: 7am

Session: 7.15–9.15am

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Light breakfast

Gain exclusive access to companies in a round-robin format. Attendees will be split into small groups and will have a 20 minute session with senior executives from the following companies:

- Flight Centre
- Protiviti
- BCT Solutions – Accenture
- Infosys Portland
- E&Y

This is a great chance to position yourself to employers, and discuss upcoming opportunities. Please note this is not a recruitment drive.

#### **Innovation, Process Machine, AI, Robotics**

Registration: 9.30am

Session: 10–11.30am

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

Internal auditing is an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve an organisation's operations. It helps an organisation accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes. Traditional internal audit projects are undertaken within a particular area of focus (within a business process, system, or function) to provide assurance that management have designed adequate measures to treat risk (aka controls), and that those controls are operating effectively. These internal audit projects typically include

interviews, walkthroughs, documentation review, and re-execution and verification of controls.

Common issues with a traditional Internal Audit approach is that it is resource intensive and largely reports issues already known to management. Internal audit challenges include:

- Limited coverage of an organisations risks, with testing based on small samples
- Analysis and risk assessment based on interviews
- Analysis limited to historical, structured data
- Audit activities are time consuming and costly

A next-generation internal audit function uses enabling technology to deliver impactful, best-in-class insights faster. This includes:

- Testing based on 100% populations, rather than limited coverage and samples
- Analysis based on hard evidence over subjective interviews
- Predictive analytics, including unstructured data
- Reduced costs through automation

The objectives of next-generation internal audit functions may be straightforward, but the means by which they achieve these objectives include a range of innovative approaches, tools and governance enablers, including a culture of innovation, that must be tailored to specific organizations and their needs. Through this session we will work through some case studies of how the application of innovative enabling technology solutions can reinvigorate the effectiveness of the internal audit function.

Session facilitators:

[Andrew Fooks](#), Director, Protiviti

[Bradley Watson](#), Managing Director, Protiviti

### **The New Hustle: Innovating in Business, Creating New Ventures or Developing your Career**

Registration and lunch: 11.30am

Session: 12–1.45pm

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Light lunch

As the world of work is disrupted by new technological developments, how we work, where we work and what we work on will change dramatically. Recent reports by the Committee for Economic Development of Australia and the Foundation for Young Australians predict widespread job displacement of both low and high skilled jobs over the next 10–15 years as a result.

Future career success will rely heavily on the development of an entrepreneurial skill set applied within a business, new ventures and personal flexibility within the career journey. Individuals will need to possess an ability to identify opportunities, repurpose their value into emerging industries, creatively problem solve, and challenge conventional wisdom will be key to their career success.

This panel of start-up founders, intrapreneurs and innovation managers will guide you through what it takes to build out an entrepreneurial skill set and apply them in your organisation, on a new venture or to your career. The panel will aim to answer:

- What is an entrepreneurial skill set and why is it valuable as we move into a new world of work
- What is difference between an entrepreneur and intrapreneur's skill set
- Are you born to be entrepreneurial or can you learn to be more entrepreneurial
- How do you keep your skill set relevant with so much change across geo-political situations, economics and local jobs market fluctuations
- How are purpose-led perspectives in business and social enterprise emerging and is this the 'next wave'
- How do you teach your team to be entrepreneurial without drinking too much of the 'koolaid'
- How do I know if an idea I have had for a business is viable

The panel will include:

- [Dr Linda De George Walker](#), Director of Strategic Partnerships, Metro South Health
- [Tom Allen](#), Founder and CEO, Impact Boom
- [Dr Jess Bloomfield](#), People and Culture; Learning and Development, GO1
- [Duncan Madden](#), Managing Director, Match Fit

Moderator:

[Peta Ellis](#), Co-Founder of 3AM Tribe and Peak Persona and former CEO of River City Labs

### **Progressing Your Career to the C-Suite**

Registration: 2pm

Session: 2.15–4pm

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

Workshop facilitator Janelle Van de Velde will help you discover the essentials for a successful career transition into the C-Suite. You will specifically learn how to:

- Convert your MBA learnings to the corporate world
- Understand your personal brand

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- Maintain your relevancy
- Learn how to twist and pivot
- Reflect on what kind of leader are you

Janelle is a seasoned C-suite Corporate Services Leader and Company Secretary. She has forged a successful career maturing the capabilities of ambitious start-up enterprises into global, publicly listed corporations. Over the last 15 years, she has progressed through executive leadership roles, growing businesses across Australia, USA, EMEA, Asia and Europe from start-up to SME, corporates, listed and unlisted multinationals. She has developed a well-rounded executive skill-set while building a truly collaborative approach to leadership.

