

School of Mathematics Employability Tuesday

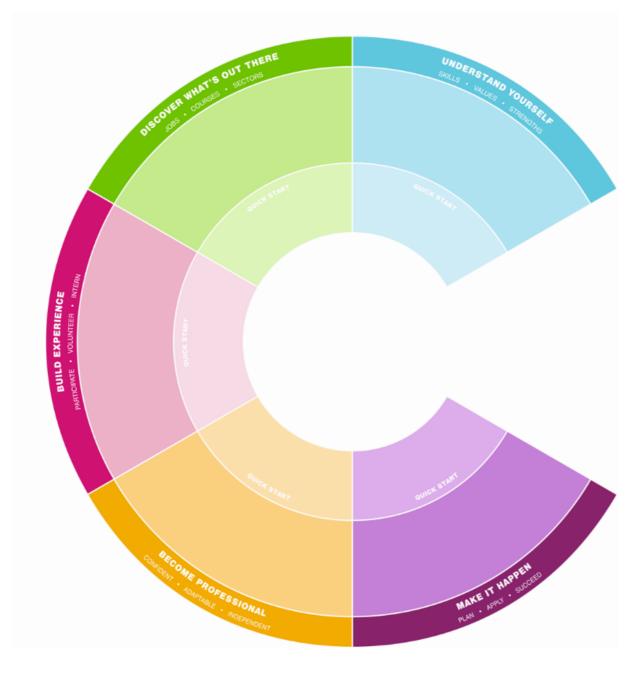
Talking to Employers: Selling Yourself & Networking

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Careers Consultant





#### Careers Compass – chart your progress



- Understand yourself skills, values, strengths
- Discover what's out there –
  jobs, courses, sectors
- Build experience –
  participate, volunteer, intern
- Become professional confident, adaptable, independent
- Make it happen –
   plan, apply, succeed

http://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/compass



### Today?

Use the **suggestions** on Career Compass for quick 'wins': <a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/compass">http://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/compass</a>

and Toolkit resources:

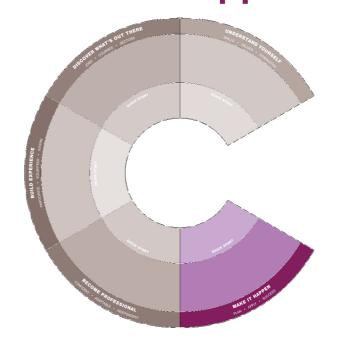
https://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/students/undergraduates/toolkits

to see what else you could be doing to

Become professional and to



#### Make it happen





#### Why talk to recruiters/contacts?



#### 1. To give and receive information

- Find out more about them (and discover if/how you fit)
- Ask questions not answered by their websites
- Discover unadvertised vacancies? e.g. My PhD 'straw poll'





### Why talk to recruiters/contacts?

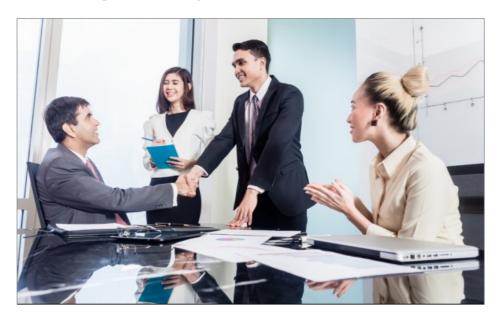


#### 2. To make a good impression

- Sell yourself: this what I can do/know/have experience of i.e. this is why you should be interested in me!
  - Recruiters might notice (look out for?) your application
  - ...or even better! e.g. Fire Engineer @ Engineering fair
- Gain 'allies' contacts who can help/advise/suggest leads
- Grow your network: one person might know 5, who each know 5...



### When/where might you speak to employers?



- Formally: job or PhD interview
- Less formally:
  - pre-arranged chat ("informational interviewing")
  - careers event e.g. fair, presentation,
  - university open day
- Casually: chance meeting e.g. guest lecture, train, golf coults



