

AIU[®]ink

AIU Alumni

Sharing Knowledge
and Making an Impact

An Entrepreneur
with Spirit: Rachel Green

Students Applaud
their Alumni Mentors

AIU Houston's 2017
Empowerment Summit

Take our Interviewing Quiz



American InterContinental University

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Kristy Kotek
Director of
Alumni Services

Dear Alumni,

When I reflect on our alumni population, I feel a great sense of pride. Our alumni are a reflection of our global presence and university spirit. It's a privilege to serve an alumni community located around the world.

Although AIU may have only been a part of your story for a few years, we hope the relationship with your alma mater is extensive. We aim to foster your pride and connection to AIU, through this publication. The articles are intended to bring value, information, and inspiration wherever you are.

As an alumnus, you may also become actively involved in our community through our various programs offered. Here are just a few ways:

- *Inspire AIU students as an Alumni Mentor*
- *Refer others to AIU as an Ambassador*
- *Share your knowledge and expertise as a volunteer speaker*
- *Tell your story and celebrate your success with the alumni community*

Learn more about the Alumni Association offerings online and contact Alumni Services with questions alumni@aiuniv.edu.

Thanks in advance for your continued AIU Pride! I am here to help you maintain a connection to AIU. Please feel free to contact me with ideas, questions, or just to share your story.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Kristy Kotek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Kristy Kotek

Alumni Spotlight

Rachel Green MBA 2015



Rachel Green's post-graduation goal was fairly typical among her peers: she aspired to land a corporate communications position which would allow her to provide for her family. Even though she'd grown up the daughter of two successful small business owners, she decided to put her own entrepreneurial dreams temporarily on hold in favor of gaining a foothold in the 9-to-5 sphere.

Her job hunt should have been an easy one. While still an undergraduate, Rachel gained a strong foundation in her field through a year-long internship at a public relations firm in Chicago. After devoting substantial time and effort to her search, she landed a position, only to be laid off. This unexpected twist spurred Rachel into action, and led her to reevaluate the possibilities, which included starting a company. "I decided that if the doors would not open for me, I'd create my own door," she said. With only a limited amount of time to rely on the cushion provided by unemployment, she needed to create her own door quickly.

Ironically, Rachel's future path benefited from revisiting the past. During a lengthy job search, she'd received and accepted requests to consult on a variety of projects. Though the pile of rejection letters grew in that six-month period, her victories outpaced them as she created a trail of satisfied clients, which created a foundation from which to launch her company. Rachel then evaluated her strengths and determined how to spin them into profitable offerings. Once opened, the door Rachel created for herself led to the launching of her firm, A Brand Called U, which offers a

knew it was possible," she said of her achievements. When planning for her own success, she drew on these examples from her early life.

The process of launching a new company has the potential to be overwhelming. But Rachel had equipped herself with a solid body of knowledge. Earning an MBA from AIU with a specialization in Marketing provided strong critical thinking and time management skills. While earning enough money to support her family remained vital, she also wanted, in her own words, to "bring joy to others."

"I truly enjoy seeing the joy on the faces of my clients when they received their first interview because of my services."

comprehensive range of public relations, digital marketing, brand consulting, and event management services.

Even though it hadn't been part of her early plans, "entrepreneurship was always an option as a career path," Rachel said. While her parents provided the closest examples of thriving self-employment, she gained further inspiration from neighbors and family friends who also ran businesses and gave back to the community. "It was because they paved the way, and because of my strong faith in God, that I always

Of all the services her company provides, the practice of public relations is a particular favorite. "I truly enjoy seeing the joy on the faces of my clients when they received their first interview because of my services," she said.

In a world dominated by online networking and social media marketing, Rachel has found old-school word-of-mouth to be the most effective. "I often receive calls or emails from future clients who were encouraged to contact me based off a conversation they had with

a current or former client,” she shared. “This has always been my strongest strategy and I’m sure it will remain a top source for client sourcing.”

But Rachel doesn’t rely on this one method to keep her business thriving. Instead, a multi-faceted approach helps her earn exposure and gain new clients. These strategies include writing articles and newsletters, speaking at

Entrepreneur of the Year.” In addition, she received Austin Inno’s 50 on Fire Award, which recognizes the contributions of the city’s most interesting and successful tech entrepreneurs and companies.

