**SUMMARY OF INSPIRATION FROM INTERNATIONAL LEADERS WEBINAR**

During this webinar 3 international students who are now successful leaders were interviewed. Below are the questions and response summaries.

**What was it like as an International student?**

* Language was a big challenge, but I wanted to socialize so this motivated me to move forward and remove the barrier
* Improving language skills helps overcome things later in your career
* Commitment to be part of the community worked well - playing soccer and joining a salsa dancing group
* Volunteering for the Red Cross and other NGO’s meant that I learnt to integrate
* Studying hard and socializing and attending talks ensured I made connections
* Coming to Australia was like a reset button in my life
* Looking at the tall buildings in the CBD from Darling Harbour I set the goal to work there
* To improve my English language capability, I read the newspaper daily and watched the news on television
* We live in a multi-cultural environment so Cultural Quotient is essential
* Rejection is a way to learn and become resilient

**When did you start to share your culture with others?**

* During university life when working on projects, I linked them to the issues in my home country
* Through monthly cultural events
* We need to be ambassadors of our home countries

**Actions students can take and mindsets they should have**

* Make yourself into a better person by taking on a part-time job, volunteering and focusing on your university studies. This will improve your time management
* Invest every moment
* Volunteering improves your skills and knowledge and is as valuable as your studies
* Learn to take rejection, it will grow you
* Grow your comfort zone, that’s how you become invincible
* Communicate with employers to understand what they want
* Distinguish career and jobs
* Take on an entrepreneurial mindset in your work – take ownership and be proactive
* Learn to understand why people make the choices they do
* Connect and learn from other cultures
* Say, “yes” to student engagement and volunteering opportunities
* Knock on doors, don’t be shy or nervous - The community wants to help you out
* Ask for advice, not a job
* Find a need in your community and solve a problem

**HIRING AND PROMOTING TOMORROW’S LEADERS**

This webinar included a panel of 4. The questions and insights are documented below.

**Actions you took when you started looking for your first role**

* Graduates normally look for a job at the end of their degrees. This is not the best approach
* I realized that looking for jobs relatable to my studies required planning from the beginning of my course
* Working in hospitality can help in learning how to cope with the worst of people’s natures
* You learn to develop a thick skin and how to use soft skills

**What would you advise a typical International student regarding resumes?**

* 3 R’s: Relevant, Reviewed and Readable
* Keep the resume short – up to 2 pages
* Use relevant verbs and transferrable skills
* Frame in the right language
* Read over with fresh eyes or get someone else to review it
* Check spelling, fonts and that it is easy to read
* Ensure enough white space
* Write your resume for the application and highlight points that are relevant for the role
* Think of yourself as a product
* Don’t only aim for the top tier organisations, you can do better in other organisations
* Many successful leaders have had successful careers in organisations that are not the top tier
* Include sports in your resume – it usually demonstrates that you are a team player

**General tips**

* LinkedIn: have a good picture and smile, Use Grammerly (https://www.grammarly.com/), Keywords help recruiters find you
* Never ask for a job, ask for advice or insights
* Do your research
* Upskill yourself
* Identify your career goals and align your work accordingly
* Look for a group that can support you
* Go to company websites
* Follow up monthly if unsuccessful
* Embrace the journey
* See the big picture
* Put things in perspective