



Job Search & Networking Virtually for Grad Students

Session will begin at 1 pm (EST)

Pre-Assessment: bit.ly/vjsn-pre



Hello!

I am **Wincy Li**

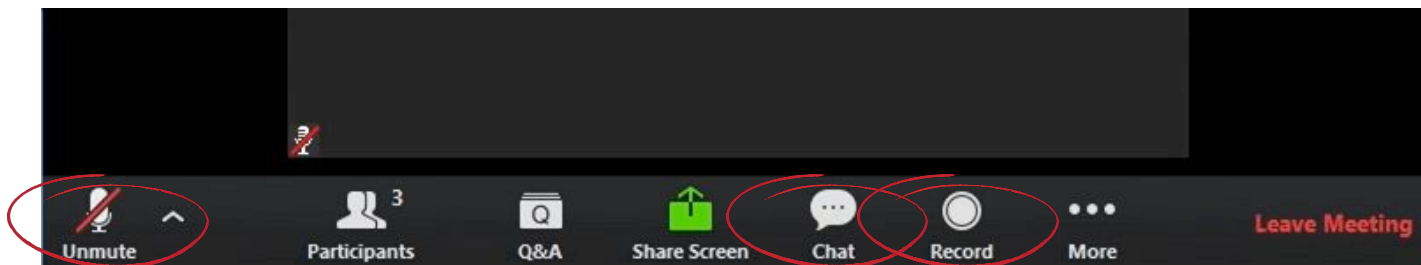
I am the Career Education Specialist for graduate students.



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Housekeeping



- Please leave microphones/videos muted
- Ask questions and participate in the Chat box
- This session will be recorded



Agenda

- Labour Market Trends
- Ways to Look for Work
- Networking: Informational Interviews



Labour Market Trends

What's Happening During COVID



- Layoffs and offer cancellations
- Hiring freeze or hiring spree?
Depends on sector and job
- Experienced or returning
candidates preferred (less
training required)
- Employers more conservative in
salary negotiation
- Willingness to engage with
candidates virtually



Grad Student Advantage

- More advanced level of **expertise** in chosen field
- Previous professional **experience**
- Project management, problem-solving, and communication **skills**
- Self-directedness and speed in **learning**



Job Searching



How are you currently looking/applying for jobs?

How does that align with the way employers recruit and hire?



Magnet





How Employers Hire

Within Company
(Internal Candidates)

Referrals from
Colleagues

Referrals from
Network

Recruitment
Agencies

Industry Events &
Network

Applications to
Online Job Postings



Hidden Job Market

- Opportunities not advertised or posted publicly
- Opportunities not yet created
- Networking is necessary to learn of these opportunities





Questions...



Networking

Building & Maintaining Relationships; Giving Back

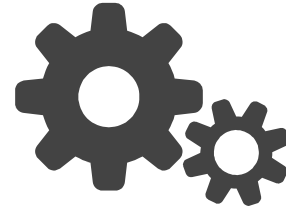


Networking Is...

- NOT bothering, pestering, or using people
- NOT being pushy or aggressive
- NOT a contest
- NOT one-sided, selfish, or all about you
- **Mutual exchange** of information, advice, and support
- **Process** of developing and nurturing **genuine** professional relationships
- Being the **best version** of your **authentic, unique** self