Rachel is happy to give generously of her expertise and share what she’s learned since launching A Brand Called U. Her most recent endeavor is teaching. She enjoys showing small business owners

The idea of plunging into a world where you don’t have the safety net of a steady paycheck can be fraught with anxiety. But Rachel’s mounting achievements are evidence that it can be done. “As an entrepreneur, I have the ability to focus my energy on my passion and dreams, and not that of someone else. I decide what I want to work on and am the owner of my career path. With that freedom comes peace of mind but also a

“I’m happy, I’m profitable, and I bring joy to others. It’s a no-brainer.”

conferences, and developing digital campaigns, all with the goal of promoting and publicizing her services. Rachel’s impact is especially apparent in her hometown, where she’s been generating useful local publicity, thanks to recognition from Austin Monthly Magazine, which named her as the 2016 “Best in City

how to leverage the impact of do-it-yourself public relations, and also collaborates with aspiring entrepreneurs, helping motivate them to attain their goals. In addition, she teaches public relations and marketing for the City of Austin Small Business Program at the University of Texas at Austin. An avid reader, she recommends Black Enterprise, Young, Fabulous, and Self-Employed, Tech Crunch, and Crain’s Business, and finds that Billion Dollar Buyer, Shark Tank, and The Profit are valuable programs worth watching.

sense of urgency that keeps me focused and excited each day.” Rachel has a final piece of advice for budding business owners. “Don’t be consumed by the conforms of what society says success should be,” she suggested. “Live outside your comfort zone, try new things, and never be afraid to build your own door.” 🙌



Rachel appreciates the freedom she enjoys as a result of hard work and ensuing success. She pointed out a common concern among workers, which she has firsthand experience with: “When I was an employee, I knew I was an ‘at will’ employee. Meaning, on any given day, they could eliminate my position.” As a business owner, she has flexibility and the unlimited potential to expand and grow her company however she pleases. Of her decision to become an entrepreneur, Rachel said, “I’m happy, I’m profitable, and I bring joy to others. It’s a no-brainer.”

AIU cannot guarantee employment or salary. Find employment rates, financial obligations and other disclosures at: www.aiuniv.edu/student-disclosures

Career success will depend largely on the effort put into studies, job search efforts, experience and attitude. The experience of this alumna is not representative of all students. This graduate story is unique and may not represent typical experiences or outcomes for our graduates. Graduates should expect to pursue entry-level opportunities in their chosen fields.

Mentoring Program

Students Applaud their Alumni Mentors

College is hard. Every student needs a support network to provide encouragement, guidance, and inspiration. While family, instructors, and friends can help form a support network, sometimes students need advice from someone who has been in their shoes. That is where an alumni mentor comes in.

Students share how their alumni mentor made a lasting impact on their AIU experience.

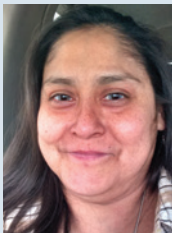


Melinda Belin thanks alumnus Anabel Velasquez—AABA, BBA and MBA graduate

My mentor, Ms. Anabel Velasquez, recently graduated from AIU on November 18th with her Master's in Business Administration; she has also received her Associate's and Bachelor's degree through AIU. My mentor is a professional who works at a university, and a mother of four beautiful children. In conversation, we have connected on so many levels and that is why I consider Anabel a dear friend. She understands the demands of being a mother and obtaining a degree. She understands how I feel when I express to her that I feel like I am neglecting my children in conducting family time.

She encourages me to keep a balance and make sure that my children understand that what I am trying to achieve not only benefits me, but my family.

My mentor has experienced extreme hardship while pursuing her degree but she persevered. Her perseverance allowed her to receive national acknowledgment in the AIU Alumni magazine. All that she had to endure strengthens me to know that if she can make it, I have no excuses. It is a dream of mine to stand where Anabel is today, being able to give back by helping others along the way. 🙌



Ignacia Kosterlitzky thanks alumnus Vanessa Moore—AABA and BIT graduate

When I first met my mentor Vanessa, she was very kind and willing to be there for me. I didn't take to her kindness because I just don't open up to others. I don't like to ask for help or even lean on someone when it's needed.

