



ISSUE 2 - MAY TRIMESTER 2022

# Murdoch University Dubai

## The Link: Employability News & Updates



Welcome everyone to our second issue of “The Link”, Murdoch Dubai’s Employability Newsletter! In this issue, we have included valuable insights and actionable tips to help you prepare for your career. We have also featured an alumnus this time around, who shares his practical insights on employability.

You might feel the pressure to have everything figured out by the time you graduate, but do not let that overwhelm you. Enjoy the process of deep learning and discovering. And do not forget to have fun and build life-long relationships while working hard towards your pursuits.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable May Trimester. Cheers!

### What’s in this newsletter?

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2	Use Twitter for Professional Networking
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4	Alumnus Spotlight
5	Employability Workshops
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### Murdoch University Dubai Career Fair 2022

Murdoch University Dubai organized an in-person Career Fair on May 26 in its Dubai Knowledge Park campus, where employers from a variety of industries engaged with our promising students and extended them job/internship opportunities.

Kudos to all our students for presenting themselves well during the Career Fair and showcasing their unique skill-set. Keep it up and continue nurturing your employability skills!

### Use Twitter for Professional Networking

Similar to the social media site LinkedIn, Twitter is a great tool for job search and establishing your digital brand. Please remember the following tips:

- **Stay active.** Regularly share/retweet interesting industry news and articles to remain active. You can include images, videos, or text strings (up to 140 characters).
- **Follow individuals and companies in line with your career interests.** This way you remain aware of job postings, events and current activities of companies you are interested in.
- **Brand yourself using hashtags.** #recruitment, #freshgraduate, #internship, #jobsearch, etc. Your social media presence and activities need to align with your professional aspirations.
- **Stay focused and professional.** Do not let social media stray you. You can spend hours on Social Media without knowing it. Stay focused on your professional pursuits.
- **Be cautious and safe.** Do not follow false celebrities, unknown contacts and unrelated organizations.
- **Keep your profile up-to-date** so it reflects your current career interests, values and professional goals.

*Good luck and enjoy every interaction with prospective employers!*



## Career Tip of the Day!

Always keep your resume up-to-date and know that you may need more than one version of your resume that highlights different aspects of your education and experience.

For example, you may have one resume focused on Cyber Security and Forensics, and the other one on Criminology if you are pursuing a Bachelor's degree with double Majors. Modify your resume in line with advertised roles before you apply.

## Alumnus Spotlight

Meet Hareb Siddique who is currently working for Apple Inc. and talks about his experience of getting his first job.



**Hareb Siddique**

**Current Job Title: Specialist, Apple Inc., Dubai**

**Bachelor of IT in Cyber Security and Forensics**

**Graduated from Murdoch University Dubai in 2021**

*In 2018, Hareb - a Murdoch Dubai Alumnus (2021) with a Bachelor's degree in Cyber Security and Business Information Systems - started out by interning and doing part-time work at a number of firms operating in the UAE. By the time he graduated, he had earned a part-time role at Apple Inc., a top IT global firm. Today, he's a full time employee at Apple Inc. Hareb says that it is his part-time/internship work experience with established tech. giants such as Philips, Canon, Skullcandy and Hisense, while pursuing his undergraduate degree, that got him a full time position in Apple Inc. A great achievement!*

Below is an interview with Hareb that reveals great insights about career success and employability.

### Q1: How did you find this job? (Word of Mouth, Networking, Internship, Job Application, etc.)

When I was still at Murdoch University, I got to know about a student opportunity in Apple Inc. that was part-time and seasonal. I applied online, went through the interview process and very quickly started working for them. This was around the last trimester of my 2nd year. Since then, I have worked with Apple Inc. for 6-7 months every year. By January 2022, I was hired by Apple Inc. on a full-time contract with all the benefits including an employment visa.

### Q2: What made you apply for this position?

I joined Apple Inc. as it is a highly reputable IT firm with great people practices and working culture. My managers are very supportive of my Learning and Development and encourage me to continue building my skill-set through IT Certifications and other learning experiences. I am currently doing my certification in Project Management and look forward to engaging in many more certifications in the near future.

I feel large tech. firms offer excellent growth opportunities to their employees, so try to get your foot in the door through different avenues such as part-time work, internships, networking, and such.

### Q3: What is your personal key to success?

I am a goal-oriented individual - I chase one goal and once I have achieved it, I pursue another one. My constant sense of drive to achieve bigger and better goals keeps pushing me. I feel, I am a very ambitious person and I strive for my goals with a sense of urgency. This attribute has been the core enabler of my success so far. We all face failures; the key is to keep striving without losing your determination and enthusiasm to succeed.

