

PMI 2 Funded Pilot Project Report

University of East Anglia Careers Service/ Dean of Students Office

Bid leader – Lisa-Rose Moller, International Students Career Development Adviser
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Aims of the project

- To collect good case-study material relating to the successful employment of international students in the UK and abroad.
- To develop closer links with international alumni
- To share case studies across the sector
- To encourage innovative ways to develop alumni-employer contacts

About the project

Eight month PMI Project funded by AGCAS, £4,000 awarded.

Process

The International Students Career Development Adviser worked closely with the Alumni office, International Recruitment team, Dean of Students' office and the Careers Centre to meet the objectives of the bid. Research was conducted and electronic and written case studies were produced and published. Various means were used to collect the case studies including;

- A survey of 5,000 recent international graduates
- Contacts gained through the International Office and Alumni Office
- Contacts made through the Dean of Students' and Careers Centre
- Personal contacts
- Visit to China

Survey

With considerable help from the Alumni office, 5,000 international graduates of the University were contacted through the Alumni monthly e-newsletter and were asked to complete the attached survey. 28 different nationalities, located in 42 different countries responded. A £50 prize to one participant was offered as an incentive. A total of 96 graduates completed the survey. (See *Appendix 1 for Survey questions*)

Types of Employment

Most common employment Industry was education (teaching): 22 respondents were involved in education or teaching, mainly higher education.

Other industries included: law, banking, consultancy, marketing, government work

Location of Employment

No. of students working in home country: 46 (64%)

No. students working in UK: 6 (8%)

No. students working in a country that is not their home country and not the UK: 27 (37%)

Current Employment Status

	No. Responders	%
Employed full-time in paid work	69	7
Employed part-time in paid work	5	5.
Self-employed or freelance	11	11
In voluntary work	2	2
Unable to work (e.g.: sick, looking after family)	0	0
Not working (e.g.: travelling, retired)	1	1
Unemployed and looking for work	3	3
Studying at a graduate or professional level	5	5

Collection of Case Studies

Contacts gained through International Recruitment Office

Worked closely with the International Recruitment Office, attended meetings and gave regular briefings and email updates to the team on the progress of the project. As a result, the International Officers were empowered to contact some graduates that they had met as they visited different countries around the world and they shared their contact details with the Careers Centre, for the purpose of the project.

Contacts gained through the Alumni Office

Worked closely with the Alumni office and had regular meetings and briefings, for the purpose of coordinating the successful collection of case studies. As well as organising the survey of 5,000 graduates, the Alumni Office also contacted UEA's worldwide International Ambassadors, who volunteer their time to building up the alumni networks in their respective countries. Many of these International Ambassadors submitted their career case study for the project.

Also worked with the Alumni Office on the International Student Summer Party which allowed an opportunity to make further contacts with International Students due to graduate from the University and encouraged them to share their Career case studies with us in the future.

Contacts made through the Dean of Students' and Post Study Visa workshop

The International Students Career Development Adviser's, post is split between the International Student Advice Team and the Careers Centre. On behalf of the International Student Advice Team I run the regular Post Study Visa workshop and advise on the application and as a result have been able to make many good contacts with soon to be

graduates of the University, some of whom have gone on to obtain successful positions in the UK.

Contacts made through the Careers Centre and Careers Events

As the International Students Career Development Adviser, I also work regularly in the Career Centre and see all students for quick queries and for longer guidance appointments. This has also proved to be a useful way of making good contacts with International Students about to graduate and move into their careers.

We have also been successful in engaging further with the International graduates who have supplied case studies, through involving them in careers events aimed at current international students. (*See Appendix 2 for the Programme of the Global Careers Day, attended by two of the International graduates.*)

Personal contacts

As I was working on the project, I actually met quite a few graduates of the University in different settings and was able to successfully engage them in the project and in further supporting the work of the Careers Centre.

Visit to China (11 – 22nd March 2010)

As part of the project an agreement was reached with the International Recruitment Office, whereby they would pay the flights to China, if I assisted with two weekend recruitment fairs and attend British Council Alumni events but primarily use the time to personally meet graduates of the University and record their best memories of UEA and their career case studies in English and Chinese.