The first time I decide to call my mentor was because I had come up on an issue. I was happy I made the decision. Vanessa had the same experience that I was having. It may not have been directly the same but she could relate. Vanessa talked to me and helped me cope with it. Not

only how to handle it but how to move forward with the issue.

She has helped me believe in myself in the beginning of school. I reached out when I didn't think I could finish my school work on time. I got depressed with my life and talked to Vanessa about what I was feeling at that time. Her words were so warm and sincere it made me feel like there are people who care. She let me know that no matter what I am going through I don't have to do it alone. 🙌



Student Advising Recognizes the Value of Mentoring

As advisors in the Student Services department, our goal is to ensure AIU's student population receives the best support along with helpful information and resources. Since we've introduced the Mentor Program to AIU students, we're now able to see individuals who previously felt like giving up, now becoming inspired and confident in their ability to pursue successful and satisfying academic careers. These students see their Alumni Mentors as coaches, guides, confidants, and sometimes for the first time in their lives, are able to receive the support they've always wanted!

My students enjoy sharing stories and progress with their Alumni Mentors – it's gratifying to see a change in their overall mood and behavior. I wish all of our active students could have the opportunity to develop a rapport with an Alumni Mentor (an ambitious goal to be certain, but one worth working toward!) We are fortunate enough to have had AIU Alumni participate and act as the program's "pioneers" to ensure current students have a rewarding future! We look forward to a prosperous year and continued success in the Alumni Mentor Program! 🙌

Alumni Programs

Alumni Mentoring Live!

Alumni Mentors hosted the first *Alumni Mentoring Live!* event this year. Two mentors co-lead an hour long discussion around helpful topics such as; motivation, time management, and building a strong network. Outside of hearing great advice and insight from mentors, the event provides community to students who need extra support.

Alumni Ambassador Program

We often hear about alumni who inspire others to pursue a degree at AIU just by sharing their story. If you find that you're referring organically or would like to take a more active role referring family, friends, co-workers, or others in your community to the university, becoming an Alumni Ambassador might be a great opportunity for you.

Alumni Ambassadors receive a personalized referral webpage and

other helpful tools to make referring easy. By sharing your referral link, prospective students can complete an online form to jump start the process of potentially becoming an AIU student. Those you refer as an Alumni Ambassador, also have the opportunity to receive a \$1,000 Alumni Referral Grant toward their education once all conditions have been met.

Becoming an Alumni Ambassador can also help hone your networking,

professional communication and presentation skills. It's a wonderful chance to expand on your experience and add to your resume!

If you're interested in opening the door of opportunity for others while developing professionally and personally, [click here](#) to learn more about the Alumni Ambassador role! 📌

Be an Alumni Volunteer Speaker

As an AIU alumnus, you have the opportunity to share your experiences and knowledge with our students and your fellow alumni as a volunteer guest speaker.

As a motivational speaker you'd have the opportunity to share your AIU story. Students are often inspired by hearing the challenges alumni overcame while pursuing their degree and the impact their degree made on their life.

If you're experienced in your field, you can address topics related to your industry. Offering insights about your professional journey can provide valuable information to students and alumni entering the workforce.

Contact Alumni Services at alumni@aiuniv.edu if you're interested in volunteering to speak at an AIU event! 📌

Alumni Discounts and Savings

Everyone likes a good deal! Alumni can take advantage of the exclusive nationwide savings network available. Discounts feature big savings from popular restaurants, retailers, hotels, theme parks and so much more.

Use the mobile app for access to mobile coupons or easily print coupons online. 📌

Use registration code AIUAlumni#.

Sign up &
start saving
NOW!

Alumni Spotlight

Renzo Campanella BBA 2010



When Renzo Campanella worked in a warehouse moving boxes and containers of merchandise, he dreamed of bigger things. “I always knew it was not permanent but I was the best warehouse employee,” he remembers. “Regardless of the task I had to do, even sweeping floors, I did it in an excellent manner. By doing that every time, it helped me create self-discipline to always strive for excellence.” That desire to strive for excellence proved crucial in 2010 when he was let go by an insurance agency. Rather than being disappointed, the Florida native and Ft. Lauderdale resident saw an opportunity. “I talked to my wife about the possibility of buying an insurance agency so I could run it with some money we had saved,” he says. “She was very happy about the idea; however, I was a little reluctant due to the fact that I didn’t have any family or friend support on this new journey... just God and the little money we had. So on February 15, 2011, I signed my first business purchase agreement – the best decision I ever made.” Campanella, 32, is now owner of Allstar Assurance, a statewide multi-line property and

casualty insurance agency in Sunrise, Florida. The company provides customizable policies for businesses and individuals in auto, home, life, health and commercial insurance.

