

# Facilitating student success through career readiness

Digitalisation and globalisation have sparked radical shifts in how we live and work. These changes have pushed young graduates into many new professional directions and have contributed significantly to how the future of work is defined. They have not only brought to light the skills required for current and future jobs but have also ignited progressive thinking about how students can adequately prepare for the working world.



A proactive Student Development Journey approach underpins all our service offerings. This ensures that students can access stage-appropriate career learning opportunities from their first day at university through to their postgraduate studies and three years after graduation.

Supporting career development from day one has enabled many UCT graduates to make purposeful, considered career choices, enabling them to realise their potential and contribute to the communities in which they live. This is evident in UCTs employability accolades and the Graduate Gallery, which highlights our alumni's noteworthy and impactful career journeys.

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# Careers Service



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The Careers Service's primary goal is to support students in achieving optimal employability. The service achieves this by providing a range of career advice and resources to students, faculties and employer partners, including:

- 1 individual career consultations – subject/degree choice, changing courses/degree, further study decisions, preparing job applications (CVs, cover letters and interviews), university to work transition, entrepreneurship development
- 2 career educational presentations, webinars and workshops
- 3 employer networking events – career expos, employer presentations and showcases
- 4 professional virtual and in-person interview rooms
- 5 career conversations – networking and learning from alumni experiences.

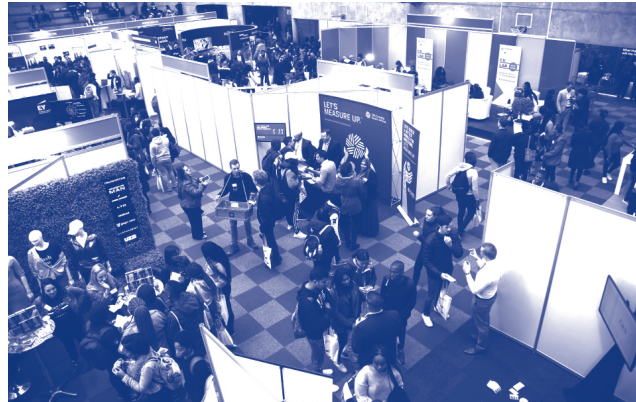


## MyCareer online portal

MyCareer connects recruiters with UCT students and alumni and offers:

- ▶ 24/7 access to career-related resources
- ▶ regularly updated Careers Service news and events
- ▶ access to internship and job opportunities
- ▶ help with sourcing bursaries and scholarships
- ▶ career consultation bookings.

The UCT Careers Service has won the title of Best Career Service at the South African Graduate Employers Association (SAGEA) Awards for more than a decade.



## Employer partnerships

The graduate employment team keeps a finger on the pulse of industry, facilitating engagements with over 2 000 diverse formal sector employers, including:

- 1 careers expos
- 2 company showcases and presentations
- 3 Careers Service guide advertising
- 4 poster campaigns and advertising on campus
- 5 My Career, online vacancy and website advertising
- 6 email blasts and SMS service
- 7 interview and assessment venues
- 8 sponsorship opportunities.

## Employer Partner Programme

In pursuit of building a shared legacy of world-class higher education in South Africa, the Employer Partner Programme offers employers the opportunity to benefit from the Careers Service's capacity to elevate their recruitment processes by: participating in career-development initiatives and work-readiness programmes growing brand awareness among students through on-campus marketing opportunities priority placement at career events, and early access to graduates.

## Entrepreneurship

Whether entering the formal employment sector or opting for entrepreneurship, being able to take calculated risks, think innovatively and learn from failure are key capabilities students need to build and develop.

The Careers Service encourages an entrepreneurial mindset by creating an environment that nurtures this ethos and by providing stimulating initiatives, including:

- ▶ collaborations with employer partners to bring real-world business challenges for students to solve through innovation and problem-solving
- ▶ participation in a range of annual intervarsity entrepreneurship challenges and initiatives.



## Encouraging extracurricular work

Through the UCT Plus Programme, students are formally recognised for their leadership involvement and volunteerism. Participants are supported in identifying the skills, values and knowledge they have developed through their experience. The award is reflected on the academic transcript in recognition of enhanced employability skills beyond a student's degree.