The Alumni office helped in finding the graduates in China by sending out an invitation letter to all known alumni in China. From the responses we received we were able to arrange which graduates to meet and use for the video case studies.

I was able to meet 18 graduates of UEA in Beijing and Shanghai. I was also able to meet 8 of their employers and discussed possible internship opportunities and their potential involvement in a virtual Global Careers Fair to be hosted by UEA in April 2011.

The recordings of the graduates have now been edited and made into a short 3 minute introductory video (in English and Chinese) about UEA graduates working in China and their advice for current international students. 18 individual video podcasts in both languages have also been produced and will be hosted on the Careers Centre website with links to the Alumni and International Recruitment offices.

(See Appendix 3 for the questions that the graduates were asked for the Careers Case Study.)

Outcomes

There have been many successful outcomes of this project including:

- 80 International case studies collected (*See Appendix 4*)

- Employer database produced (*See attached Excel spreadsheet*)
- Survey results
- 1 introductory video in English and Chinese
- 18 individual video pod casts in English and Chinese
- 200 copies of 'International Alumni, Career Case Studies' booklet produced (*to be posted separately*)
- Employers' agreement on participation in a virtual Global careers fair in April 2011
- Internship opportunities offered for current students by employers of graduates
- Alumni that I met in China are being used again by the International Recruitment Office in a pre-departure briefing for future students to the University, thereby encouraging the development of closer links with the International Alumni.

Budget

Through the course of the project, the budget had to be re-adjusted slightly as new initiatives were planned. However, at the end of the project, we were successful in spending the £4,000 as indicated below:

Buy out of time of International Students' Career Development Adviser	£1,000
Data analysis, survey report writing, booklet production	£700
Clerical support	£500
Materials for workshops and events	£660
Travel and subsistence in China to meet alumni and employers	£1,140

Conclusion & Evaluation

In conclusion, this project has met its agreed objectives. It has:

- developed and shared employer contacts abroad and examples of successful recruitment back in the graduate's home countries
- developed and shared employer contacts and examples of successful recruitment of international graduates in the UK
- developed closer links with international alumni
- encouraged the wider sharing of contacts and case-studies with AGCAS services
- provided further data for the shared PMI 2 funded employer database developed jointly by the Careers Group, University of London with HECSU
- disseminated, via this report, a methodology for enhancing HEI's contacts with International alumni and knowledge of their career paths post graduation

Throughout the period of the project, the steering group met monthly to ensure that the project was meeting agreed objectives.

The following feedback from a current international student at the University regarding the project was received

“Seeing my UEA alumni having a good job in China, and making achievements in various work fields is really inspiring.” (Qi-Yao Wang)

UEA will continue to evaluate the project materials and web site beyond the funded lifetime of the initiative. The materials created will also be used in career development workshops for current International students and feedback will be sought as to whether the case study materials and contact details were useful.

Further action

As a result of the work that has been achieved through this project we will continue to work closely with our International Alumni and aim to coordinate a networking system, whereby current students can make contact with International graduates and seek advice and guidance in pursuing different careers.

We will also aim to further develop our Country Profiles guides for the main countries represented at the University, to further assist International Students in their career development.

Finally, we hope to host a virtual Global Careers Fair in April 2011, with participation of the International Alumni and Employers who have been contacted through this project.

Lisa-Rose Moller
International Students Career Development Adviser
University of East Anglia

June 2010

Appendix 1 – Survey questions

1. Please give your details:
 - a. Surname
 - b. First name
 - c. UEA school of study
 - d. Year of graduation

2. What are your current circumstances?
 - a. Employed full-time in paid work
 - b. Employed part-time in paid work
 - c. Self-employed or freelance
 - d. In voluntary work
 - e. Unable to work (eg: sick, looking after family)
 - f. Not working (eg: travelling, retired)
 - g. Unemployed and looking for work
 - h. Studying (see Q3 below)

3. Are you currently studying or training?
 - a. Yes, at graduate or professional level
 - b. Yes, below graduate or professional level
 - c. No

4. What is your job title? (eg: Marketing Officer)

5. Briefly describe your duties (eg: book advertising and assist in PR)

6. Name of employer organisation (eg: Microsoft)

7. What does your organisation primarily do? (eg: software development)

8. Where in the world are you employed?
 - Country
 - City

9. Please briefly describe your career path since leaving UEA.

This survey is used to collect data for quality assurance purposes and to provide a statistical analysis reflecting the destinations of the graduate population. It is invaluable to the University for both reviewing content and promoting courses, together with informing staff and students regarding the graduate employment market and helping students understand career options. It is always used in an anonymised, coded form and you cannot be identified from the information we publish.