None of this would have been possible, Campanella says, without the education and support he received from AIU. A May 2010 graduate from the AIU Weston campus with a Bachelor of Business Administration and concentration in International Business, Campanella says AIU helped him realize a distant idea he always had. “Anything is possible if

“From the greeting people to the professors and the administration office, AIU gave me the strength and the tools.”

you set your mind to it,” he explains. “From the greeting people to the professors and the administration office, AIU gave me the strength and the tools... even the emotional aspect due to not having strong family support to finish a career in International Business.” He’s had the opportunity to apply his education and the tools he learned at AIU in the real world and has found success as an entrepreneur and business owner. “I can personally tell you that it applies and it works,” Campanella says. “From how to present a new product in front of a company board to redacting emails professionally, AIU provided the mechanisms to be successful in the business environment.

The class settings were really helpful because it stimulated an opportunity to have a closer relationship with the professors giving a chance for the students to ask as many questions as we could without reservation. Also, the lectures were hands-on and real world driven; concocting for what was waiting for us in corporate America and not for an imaginary workplace.”

One of Campanella’s most memorable AIU experiences was with the financial aid office. “The financial aid lady really did an amazing job making sure my

classes were paid and I didn’t have any issues with my FASFA,” he remembers. “She was always, and I really mean always, very helpful. I would come to her office and map out all my classes by semester creating a road map and a vision for me to follow and finish my career.” That vision along with an incredible work ethic and enthusiasm has helped him carve out a niche in the insurance industry and grow his business over the past six years. “Having worked in the insurance industry for many years, I developed numerous ideas and procedures that I always thought to be more efficient for our line of work,” he explains. “My immediate action was to put these procedures in

place with the very first client creating a new company culture, even though it was only me, that was resourceful and efficient. When we started hiring staff, the company culture was in place already and this paved the way for us to spend time in other areas generating more income.”

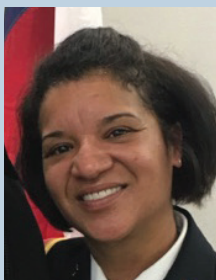
Campanella credits his success to providing excellent customer service combined with a resolve to never give up and keep moving forward. “Stay honest, keep educating yourself and never be

satisfied with the current results,” he advises. “There is always better ahead. I have always said that I might not be the smartest guy in the room but my work ethic is nothing but the very best. We all get our chances in life. It is up to the individual to make the most of it. AIU Weston was not the biggest campus in Florida, but I made it look that way in my mind every time I set foot through that door giving myself an opportunity to enjoy the journey and not take for granted the education I was given.” 🙌

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Military News



Alumnus Get Promoted to Major

Major April Lewis attained her AIU BBA degree in 2006 while attending Officer Candidate School (OCS).

“I enlisted into the Army National Guard Reserves in June 1997 as a medic. In 2005, I attended OCS and graduated 2006. My branch is

Logistics; I’ve completed Officer Basic Course and Captain’s Career Course.

I had a variety of options; however, my two favorites were Maintenance Control Officer for the 736th Component Repair Company in Gatesville, TX, and Company Commander for the 36th Sustainment Bde. in Temple, TX. I enjoyed these positions because I

worked with the troops and felt I could make a difference. I know I could not change the Army, but I can help change my piece of the world for the good.

I am current Active Duty and work in the Pentagon for the G-48 (Logistics-Resource Management).”

Congratulations, Major Lewis! 🙌

Alumnus Speaks to AIU Atlanta Veteran Students

Donald Warren, AIU Alumnus (MBA, 2015) and Supervisor of the Atlanta Disabled American Veterans (DAV) spoke to Atlanta veteran students on Tuesday, March 28 about benefits. Members of the Atlanta VA also presented to the students. 🙌



AIU Presents at EANGUS Legislative Session in D.C.