### Q4: What can the students do to enhance their employability upon graduation?

While I have been fortunate to be employed by a highly progressive organization like Apple Inc., I worked quite passionately to develop a solid repertoire of skills while pursuing my undergraduate degree. I am a strong proponent that good career preparation is a big part of finding opportunities for meaningful and fulfilling careers. Establish a solid presence on LinkedIn, connect with like-minded professionals, and engage with your online and in-person network to gain valuable professional experience - be it paid or unpaid. We all need to remain aware of the opportunities out there, so watch out for organizations that have the reputation of being good places to work.



## Employability Workshops

### Previous Workshops of this Trimester:

Checkout two workshops conducted on May 23 and 24, 2022!

#	Workshop Title	Recording	Slides	Additional Resources to take with you
1	Career Fair Success Tips	<a href="#">Recording Link</a>	<a href="#">Slides Link</a>	Career Fair Success Tips - Checklist - 1 Page <a href="#">[Link]</a>
2	Elevator Pitch and Interview Responses	<a href="#">Recording Link</a>	<a href="#">Slides Link</a>	Elevator Pitch and Interview Responses - 1 Page <a href="#">[Link]</a>

### Upcoming Workshop of this trimester:

Stay tuned to exciting workshops to help you hone employability skills and develop a deeper understanding of the World of Work. The next workshop for this trimester will be a guest speaker session:

#	Workshop Title	Date
3	Murdoch Alumni Round Table: Boosting your Employability	July 21 2022 (TBC) Stay tuned for more information

### Contact Points & Questions:

If you have any ideas or requests for a specific employability workshop, please contact **Jil Salhani** or **Uzma Shaheen**.

## How to Ace Your Interviews

Summer is a great time to renew your focus on employability. Make the time to check out the job adverts to see what technical and human-centered skills are in demand in your career trajectory. Incorporate the following tips in your next interview and stand out among the crowd!

### 1. Be prepared.

Maintain a resource book for your interview preparation. Practice your elevator pitch, creatively think of examples that can showcase your specific skill-set, and use the STAR method to demonstrate your competencies. Research on the Internet to learn more about the employer and get prepared for the interview.

### 2. Relax, smile and be yourself.

Remember to be relaxed and smile during your interviews. Each interview is one of the many, many interviews you will face in your life. So relax, be yourself and do your very best without worrying too much about the interview outcome.

### 3. Brand yourself.

Highlighting your unique skills and traits are a normal part of branding yourself during an interview. Do it with humility and grace - but do not shy away from talking about your accomplishments. Stay confident of yourself and what you can bring to the table.

2-3 minutes self-talk before the interview can greatly help with staying focused, and positive. Be comfortable and happy in your skin. Your confidence and self-assurance should radiate through your demeanor.

### 4. Stand out.

You have carved out a unique repertoire of skills over the years. Remember you are unique like your fingerprints. Make a great first impression and present yourself in a way that makes you memorable.



## Wellness Tips for Enhancing Your Productivity

Always prioritize your well-being – be it mental, physical or spiritual. Tips below will help you stay alert and effective during the day. If you did not have a productive day, try again with a renewed focus.

1. **Go to bed early:** Research shows that good sleep is magical for a sharp focus during the day. Remember the old rhyming proverb, “early to bed and early to rise, makes a person healthy, wealthy & wise.”
2. **Take baby steps:** Divide your tasks into smaller parts and follow the plan rigorously. Start early and finish early, so you can dive into the next one early too. And once you complete a milestone, reward yourself with something that gives you joy.
3. **Be organized and declutter:** Summer is always a wonderful opportunity to get organized. Clean up your cupboards and organize your books. Donate and pass on things you do not need. Decluttering will help you focus better.
4. **Reframe unhelpful or negative mindset:** Positive self-talk can do wonders. Do not let negative thoughts get to your subconscious brain. Challenge thoughts and comments that pull you down and strive towards a positive self-image.
5. **Take regular breaks:** Take 5-10 minutes break every 1-2 hours to re-energize and refocus. Make sure to get up and take a walk during long study hours. This is non-negotiable.
6. **Have a hearty breakfast:** Make breakfast your most important meal. Research has shown that eating a wholesome breakfast significantly enhances our attention and concentration.
7. **Drink plenty of water:** Keep yourself hydrated. Drink at least 8-10 glasses of water every day. You may be surprised how dehydration can deplete your energy and make you feel exhausted.
8. **Make the time for physical activity:** Make plans to exercise 3-5 times a week and follow them. Strive for something enjoyable initially and gradually ramp up. Seek opportunities to exercise, like climbing up the stairs in place of using the elevators.

**Have a great May Trimester!**

*We would love to hear from you!*

Feel free to send your comments or ideas to [Uzma.Shaheen@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:Uzma.Shaheen@murdoch.edu.au)

Thank you!