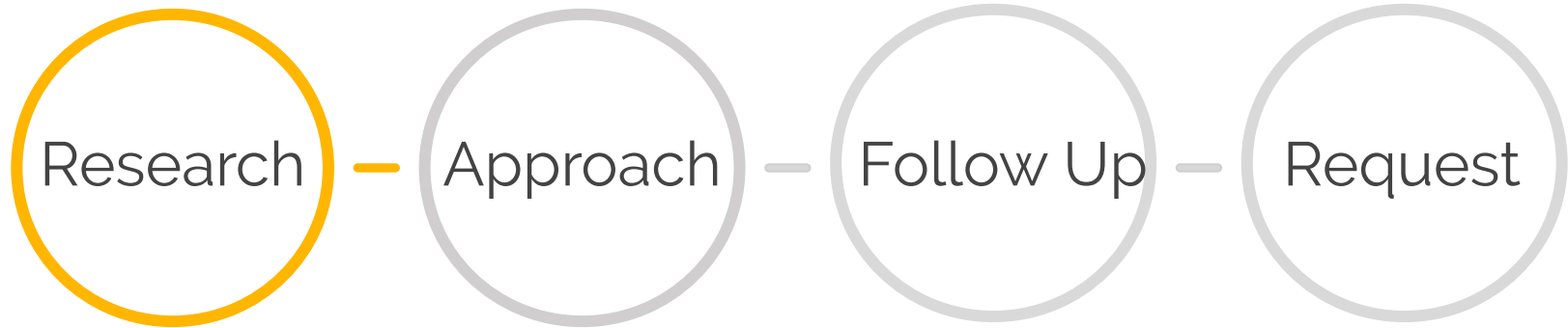
Making Friends

Be patient. Help each other out. Stay connected.





4 Stages of Networking

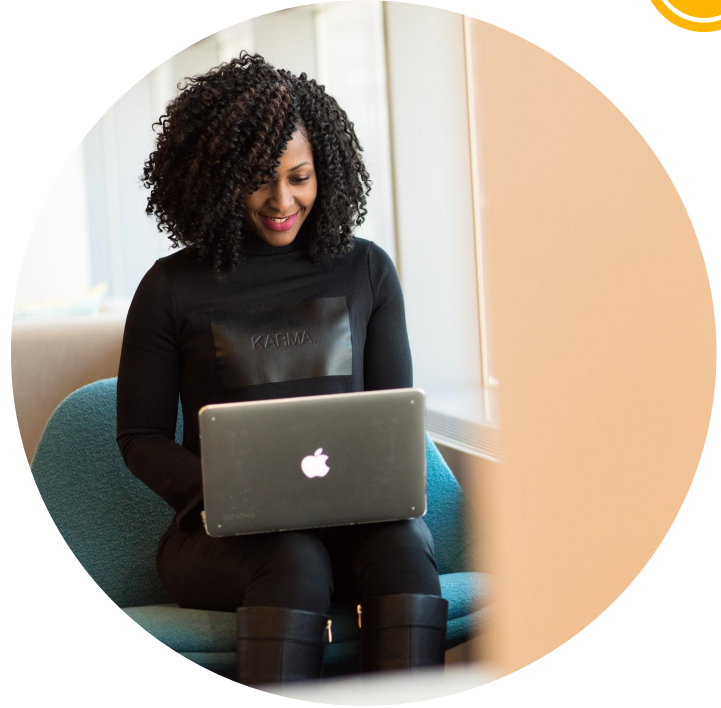


Reflecting on your career ecosystem



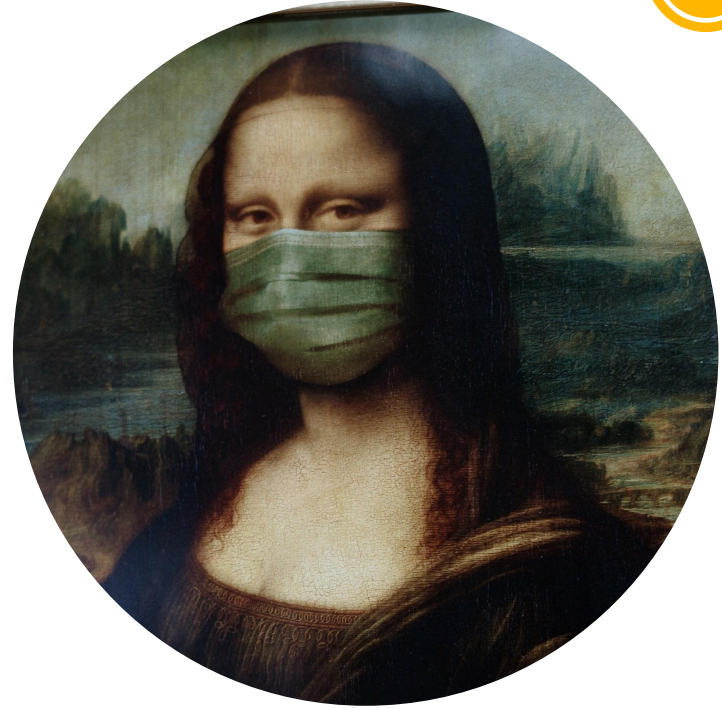
Find **Critical** Information

- Social media channels
- Company website
- Professional associations
- Online profiles of individuals
- Podcast and news



Reflect on the Impact of COVID

- New emerging problems and challenges in your field, and proposed solutions
- What are *your* ideas and perspectives? Transferable skills/expertise?