Senior National Military Relations Manager Trent Orndorf presented on AIU to the state presidents at the Annual Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Legislative Session in Washington, D.C. in February. He met with the EANGUS leadership to promote the EANGUS Scholarship and to find better ways to improve the relationship between AIU and the National Guard. 🙌

AIU Speaks about Employment Opportunities

Roll Call, a support group for former and current military members led by Army Veteran Scott Stratton, held an event on Feb. 7. Roll Call hosts and supports networking events that promote employment opportunities. National Military Relations Manager Ivan Hernandez was personally invited to the event by Mr. Stratton. During the networking sessions, Ivan was able to talk to several military members about AIU’s Admissions positions. 🙌

Campus Events

Empowerment Summit

The AIU Houston campus held their 2017 Empowerment Summit—"How well do you plan to shine?" on Wednesday, March 1st. The event brought together aspiring students with seasoned professionals in one place to interact and share career advice. Enthusiastic students asked questions ranging from entrepreneurship to qualities that the professionals look for in a candidate. Around 50 students attended to soak up inspiration and information to help them achieve their goals.

Juanita Hines, Speaker/HR & Educational Consultant, shared insightful information during the event that focused on promoting strategic career navigation.

"Students and professionals need to be engaged in whatever you are doing. Engagement requires more than simply showing up and allows people to achieve greater results. Often times we fall into our careers and let things happen to us rather than directing the course of our careers because the initial newness and excitement of the company has worn off. Professionals should not just allow things to happen but rather, they should begin to think strategically about the direction of their career. If you don't know where you're going, how will you know when you get there?

Set strategic goals. If you can't measure it, you can't track your progress. Prior to attending college, my goal was always to GO to college and when I finally made it to college, I treated it as an experience in which I was happy just going to



The guest speakers included: Ray LaSrape Owner, All About People; Dr. Princess Mokolo Alumna & founder/CEO, Lucinma Women Development Centre; Dr. Chantell Hines Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Lone Star College; Juanita Hines Speaker/ HR & Educational Consultant, Regional Consulting

college. I wasn't engaged in my academic career; however, following my freshman year and taking a year off, I realized the need to change my mindset. I changed my thought process from "GOING to college" and restructured my goal year to GRADUATING from college. Once I shifted my mindset, I began to prioritize my collegiate experience more effectively. Changing the goal helped to direct the activities I participated in, what I engaged in and the amount of time I spent studying.

Never stop learning. Invest in your career. Often times people will pay \$300 for a purse, watch or shoes but will not pay \$300 to attend a professional conference. By investing in your career, you are investing in yourself and far too many times people fail to make the connection. Your constant commitment to learning will result in growth and can help you to think strategically about your career.

In the book I wrote on writing resumes, "Master Your Career Playbook: Resumes," I talk about the importance of writing your resume when you're not necessarily job seeking. What generally happens is people get into their careers and they are happy with their jobs and then a layoff or unexpected turn happens. People are often taken so off guard, they don't know where to start and devastation sets in; which results in looking for "anything." But if you are cognizant about tracking the things that you do within your role and the achievements that you've accomplished; you will be better positioned to move forward in your career. Therefore, you may want to consider keeping a running list of your accomplishments while you are in your current role.

One of the most important pieces of advice that I can give is to add value in whatever you do. Be seen as a resource. As a go-to person. Some professionals believe that if they are

in a position where they are the only person doing the job and have all of the information, that they will have job security and will never get fired or laid off. But you must also keep in mind, if you're irreplaceable, you're also not promotable. That's often how people get pigeonholed into positions. Don't hoard knowledge.

Share the information with others, train others, and become seen as a resource.

Ms. Hines's goal is to empower individuals with the tools they need to succeed. She provides dual-faceted training and development services, and regularly partners

with high schools and colleges to train students on areas ranging from resume writing and salary negotiation to effectively resolving conflict and social media. We are excited to share her advice with our entire alumni community. 🙌

Graduation 2017



2017 Summer Commencement Ceremonies

Hundreds of graduates will walk the stage again this summer near our campus locations in Atlanta, Chicago and Houston. The University is looking forward to celebrating with our 2017 graduates and seeing the Alumni Association grow. 🙌

Ceremony Location	Ceremony Date	Venue
Houston	Friday, June 23, 2017	First Methodist Houston
Atlanta	Friday, July 14, 2017	Georgia World Congress Center
Chicago	Saturday, August 5, 2017	Navy Pier Grand Ballroom

Chicago's Ceremony Keynote Speaker



We are excited to announce Wes Moore as the keynote speaker for the August 5, 2017 Chicago commencement ceremony at the Navy Pier Grand Ballroom!