We would like to make some of this information available anonymously to other UEA students and graduates. Please tick this box if you would not like us to publish the information you provide.

Appedix 2 - Global Careers Day – March 4th, Constable Terrace Common Room

Purpose

A careers day aimed at International Students. The Global Careers Day will consist of a programme of short 30 mins seminars covering a variety of career related topics.

Programme

- 11.30 –** Registration (Tea & Coffee available)
- 12-1pm –** Immigration talk from Fisher Jones Greenwood (Lilia Scott)
 - 1-1.30pm –** Why volunteer? (Elaine Sherriffs, UEA Volunteering, Daniel Ingram & Andrew Morton, Norfolk Volunteers)
 - 1.30-2pm –** English Language Tips for CVs and applications (Chris Bishop)
 - 2 – 2.30pm –** Using a recruitment agency (Maxine Ettridge, Reed Global)
 - 2.30 -3pm –** Introduction of new country specific resources. (China) (LRM)
 - 3-3.30pm -** Opportunities with Grow in Finance (Live presentation from Barcelona)
 - 3.30 – 4pm -** Former international alumni speak about their experience of getting work in the UK. (Riccardo Santos, Aviva, Gaby Cabrildo, Midwich)
- 4-5pm –** Seminar for Japanese speaking Students only (CCEN Group Room)
DISCO International (Development of Information Services for Career Opportunities)

Appendix 3 – Case study questions

1. What did you study at UEA and when did you graduate?
2. What are your best memories of studying at UEA?
3. Your current location (e.g. Norwich, United Kingdom)
4. Current job title and occupation
5. Employer and industry (e.g. Apple Mac and IT)
6. How did you go about finding employment opportunities?
7. Please explain how your career has developed from when you graduated, to how you got to where you are today - mentioning the steps that you took along the way
8. What would your advice be, to current students, on how to find employment?
9. What skills did you acquire during your studies, which help you in your present role?
10. Do you have any further advice for future international students, regarding career planning and the University experience?

Appendix 4 - University of East Anglia Alumni Careers Case Studies



Organised by student nationality

- **ARGENTINA**

Professor

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA Education and Professional Development

Year Graduated: 2001

Organisation: Universidad Nacional de Misiones

Industry: Education

Location: Argentina

Job Description / Duties:

I hold a tenured position at the University. I am in charge of the English chair at the school of the exact sciences (UNaM), Posadas, Argentina. I am involved in teaching, research and extension activities.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I have been head of the department for 10 years, Head of the entrance scheme, Head of a Programme to help researchers publish in English. Head of one of six ToEFL iBT centres in Argentina.

- **AUSTRIA**

Masters Student / Project Manager

Current state of employment: Studying at a graduate or professional level/Employed part time

Course at UEA: BSc Environmental Sciences with a year in Australia

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: The Children's House Vienna

Industry: Childcare

Location: Austria

Job Description / Duties:

Attending and planning meetings with lawyers, architects, banks and government ministries and writing project reports.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I graduated from UEA in 2009, I am currently a masters student in Vienna doing an MSc in Environmental Technology and International Affairs. At the same time I am working part-time for the Children's House.

- **BANGLADESH**

Environment Specialist

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Climate Change

Year Graduated: 2006

Organisation: Asian Development Bank (ADB), Bangladesh Resident Mission.