#### How can you make it a successful discussion?

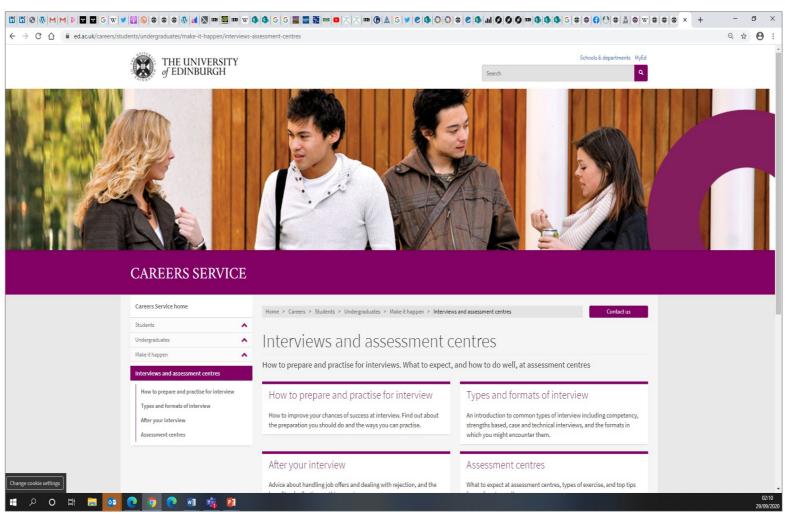


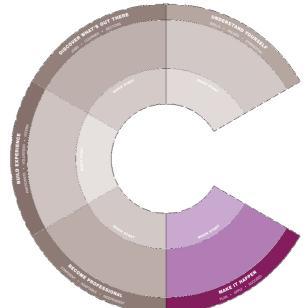




#### Job/PhD interviews

- Will cover in a future session.
- If you need advice before then:







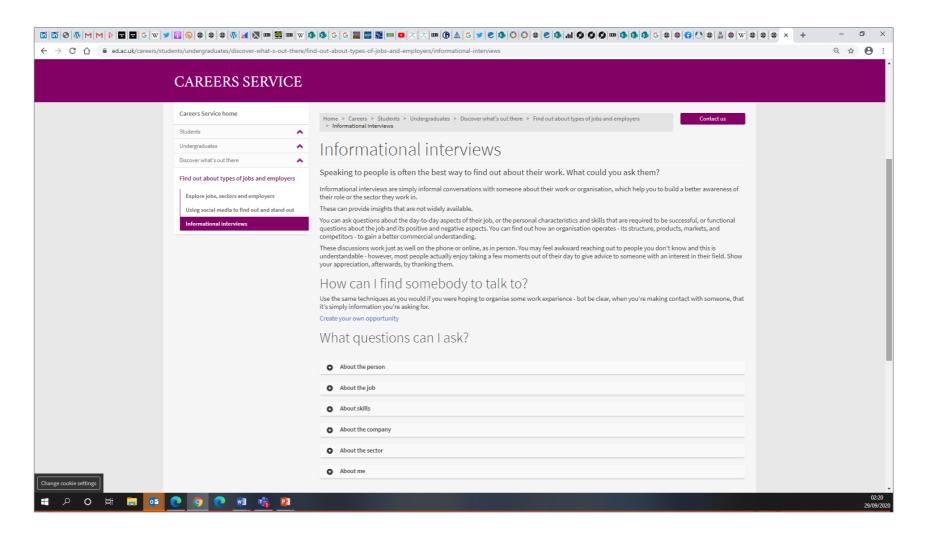
https://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/students/undergraduates/make-it-happen/interviews-assessment-centres





#### Pre-arranged chat: informational interviews

e.g. Getting into Sports Marketing



https://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/students/undergraduates/disc over-what-s-out-there/find-out-about-types-of-jobs-andemployers/informational-interviews

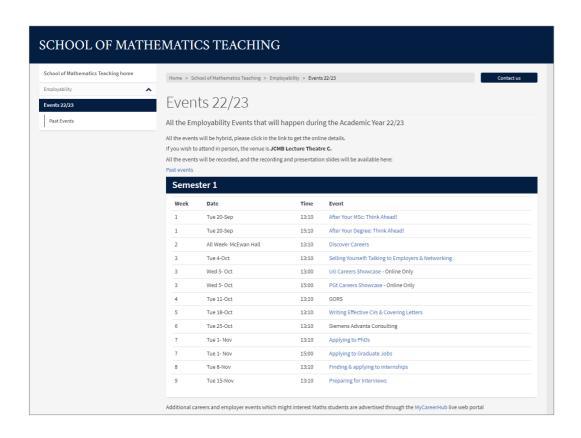




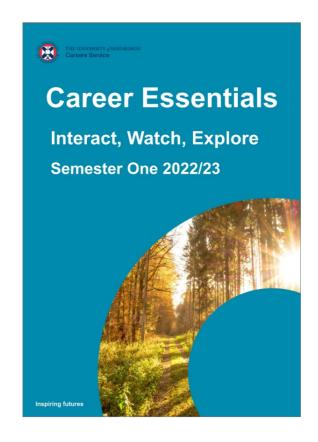


#### Careers events

Maths-specific



Careers Service (open to all)



https://teaching.maths.ed.ac.uk/main/employability/events-22-23

https://indd.adobe.com/view/9e31ada4-f8d1-4849-a3b2-7056606d7f43

For details and live updates of all other events and opportunities to meet recruiters. https://www.hub.ed.ac.uk/s/mycareerhub