Wes is a national best-selling author, social entrepreneur, education advocate, producer, motivational leader, and decorated US Army officer.

His first book, *The Other Wes Moore*, became an instant New York Times and Wall Street Journal bestseller which captured the nation's attention on what draws the line between success and failure in our communities. His first book was followed by: *Discovering Wes Moore*, *The Work* and *This Way Home*.

A successful and sought-after speaker, Moore entrances audiences with his infectious zest for life. He has been featured in USA Today, Time Magazine, People Magazine, Meet the Press, The Colbert Report,

MSNBC and NPR, among many other media outlets. Moore is also the host of *Beyond Belief* on the Oprah Winfrey Network, and the executive producer and host of PBS's *Coming Back with Wes Moore*, which focuses on the re-integration of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and their return home.

Moore doesn't just profess his dedication to social justice — he creates real positive change to better lives. While a student at Johns Hopkins University, he founded STAND!, an organization which works with Baltimore youth in the criminal justice system. More recently, he is the founder and CEO of BridgeEdU, an innovative college platform that addresses the college completion and job placement crisis. BridgeEdU reinvents the freshman year in a way that engages students in real-world internships and service-learning opportunities in addition to core academic classes.

We are honored to have such a special guest join us on graduation day to celebrate our graduates! 🙌

Career Services

Career Services on Facebook Live

This past March, Director of Career Services, Tricia Sigler, moderated a live stream event on Facebook while Career Coaches, Dustin Lingemann and Brian Solar shared information, tips, and answered questions on how AIU Career Services could help YOU! If you didn't catch the event, read highlights here and check out the recording on AIU's Facebook page.

What you might not know about Career Services

Brian Solar shared information about the employer network and employer development team:

We have a fantastic employer development team that works tirelessly in creating relationships with different employers. We try to focus on the degree programs that are offered at AIU. The employer development team is also in charge of AIU's Employer Network, which is a resource specifically for students and alumni of AIU. What's different about the resource

is that it only lists positions with companies that our Employer Relations team has developed relationships with. We then have the opportunity to follow up on the application with the employer.

Visit AIU's Employer Network! Dustin Lingemann, talks about how Career Coaches are certified professional resume writers:

The first thing an employer sees is your resume; it's your first interaction. We have to make sure

the resume is speaking to what you can bring to that company and how you're going to be an effective addition to that employer. By being certified we are staying up to speed on the trends and current market to ensure that your resume is going to speak to those needs. Being certified enhances the opportunity to know that we are on track with what you need to incorporate on your resume, and maybe some things that you may not have known to have on your resume. 📌

Job Searching Advice from Career Services

What resume mistakes should you avoid?

Stay away from colored fonts. It's more distracting than helpful! Resumes are looked at for only 20-30 seconds. Instead of writing lengthy paragraphs keep content concise. Also, save your pictures for your LinkedIn profile. The resume should be focused on your skills and experiences.

How do I get my resume past applicant tracking systems and into the hands of a hiring manager?

Read the job description. Then, identify all of the responsibilities and skills that the employer is

seeking for the right candidate. Make sure you highlight all of the skills that you have and list them on your resume. This will allow your key skills to stand out and for your resume to get past the tracking system. It's really about quality over quantity.

Do I need to submit a cover letter?

A cover letter is absolutely needed for any application. Some recruiters want them and some of them don't. A cover letter is going to demonstrate your skills that aren't on your resume. Most make a pitfall by putting the same information on the cover letter that is on the resume. That's not effective

because employers are going to look at both. You want to focus on your sincere interest in the position on the cover letter. You want to identify two skillsets you have that are required for the position and focus on how you've utilized those skillsets in your work experience or education. This can further demonstrate that you may be a good fit.

