GHC 2022 Report
Keerthi Sreenivas Konjety (Masters in Data Science 2022)

Contents:

A picture of me on the 1st day of GHC

1.What I did before GHC?

I was super happy to be selected to go to get sponsored for the conference in April 2022 by GIDS UofR. I made a list of things that I should do before I go to the conference:

Things I did in the months of May and June:
- Prepped my Linkedin
- Prep my Portfolio/Website
- Reach out to recruiters and other attendees using #GHC #GHC22 #VGHC22 #VGHC

- Made a LinkedIn post about my attendance at GHC
- Prepared a generic tech resume

Things I did in the months of July and August:
- Got an AWS Solution Architect Certification to dive into other fields of my interest
- Uploaded my resume on GHC Database
- Applied to Jobs using GHC Resume Database portal

Things I did in September:
- Revisited my resume, projects and internships that I have listed on it
- Prepared my Pitch for speaking to recruiters
- Jotted down my target roles
- Booked 1:1 sessions and reached out to recruiters on LinkedIn via the career fair portal (2 days before GHC)
- Printed 40 copies of my resume

Apart from this:
- I have bought a few formal outfits that I could wear to the conference

2.Career Fair / Interview Tips and Outcomes:
- I got 2 interviews scheduled before I went to GHC. One with ADP for Associate SDE role (got this by reaching out to a recruiter on LinkedIn 2 days before GHC) and One with Analog Devices (I applied on GHC, and then they sent me a private link to apply - so proactively monitor and apply)

   Hi Keerthi! Thank you for reaching out :)

   My team and I are currently scheduling onsite interviews for Wednesday, 9/21 at GHC! After reviewing your profile, we would love to have you interview for our NJ-based Associate Software Engineering position!

-
- I was able to crack the behavioral round with ADP, but unfortunately was not able to crack the Technical since I lost touch with Leetcode.
- For Analog Devices, I gave an ML engineer intern and their questions were mostly scenario based data science questions and questions out of my resume. I'm still waiting for my decision on September 27, 2022.
- Apart from previously scheduled Interviews, Barclays was holding on-spot interviews and I got a chance to give an interview for their Cloud Engineer Role. Their questions were mostly behavioral (Teamwork centric) and based on my resume. Waiting for their decision as of September 27, 2022.

Tips before Interviewing :
- Read about the companies and their vision before going to their interviews
- Look up previously asked questions for the selected roles
- Prepare your resume and the practice explaining your projects in resume thoroughly
- Prepare Basic leetcode DSA and common behavioral questions asked in interviews.

A picture of me at the Google booth in GHC

3.Things to carry:

- UofR / GIDS / Your University swag (Wear it with pride at GHC)
- Good footwear (You gotta walk a lot)
- Resume copies (40-60 recommended)
- Power Bank to keep your phone charged
- Formal wear for 3 days
- Dry fruits/ Snack packs (to keep you going)
- ID for Travel and Drinks
- Cash/Card (I spent about $70 for ubers to hotel and food)
- A half empty suitcase (You will need space to carry your free swag back)
- Confidence

4.Food & Travel:

I skipped breakfast and had GHC Snacks (they have snacks all the 3 days at around 10am)
I spend $15 for lunch everyday, there are food stalls that you can buy decent food from in the conference hall itself . There are networking events with snacks/dinner which you can attend to network with and you'll be full for dinner with what you have there. I went to networking events organized by Boeing, Google, Amazon and EY

Ayushi (MS in DS) and I walked back to the hotel since it was close by and took Uber only when needed.

A picture of me in the Google Studio Experience - Networking Event

5.Overall Experience and Thoughts after GHC:

This is a conference that everyone should attend at least once in their lifetime. You will be ecstatic by the energy around you. I connected with many professionals and had meaningful conversations. If job search is your goal, you'll have an edge over other applicants when you apply through GHC specific links. Queues at the company booths are long, so go early and get in line for the company you wanna speak to. It's okay if you cannot cover everything, it can get overwhelming, but keep doing what you wanna do the most.

I made friends with UofR folks who I didn't know previously. I had an exchange of thoughts with women in all kinds of Tech. I gave interviews and found confidence in myself to give more. The keynote speeches and workshops were amazing and they are a must attend. We had Jessie J for a concert in the ending Keynote speech and the crowd was phenomenal.

I'm humbled and thankful to Lisa Altman, GIDS and UofR for making me a part of a life changing conference. Thanks to Sara Klinkbeil, Erin Gibson and Greene Center for coordinating the event.

I'm available on LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/keer718/
Here's My Portfolio: Keerthi Sreenivas