**Inspiring futures** 





#### Casual chat

• e.g. Art auctioneering





### Careers fairs/events: getting it wrong...







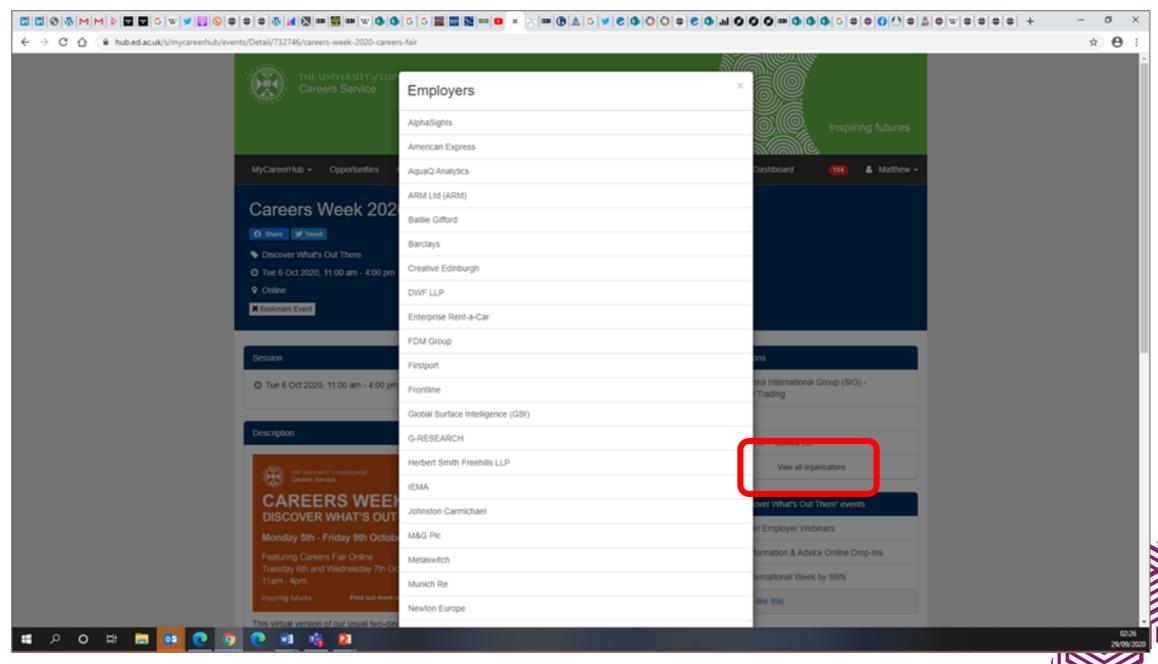








### 1: Do your research





#### ...to ascertain:

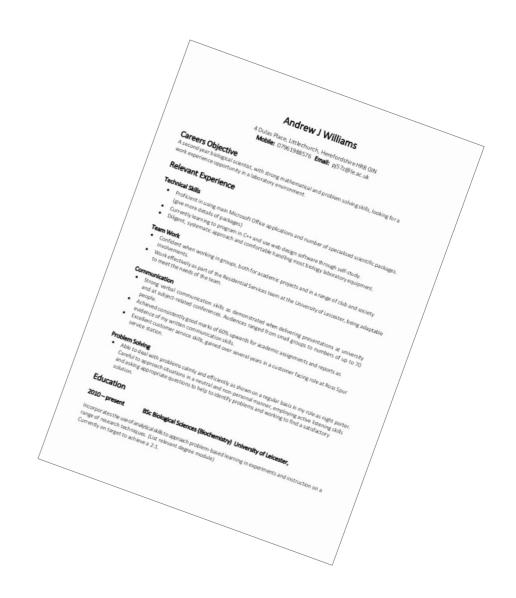
- Who you want to speak to
- Order of priority
- What you want to know
  - about the role
  - about the skills/experience/knowledge needed
  - about the organisation
  - specific to you
  - (about their experience if appropriate?)





#### 2: Review your experience

What have you done and achieved?
 What is on your CV?
 Can you summarise it?



What are you good at and what do you like doing?

Can you talk about it with enthusiasm?





## 3: Prepare your introduction







## 4: First impression? Make a little effort to dress smartly...





...and/or type clearly!