Industry: Environment

Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Job Description / Duties:

My major work areas are mainstreaming of climate change and environment in country development planning. Implementation project related to environment and climate change.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Soon after completion of MSc in Climate Change, I return to my home country Bangladesh and joined as a Senior Program Officer (Climate change) in IUCN Bangladesh. Then I worked six months for UNDP energy and climate change cluster as a National Consultant. After that I worked as a 'Climate Risk Assessment & Adaptation Specialist' for 8 months in ADB. Currently I am working as an 'Environment Specialist' with ADB.

Advice for other international students?

My advice to the current student is that try to study what you love and what you believe and would like to involved in the future. Study the subject which will not merely benefit you and your family but bring benefit to the society. You must have to contribute for the development of your surrounding people. So, the study purpose should not like that you will got a job after graduation in a multi-national company with handsome salary. The study ultimate objective should be oriented towards betterment for the society and human wellbeing. Honestly speaking, I am now dedicatedly working for the reduction of climate risks of climate vulnerable coastal peoples of Bangladesh and feel happy for this.

- **BOTSWANA**

Acting Research Manager

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA in the School of Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: Local Enterprise Authority

Industry: Government Services

Location: Gaborone, Botswana

What did you do previous to your current job?



I completed my MA in 2003 and went back to my employer, Botswana Government Ministry of Local Government. In recognition of my additional skills acquired through my training at UEA, I was promoted from a Junior Researcher to a full Researcher in 2004. In 2006, I was appointed Senior Research Officer. I moved jobs in June 2007 to join a new parastatal that had just been formed to offer business development services as a Research Officer. In 2009, I was appointed Research Manager on an acting basis, a position I am currently holding.

Advice for other international students?

Do not limit yourself, combine different subjects areas especially at post graduate. This will help to open different career paths when you complete your studies. My advice, would be flaunt your qualifications, especially if they have been obtained outside your country of origin. When you make applications; always enclose your transcript, not the degree only. Employers tend to pay more attention to the actual subjects you studied but not the title of the degree!

• BRAZIL

Programme Coordinator, U4 Anti Corruption Resource Centre

Curret state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA International Relations and Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: Chr Michelsen Institute

Industry: Anti-corruption

Location: Bergen, Norway

What did you do previous to your current job?

I left UEA to an unpaid internship in Brussels. This was not a completely thought through strategy, but as early as Jan or Feb 2004, the year in which I should submit my dissertation, I thought that I had to try applying for positions or otherwise I would be forced to go back into my previous career (I worked as journalist in Brazil).

I decided to take an MA much older than many of my British university colleagues, so I had left a career behind and consciously decided to step into a totally new field, with the implications that starting fresh usually bring, such as lower pay and having a lot to learn to climb the ladder). Having this unpaid internship gave me some time to apply for jobs after submitting my dissertation and allowed me to meet interesting people and establish contacts that could eventually lead me to a job. Obviously, unpaid work for 4 months required me to spend my final savings, but it was worth the investment.

As I was an intern, I applied for several jobs and got a temporary assistant position at an NGO working on financing for development also in Brussels. Receiving a small salary, I was again given some breathing space and could build more contacts in an area I had some previous knowledge (I had been a journalist in financing) combined with my new interest area, international development. I was there from Feb 2005 until September 2005, on a temporary contract. As I was coming close to the end of my contract, I again started applying for jobs.

Applying for jobs is a serious task: I applied for around 75 positions in several parts of the world and only got 3 interviews. In the end, I was offered two jobs, one in London and another with a German NGO to work around Latin America. I took the later one, as the area was another step into the field I was interested in (corruption). I worked for this organization for almost 2 years. This was also a temporary contract, thought a bit longer. It again allowed me to meet interesting people, learn a lot, travel a lot and make new contacts. Through them I got the job I currently hold. I am still working with corruption, this time for a different organization (a research centre) and a bit distant from the NGO

world, where I had thought I would end up staying. This is another temporary contract and I came to realize that positions in this sector imply their share of instability, so one of my strategies to keep on going is to always have a savings buffer for an eventuality.

Any advice for other international students?

First and foremost, speak more than one language. The fact that I speak several languages made a difference in my CV. Second, but as important, build up some savings to be able to afford an internship. If it is paid, you are lucky. But most opportunities will be unpaid. And when you get the internship, make the most of it: volunteer to take up tasks that are not part of your job description, attend conferences and events to meet people, show an interest in doing other work in different departments of the organization.