Session facilitator:

[Janelle van de Velde](#), Executive Director Shared Services, Uniting Church in Australia

### Thursday 3 October 2019

#### **Presenting Your Personal Best in Person and on Camera**

Registration and breakfast: 7am

Session: 7.30–9.15am

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Light breakfast

Regardless of all of our experience and business smarts, we often struggle to communicate our capabilities effectively. This workshop will help you understand how to succinctly persuade your audience or pitch your idea. The workshop will also cover techniques for effectively presenting yourself on video, including a live feed on camera demonstration.

Session facilitators:

[Lachlan Fletcher](#), Director, Studio 18a

[Clare Treston](#), Business Adviser – Entrepreneurs' Program, Deloitte

#### **Optimise Your Online Presence to Advance Your Career**

Registration: 9.30am

Session: 10am–12pm

Venue: Seminar room 3, UQ Brisbane City

A significant majority of companies and recruitment are using social media to vet candidates for both proactive reasons to hire, as well as reasons not to hire. Join us as the Managing Director of The Social Index, Fiona McLean, leads this session helping you to better understand the value of your digital footprint and align this with your professional experience, amplifying your career through effective future job applications.

In this session you will gain insight into:

- Why your personal brand and digital footprint really matters for your career
- What employers are looking for when they find you online
- Frameworks and tips to build and curate a professional online profile
- Understanding how to use your digital footprint to evidence skills and experience, in your interviews and over your career

Session facilitator:

[Fiona McLean](#), CEO & Managing Director, The Social Index Pty Ltd

### Crisis Management

Registration: 12.15pm

Session and lunch: 12.30–2.30pm

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Three-course lunch

When a crisis strikes, there are many actions organisations must take to minimise the impact on your business. Five initial topics that you must consider when your organisation experiences a crisis:

- **People** – The most important asset to any company is its people. A crisis could put these people in danger. Make sure your crisis management team can answer the following: Are lives in danger? Is there a life safety issue? Is there an impact to your employees, customers, vendors or visitors?
- **Facilities/Critical Infrastructure** – To keep your business running, facilities and critical infrastructure must be checked on. Even if the buildings have not been impacted yet, are they at risk?
- **Technology** – Another critical aspect of your business crisis management teams need to consider is technology. Is there a disruption of services (i.e. telecom network, data centres)? Is there an information security issue?
- **Business** – In any crisis, you will want to be sure that your organisation can continue to perform mission-critical business activities to minimise the impact. Is the crisis affecting your customers? Is it having a significant financial impact on the company?
- **Brand Reputation** – When a crisis hits there is always the chance your organisation could face extreme fallout in relation to its reputation. For this reason, it is important that crisis management team members respond quickly as a major hit to your reputation could significantly affect your organisation for years to come.

Keynote speaker:

[Pat Howard](#), Director, Rx Management

Moderator:

[Fiona McLean](#), CEO & Managing Director, The Social Index Pty Ltd

### Friday 4 October

#### **How to Ace a Case Study**

Registration and breakfast: 7.15am

Session: 7.30–9.30am

Venue: Auditorium, UQ Brisbane City

Catering: Light breakfast

With an extensive background in operations and projects for the Oil and Gas industry, Richard Nagle undertook the UQ MBA (2018 full-time cohort) to transition into something new. Rich now works in management consulting at Boston Consulting Group. Having recently gone through the interview and transition process, Rich will provide his valuable insights, offering a Q&A session, and take participants through a range of topics, including:

- His own MBA journey
- What is working at BCG really like? What do you actually do? Is this what you are looking for?
- The application process and what to expect
- Business case study to ace a management consulting firm interview

Session facilitator:

[Richard Nagle](#), 2018 UQ MBA graduate & Consultant, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)