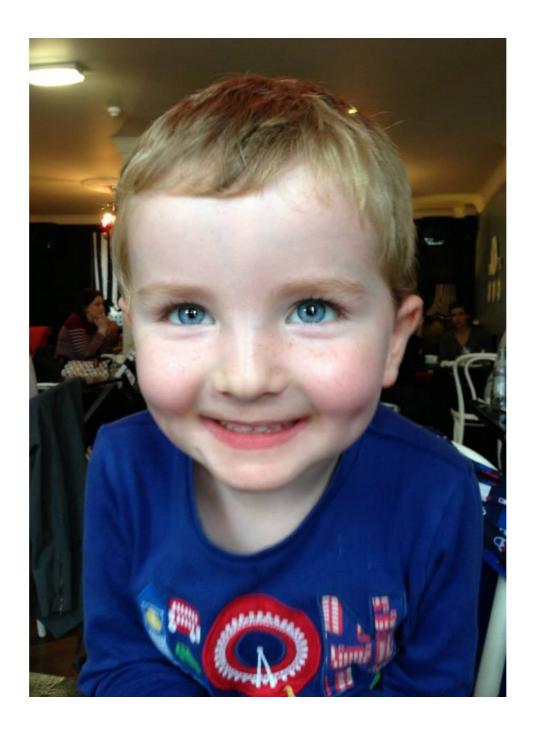


## 5: Go alone





#### 6. Smile!





7: <del>So, what do you do?</del> Ask intelligent, considered questions



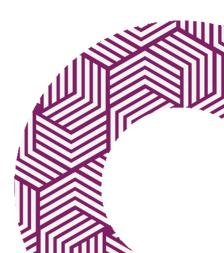




- What is a typical day like for them? (is there such a thing?)
- What has been the most unexpected thing about joining the company?
- What was the induction like?
- What are the challenges facing the organisation at the moment?
- Who are their competitors and what differentiates them?
- What attracted them to this industry / company / job?
- What are they most excited or concerned about for this industry/company/career path in the future?
- What are the common misconceptions about working in this company?
- What are some of the defining characteristics of the graduates who have been hired by the company in the past? (e.g. typical kinds of experience new entrants have)
- What do they enjoy most about this industry / company / job?
- I was reading about your new chip/ejector seat/reactor vessel. Were you involved in that project? I was especially interested to know how you approached...

#### 8: Be prepared for their questions!

- What do you know about us?
- What interests you about working for us?
- What attracts you to a career in this industry?
- What skills and qualities do you think would be important for this role/our company?