Finally, apply for as many jobs as possible. It is a tiring task and sometimes you might feel despondent that things are not happening. But that is how you manage to get interviews, meet people and eventually land in a good job (consider that your first and second jobs might not be as wonderful and exciting as you imagined, but one has to be humble as one is starting and has a lot to learn. I was 30 years old when I took an unpaid internship to go into development).

• BULGARIA

Copywriter / Freelance Writer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA Politics and Sociology of Contemporary Culture

Year Graduated: 2002

Organisation: Wolters Kluwer

Industry: Tax and Accounting Solutions

Location: USA

Job Description/Duties:

I perform the duties of a marketing copywriter for a large publishing company.

As a freelance, I am a restaurant critic for two large Chicago-land newspapers: the Chicago Reader and the Daily Herald.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Since leaving university I have become a writer in various roles: freelancing for magazines and newspapers, editing, translating (Bulgarian to English and vice versa), marketing copywriting. I've edited two books, translating one, and writing another.

Office Assistant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BSc Politics and Economics

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: South East Europe Research

Industry: Marketing

Location: Bulgaria

Job Description/Duties: Tagging documents

- **CANADA**

Artist

Current state of employment: Self-employed or freelance

Course at UEA: Bachelor of Laws

Year Graduated: 1991

Organisation: rock.paper.scissors

Industry: Visual Arts

Location: Canada

Job Description / Duties:

Private exhibition, commission, teaching, mentoring, public art projects.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Became an employment lawyer and litigator, eventually partner and head of department. Career change in 2004, left law to pursue a career in visual arts.

- **CHINA**

Senior Policy Officer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2004

Organisation: Australian Embassy

Industry: Development

Location: China



Job Description/Duties:

Development co-operation- managing Australian development program in China.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I went back to my previous employer after graduation from UEA and was promoted to be a Deputy Division Director looking after south-south co-operation.

Telecommunication Engineer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Information Systems

Year Graduated: 2004

Organisation: China Southern Power Grid

Industry: Engineering

Location: China

Job Description/Duties:

Maintain the telecommunication system/power grid.

International Affairs Officer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Business Management

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: School of Management, Fudan University

Industry: Higher Education

Location: China

Job Description/Duties:

International exchange and co-operation

Translator / Proofreader

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Society, Culture and Media

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: Yuanpei Translation

Industry: Translating/Language

Location: China

News Editor

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: American Studies

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: Xinhuanet Official News Agency

Industry: Media

Location: Beijing, China

Job Description / Duties:

My job is about editing news from around the world and it includes all kinds of news from international news to Chinese news, from sports news to entertainment news, from odd news to opinions. It is all English so I can practise my English skills which I learnt in UEA.



What did you do previous to your current job?

After I left UEA, when I graduated in 2009, I returned home and then I sent many CVs, to many institutions. Firstly I wanted to find a job as a research fellow in an institution, but to my surprise there is nothing of them, because the competition is very fierce in China; because they want PhDs and I am only an MA. So I changed my thoughts to be a news editor and I sent an application one day to XinHuanet and I found a job and the Christmas of 2009, I get this job.

Any advice for other international students?

Don't miss opportunities that you think are good for you and be different.

United Nations Intern

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time

Course at UEA: MA Education and Development

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: United Nations

Industry:

Location: China

Job Description/Duties:

I'm supporting the social and economic development and south to south corporation team. Currently providing support to two programmes, one is called the low carbon city programme, our partnership is changing local government

What did you do previous to your current job?

I applied for this internship when I was still doing my Masters in DEV in June 2009.

Any advice for other international students?

I have two main pieces of advice for students currently in UEA if you want to develop your career in the development field. The first one is please take every opportunity to do volunteering work, especially in the UK. The second one is use your own network, because network is so important in China, especially in this field.