For more tips and advice view the full event on AIU's Facebook page. If you're an alumnus and engaged in a job search, connect with a Career Coach today at 877-221-5800 option 5 or careerservices@aiuonline.edu. Career Services is here to partner with you! 📌

Building Employer Relationships

AIU's Employer Development team's primary goal is to build bridges that connect AIU students and alumni with hiring companies looking to recruit employees with the skills, abilities and knowledge possessed by our graduates. You can easily access opportunities on the Employer Network job board!

Our employer relationships also help us to collect, develop and share relevant industry information and workforce intelligence, such

as emerging markets and in-demand job skills, during Career Conferences, Feature Employer event, and Employer Information Sessions (EIS).

Our 2017 Employer Information Sessions (EIS) have included industry leaders such as Amazon, American Cancer Society, and Fifth Third Bank. Stay tuned in for future events by checking your email and connecting with AIU on social media!

If you're alumni that would like to market your employer, please contact Employer Development @ employerservices@aiuniv.edu for more information.

Companies can also list opportunities on AIU's Employer Network, www.jobs.net/jobs/aiu/en-us/ to attract the same quality of employee that you represent! 📢

AIU Recognition



U.S. News & World Report

We are proud to share that once again, **U.S. News & World Report**

has ranked AIU among its list of Best Online Bachelor's Programs for 2017. AIU also ranked among the Best Online Bachelor's Programs for Veterans and the Best Online Graduate Education programs.

This recognition is deeply appreciated by the University and one that we're proud to share with our alumni.

"We're honored by this recognition, as we at AIU strive to provide our students with quality degree programs that truly serve their needs and goals," says Dr. Ruki Jayaraman, AIU provost and chief academic officer. "Our focus is on the students we serve, and these rankings tell us that we're delivering on our student-centric mission."

U.S. News & World Report is one of the leading providers of consumer advice and analysis and is a trusted

resource. For the 2017 Best Online Bachelor's Programs, the publication assessed schools in four categories: student engagement, faculty credentials and training, student services and technology, and peer reputation.

View the full results at <http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education>.

We are very excited to share this news with you and hope you take as much pride in it as we do! 📢

AIU Stories™ Receives Noteworthy Attention

We're excited to share that AIU Stories – our documentary series featuring AIU alumni Lori Wilcox, Ramon Romero and Amanda Schmeichel – won a Shorty Award for the Best in Education category! The annual Shorty Awards recognize the best content creators and producers in social media.

If you haven't seen AIU Stories, or would like another motivational lift, check out our alumni. Their stories reflect the motivations, goals and challenges of both current and future students. We are proud of the third-party validation we continue to receive for AIU Stories because it is a visible demonstration of the pride we have in our students and all of you. 📢

AIU STORIES™

AIU Stories has been recognized with the following awards:

2016 Educational Digital Marketing Award
for Total Digital Marketing Program

2016 AVA Digital Marketing Award for Educational
Institution and Digital Marketing Campaign

2016 MarCom Award for Film/Video-Educational
Institution and Integrated Campaign

Interviewing Quiz

Will you ace your next interview? Take this quiz brought to you by Career Services to see how prepared you are!

1. **When should you arrive at your interview?**
 - a. Between 10-15 minutes early
 - b. At the exact time of the scheduled interview
 - c. Half an hour early
 - d. Casually late
2. **What should you NOT do when receiving a call for an interview?**
 - a. Take notes
 - b. Get interviewers name, contact, and location information
 - c. Discuss salary requirements
3. **What is NOT an effective way to research an organization?**
 - a. Calling company's competitors
 - b. Company webpage
 - c. LinkedIn
 - d. Hoovers
4. **Of the following, what is a good way to prepare for an interview?**
 - a. Smoke to calm the nerves
 - b. Listen to music while waiting in the lobby
 - c. Research the interviewer on LinkedIn
 - d. Memorize answers to popular interview questions
5. **What should you NOT have on hand when entering an interview?**
 - a. Multiple copies of your resume
 - b. A signed affidavit from your landlord
 - c. Note pad and pen
 - d. List of references
6. **True or False:** You should always be sure to bring up your personal life and interests in an interview to establish a connection with the interviewer.
7. **True or False:** The most qualified candidate almost always gets the job.
8. **How should you respond when an interviewer questions your employment gaps?**
 - a. Give a detailed explanation of what situation that caused the gap
 - b. Address the volunteering, education, or self-employment you had during that time
 - c. Explain how the situation that caused the gap was top priority and employment wasn't a focus
 - d. Say you prefer to have time in-between jobs to refocus
9. **An employer's main concern is what when you answer a question?**
 - a. How you will save them money
 - b. How you will save them time
 - c. How you will solve their problems
 - d. Any of the above
10. **True or False:** Your accomplishment should only be examples from previous work experience.
11. **What is NOT a good question to ask the interviewer?**
 - a. What is the position open?
 - b. What are some of the challenges of the position?
 - c. What are the medical benefits?
 - d. What do you feel sets your company apart from the competition?
12. **True or False:** It is always best to overdress then underdress for an interview.
13. **True or False:** The only skills you want to talk about with the employer are those that pertain to the position.
14. **What is NOT something you should do after an interview?**
 - a. Email a thank you letter a day after the interview
 - b. Ask the interviewer if you can connect via Facebook for networking purposes
 - c. Ask about the next steps of the process
 - d. Ask for contact information/business card of interviewer
15. **What is NOT an appropriate follow-up procedure?**
 - a. Emailing a thank you letter within 24 hours
 - b. Mailing a thank you letter within 3 days
 - c. Calling for a scheduled follow-up
 - d. Follow up with HR on your status
 - e. None of the above