Reflect on Your Own Situation

- Competencies, expertise, experience, and skills
- Values, passions, preferences
- Career goals/aspirations
- Areas for professional development





Make a List

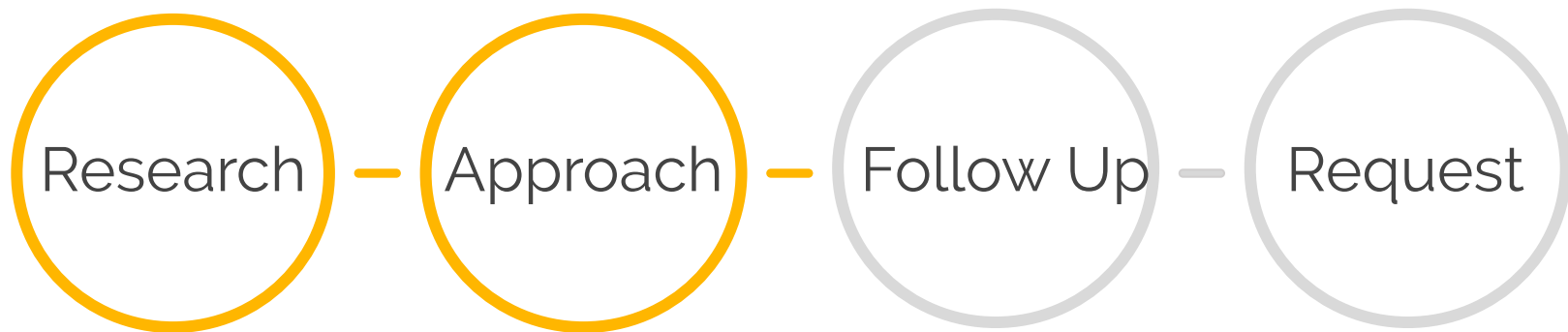
- What you have learned about yourself, the organizations, your field, and/or the society at this current moment
- New questions that you have based on your research
- People/Organizations that you want to connect with



Questions...



4 Stages of Networking



Making an Introduction

- Know who you're talking to
- Express (and be true to) your intentions
- Be ready to talk about yourself: goals and accomplishments





My name is _____. I am a graduate student in the Biomedical Engineering program at Ryerson.

My research interest is in improving the design of PPE, for both medical professionals and the general public.

I am interested in learning more about how your career experience in product research and development, and how your company is responding to COVID.

Can you spare 30-40 minutes to speak with me? I would like to ask you some questions to learn more about the field.

Sample Questions for Informational Interviews



- What do you find most rewarding/challenging about your role?
- What professional development activities do you engage in to stay current in your field?
- What advice would you give a soon-to-graduate Master's/PhD student like me who is about to enter the job market?
- Do you know someone who is knowledgeable in ___, and would you be able to connect me to them?