#### 9: Get a name







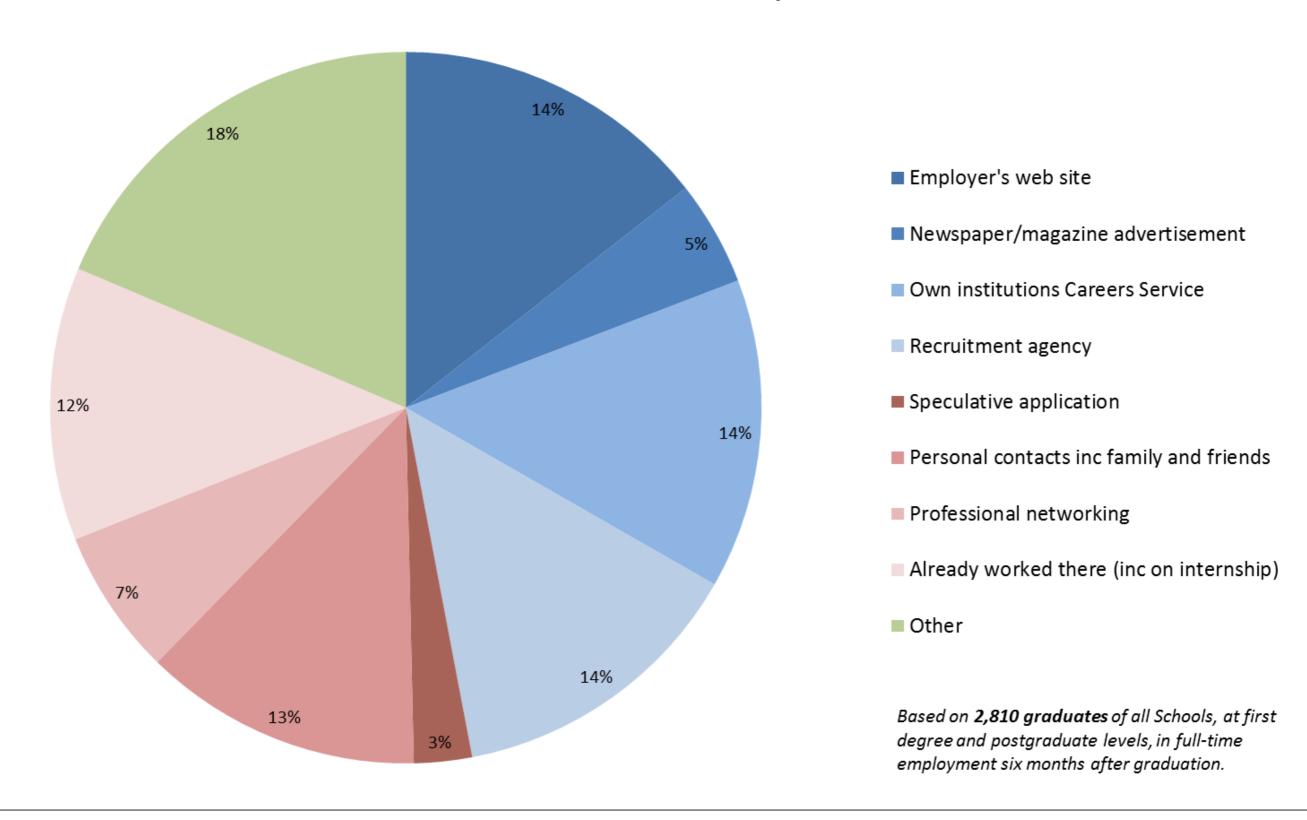
#### 10: Make notes





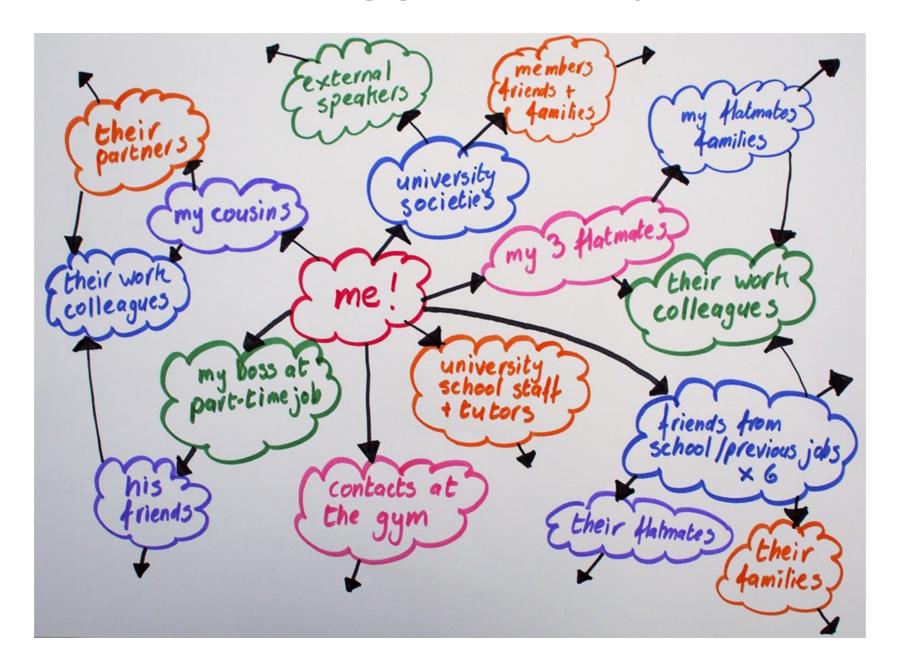


## How Graduates Working Full-time Found Their Jobs 20012/13 DLHE Survey





### Your network – bigger than you think?







## Growing / managing your network

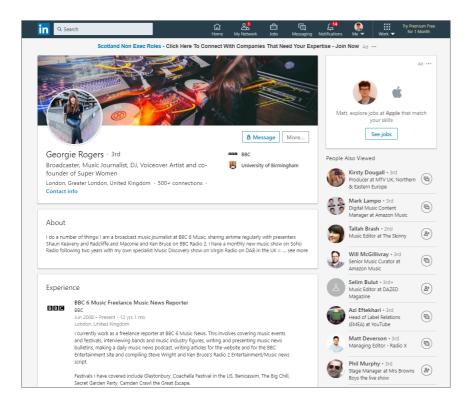




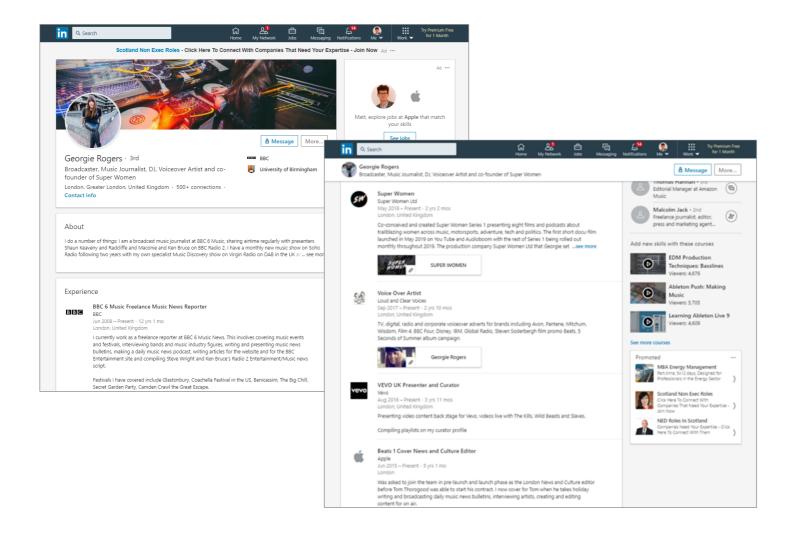
https://www.linkedin.com

https://www.ed.ac.uk/alumni/services/platform-one



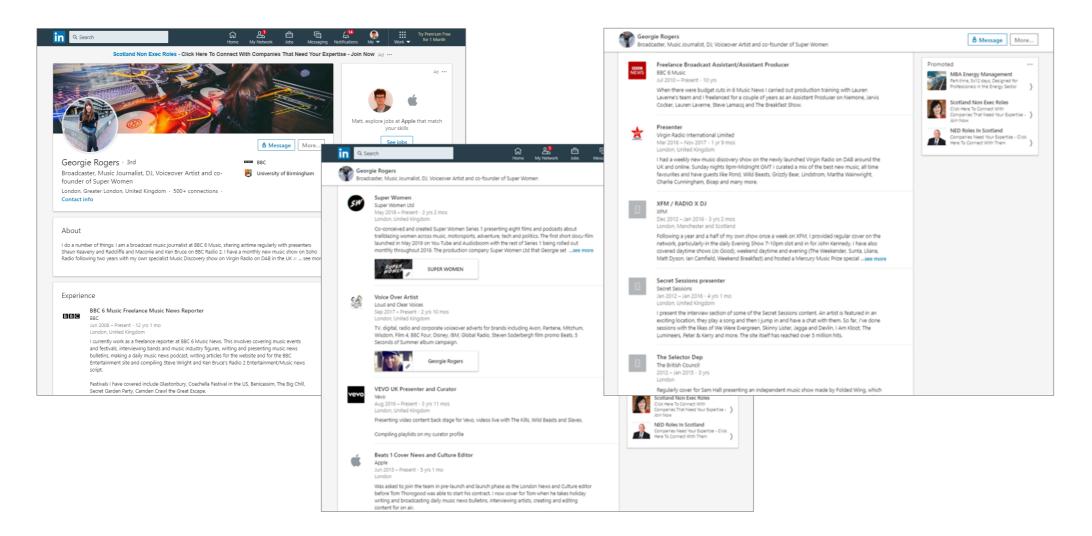




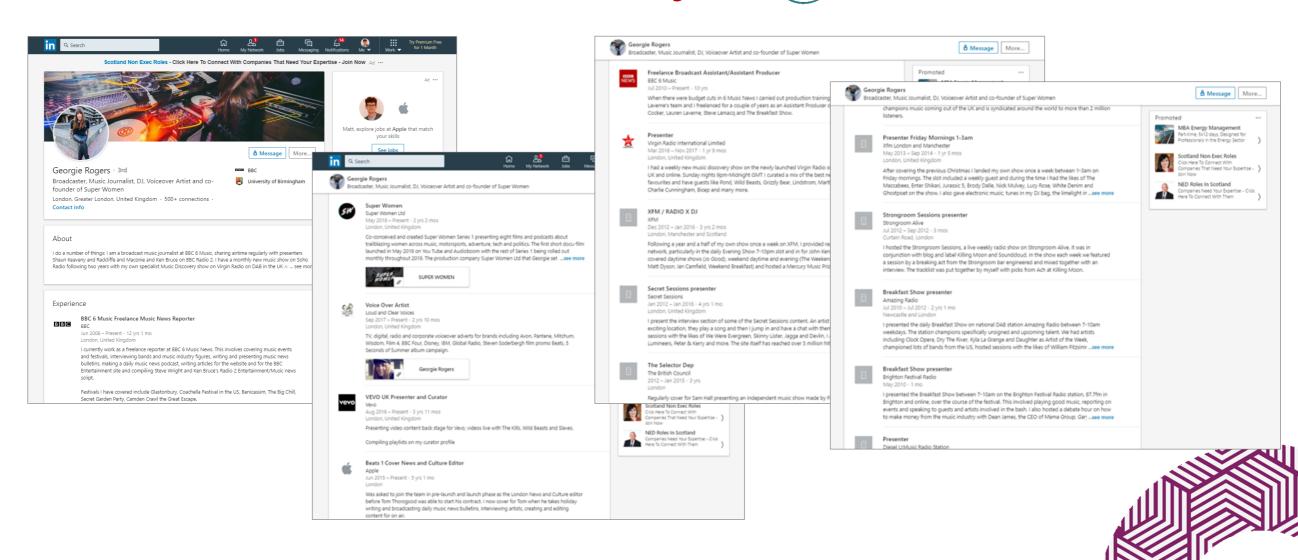


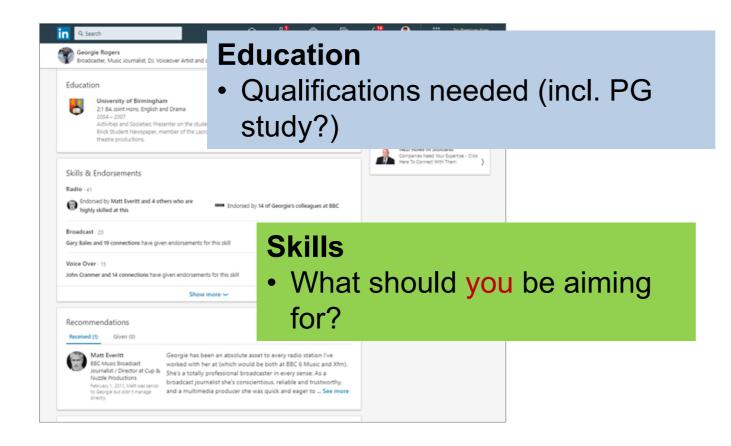


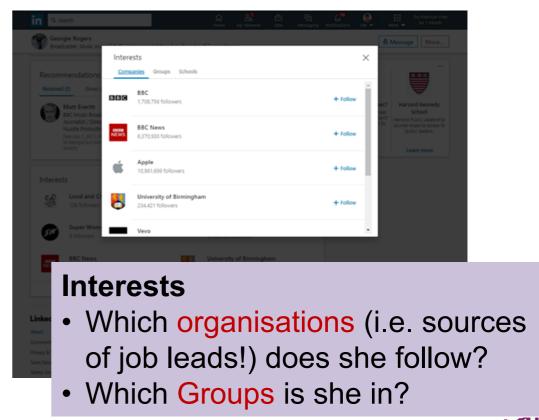