Answers & Tips

1. A. You never want to show up too early as it can cause the interviewer to feel rushed, as if they need to drop what they are doing. You should also never show up late to an interview as it's unprofessional to make anyone wait. It's always best to show up 10-15 minutes early as it allows you time to park, find the office, and get situated before the interview starts.

2. C. It's never a good idea to discuss salary until either an offer has been made or the interviewer brings up the topic. You don't want to come across as if you have the job already by discussing salary. You still need to work on marketing your skills and abilities.

3. A. Calling a company's competitors will not provide you with the information you need to deliver a successful interview. Instead focus on reviewing the company webpage, read up on their mission statement and any recent news. Also LinkedIn and Hoovers are great sites to uncover additional items that you might be able to leverage during the interview.

4. C. It's always a good idea to conduct research on your interviewer by reviewing their LinkedIn profile. This will give you insight on their professional background, skills sets, etc... that might be indicators on what qualifications they would be looking for in a candidate.

5. B. While an affidavit is unnecessary, it's best to always bring multiple copies of your resume as you never know how many people will be joining the interview. Bringing something to write on and a pen is a good idea as well, because there might be a time when the interviewer provides you information about the position, company, etc... and writing all this down shows importance and professionalism. And then lastly, having on hand a list of references incase an employer requests them, this way you won't have them waiting on you to submit this later.

6. False. An interview is a time to only discuss your professional self. Discussing your personal life can open up opportunities to be discriminated against, and it's better to be safe than sorry.

7. False. The person that delivers the best interview is usually the person that gets the job. Someone could be great on paper, display qualifications beyond what the interviewer is looking for, but if that person delivers a mediocre or bad interview, odds are they will hire someone else. Personality and strong communication are key. You need to be able to effectively communicate your qualifications in terms of what you've accomplished, along with displaying a good personality.



8. B. This allows you to show personal growth during that time period. With volunteering, you can show skills and achievements that may be transferable to the position you are interviewing for. With education, it shows that you took the time to invest in your career.

9. D. An interview is a great time to show your value to an organization. Always keep in mind to answer, "Why should I hire you." By showing either how you can save money, production/time, or potential issues, you are able to show your increased value to the company.

10. False. While showcasing accomplishments from previous work experience is a fantastic approach, it doesn't need to be your only one. You can also showcase accomplishments through education and/or volunteer experience.

11. C. While an interview should be a two way conversation, there are a few areas you want to avoid asking during the interview stage; mainly salary and benefits.

12. True. While nobody is expecting you to wear a tuxedo or evening gown to an interview, it is always best to dress business professional. Even if the company is a casual environment, take the time to showcase your professionalism.

13. False. Obviously, you want to showcase your skills that are valuable to the position. However, don't limit yourself. Show how you can be beneficial as a multi-faceted employee.

14. B. While it is generally not acceptable to connect with your employer at many organizations, the interview is no place to work on Facebook. If you are interested in networking, use LinkedIn.

15. E. All of these are excellent ways to reach out, just don't be overbearing. One thank you letter per interview is enough.



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