Not a Job Interview



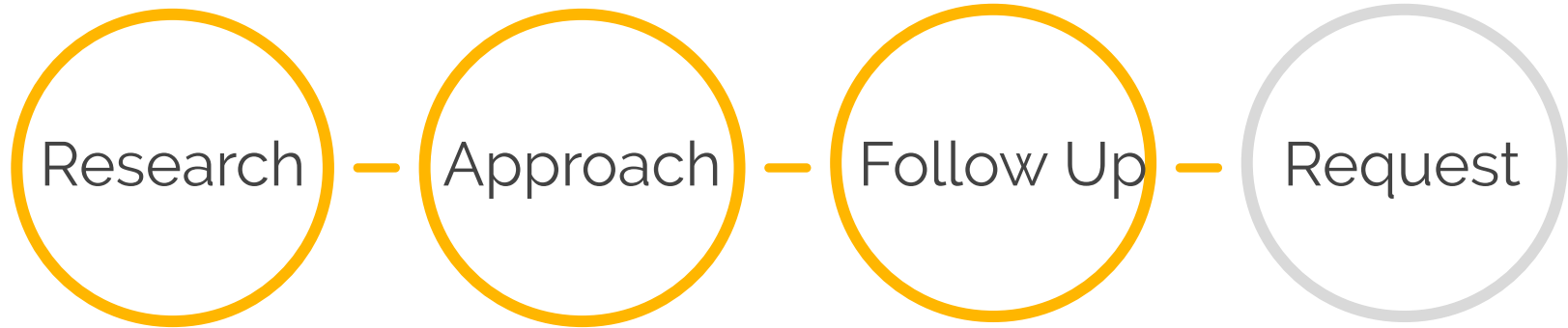
Refrain from pressuring your contact for a job.
Focus on getting to know each other and building the trust.



Questions...



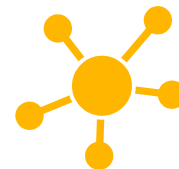
4 Stages of Networking



Maintaining Connections

- Thank your contacts after informational interviews
- Add them on social media (e.g. LinkedIn, Twitter)
- Provide updates of your success and latest actions



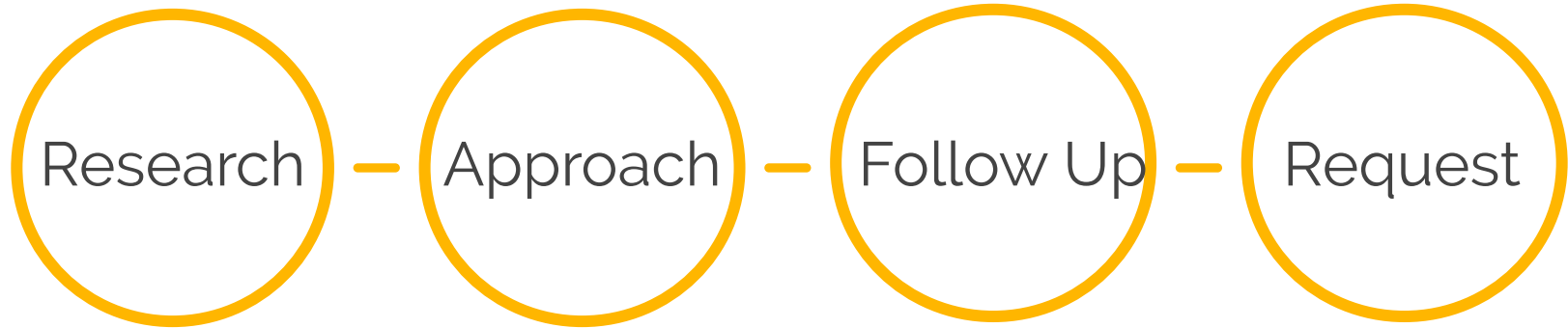


Staying In Touch

- Take initiative to update and check in
 - Holiday/birthday greetings
- Think about how you could be of assistance to them
 - Share an interesting article or invite them to an event
 - Connect them to people that you may know
 - Offer to endorse or write recommendations for them



4 Stages of Networking





Ask for help once
trust is built



Upcoming **Webinars**

- YSGS-Hosted Events
 - **Ace the Virtual Interview** (Thursday, June 4, 2020)
 - **Resilience in Adversity** (Friday, June 5, 2020)
- Career & Co-op Centre's Events
 - **ryerson.ca/career**

GRADCentral

Find us on **D2L** to learn more about resources and support offered by:

- YSGS
- Centre for Excellence in Learning & Teaching
- Career & Co-op Centre



Welcome to GRADCentral!

As a graduate student at Ryerson University, you have automatically been granted access to GRADCentral, a comprehensive online hub of **professional, teaching and career development resources** to complement your graduate academic training and assist with your **transition to academic and/or industry career pathways**.



Thanks!

Any questions?

Post-assessment: **bit.ly/vjsn-post**