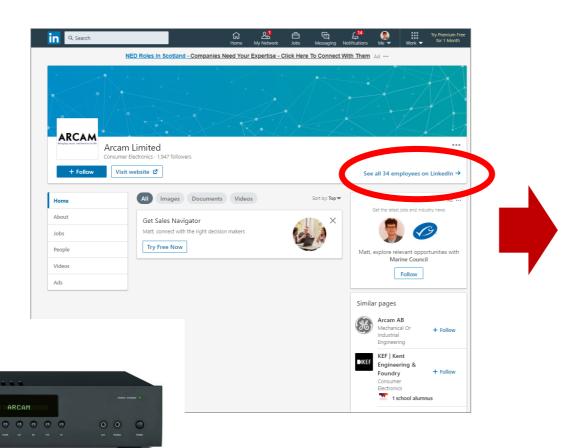


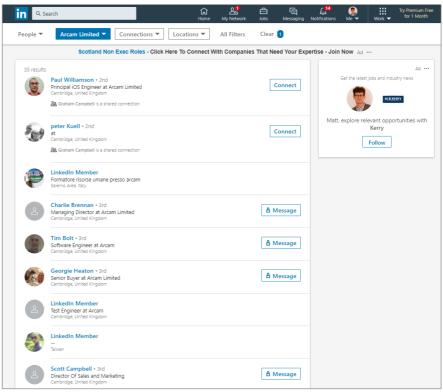






# Using LinkedIn Proactively: ARCAM





#### Using LinkedIn Advice:

The more people you are connected to, the more likely you'll see the information of somebody you're interested in

> more useful it is!

Step 1: Connect to family and friends, academic staff

Step 2: Join relevant Groups

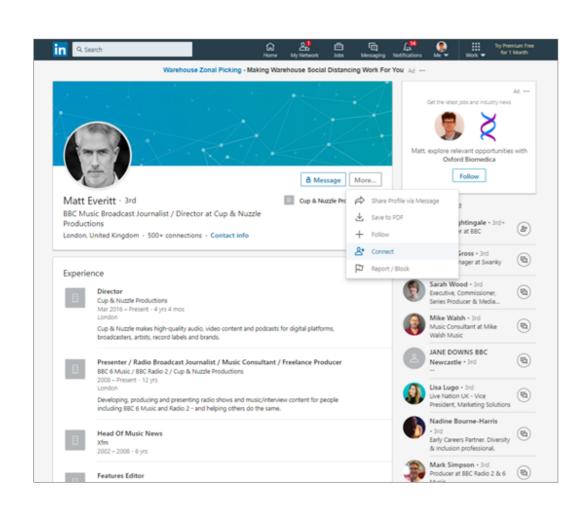
**Step 3**: Follow organisations of interest (prof bodies, recruiters etc.)

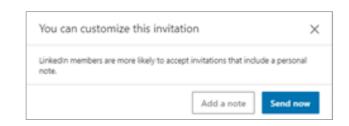
Step 4: Connect to people of interest

Be resilient! OK if people decline.



## Connecting on LinkedIn: Add a note!





#### **Explain:**

- Who you are
- · How they relate to you
- Why you wish to connect to them

N.B. Check spelling & grammar



#### Dear Matt,

I am a 2<sup>nd</sup> year undergraduate at Edinburgh, keen to learn about and investigate the feasibility of a career in radio music broadcasting. I wish to connect with you in order to ask you a couple of questions around how the industry views postgraduate journalism courses and also what key skills it looks for. I am interested in messaging you specifically on these things because of my enjoyment of your "The first time" interviews on BBC Radio 6 Music and also being a fellow drummer.

With best wishes,

Jane

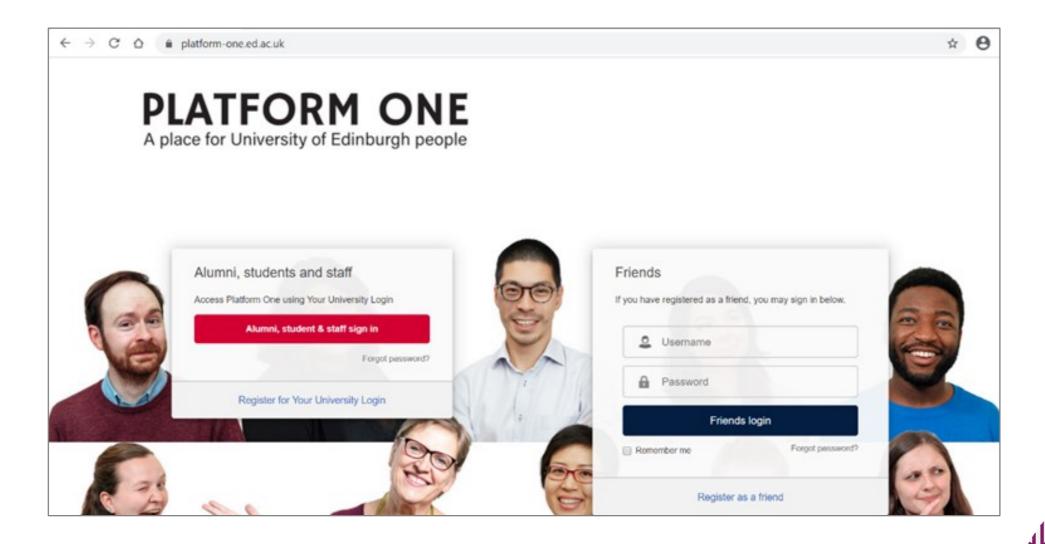
N.B. There is a 300-character limit for LinkedIn Connection notes





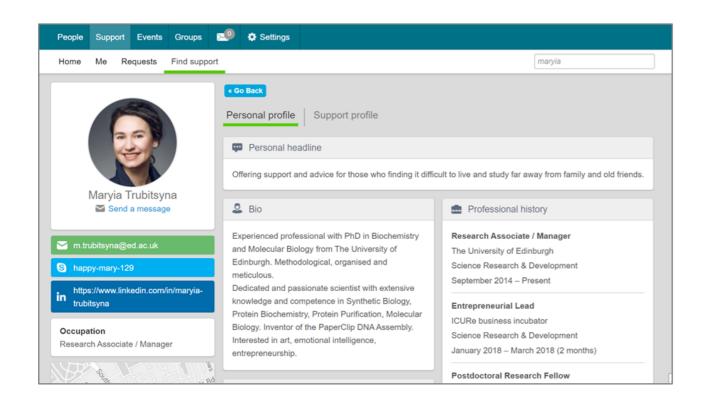
#### PLATFORM ONE

A place for University of Edinburgh people





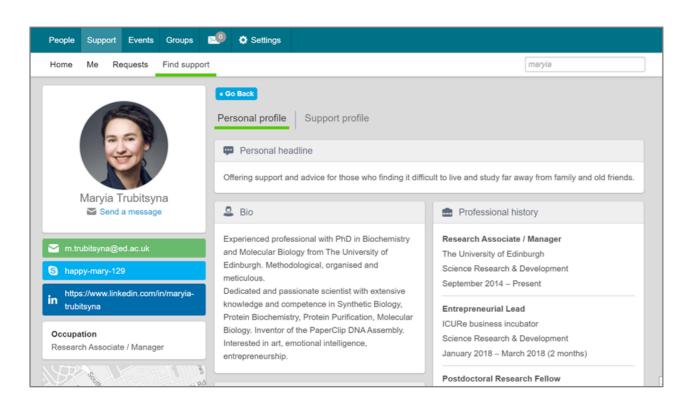
### Platform One: Personal Profile



e.g. Maryia Trubitsyna the personal profile highlights her career journey as well as her academic interests.



## Platform One: Support Profile



e.g. Maryia Trubitsyna the support profile details the kind of support that she can offer — Maryia's support is for those who have moved to a new country or are feeling homesick, anyone feeling self-doubt or anyone with questions about molecular biology or biochemistry.





#### Further resources

https://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/students/undergraduates/discover-what-s-out-there/find-out-about-types-of-jobs-and-employers/using-social-media-find-out-stand-out

Advice from the Careers Service on using social media in connection with your career

http://www.savethestudent.org/student-jobs/how-to-use-linkedin-to-get-a-job.html
Tips for improving your *LinkedIn* profile

<a href="http://www.careerealism.com/linkedin-cheat-sheet/">http://www.careerealism.com/linkedin-cheat-sheet/</a><a href="mailto:simple-sheet/">simple tips to improve your profile</a>

http://www.theguardian.com/education/mortarboard/2013/dec/30/linkedin-tips-for-students-employability

Advice on using *LinkedIn* from first year of university onwards

https://www.linkedin.com/in/alexrwinter
Alex Winter – example student profile
Inspiring futures





## Any questions?