**Deputy Director, China Scholarship Council**

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time

Course at UEA: Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2006

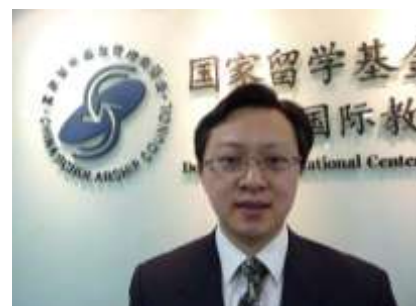
Organisation: China Scholarship Council

Industry:

Location: China

Job Description / Duties:

I'm working as Deputy Director for China Scholarship Council, International Centre for Education Exchange. This international centre mainly deals with providing services to self funded students to study abroad and to support foreign students to study in China as well.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Since I graduated from UEA in 2006, I resumed my previous post in the China Scholarship Council in the division of Study Abroad Affairs. This year, I got a promotion to work as the Deputy Director.

Any advice for other international students?

Before graduation it's better to call the career centre for advice on internships and voluntary opportunities.

Project Consultant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time

Course at UEA: BSc Business and Management

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: China Scholarship Council

Industry:

Location: China

Job Description/Duties:

My job involves in dealing with projects, talking to different universities all over Europe and also different industries as well.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Since I graduated from UEA in 2007, I worked as a marketing executive in Kings Lynn, that's also in Norfolk, for two years. My job activity was to execute marketing plans to achieve a strategy, to achieve a company's goal.

Any advice for other international students?

My advice would be to enjoy every second that you have in the city, Norwich and UEA. Learn as much as possible. Employers nowadays are more interested in the things you have done, the people you have met, the experiences you have been through. Also if you are looking for a job, then there are pretty big websites on line, like the UEA's careers centre website, which is really really good, very helpful. There are also websites like monster.com, where you can put up your CV, it is very helpful for you to look for a local job if you want to stay in the United Kingdom. If you come back to China there are agencies that help you to start work here and with your background experience, it is not hard.

Communication officer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time

Course at UEA: ECO

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: World Wide Fund (WWF)

Industry: Charity

Location: Beijing, China

What did you do previous to your current job?

After my graduation in 2008, I took one gap year in 2009 and travelled through Europe. During my travelling I found out there are big differences between European people and Chinese people especially on environmental protection, that is why I decided I had to devote



myself into the environmental protection issue. When I got back I looked on the website of WWF and fortunately found this opening for communication officer, and look, now I'm here.

Any advice for other international students?

My suggestions for current international students are: although you may be very busy with your own work, still do as much volunteer work and internships as you can because it is going to be very useful after your graduation.

Partner of Law Firm

Current state of employment: Self-employed

Course at UEA: Law

Year Graduated: 2004

Organisation: The Shine Lawyers

Industry: Law

Location: Beijing, China



What did you do previous to your current job?

After I graduated from the UEA I established my own law firm because of my previous experience.

Any advice for other international students?

My suggestion is, firstly, you have to know clearly about yourself and what you want to do and would like to do in the future and you have to make very good preparation for that. This includes improving your knowledge and skills. After that you have to make very good research on your target employer, you must know what they want, the requirements for the employee. And then the next step you, have to make a very good CV, make sure it looks good. I know that at UEA there is a department in the student union that can help international student to make a better CV and you have to make a good preparation for the interview. After that you can send a CV to the target employer.

For law school students, if you want to find a job in Beijing or another city in China, I can give you some detailed instructions, because now in China finding a job in a law firm is quite easy. The law firms put employment information on their website, you can find them and then you can send a CV directly to the law firm. If they think that your background is good enough they will give you an opportunity of interview. If they think you are suitable for this occupation they will hire you, that's very simple. And one day I hope that other students in UEA can have a very good career in the future.

Legal Assistant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Law

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: Home Inns and Hotel Management

Industry: Law/Hotel Management

Location: Shanghai, China



What did you do previous to your current job?

After graduation I had two big direction to choose. One was working in a law firm, you can study with some lawyers, and another you can choose work in a company, in-house legal department. At that

time I had friends who were working in a very big company and they recommended me to my current company, to my boss, and they gave me an interview.

Any advice for other international students?

Study hard, listen to others, and express yourself directly. Spend more time to enjoy your life, enjoy your college life, hang out in Norwich, it is a very beautiful city. Also you can spend some little money to travel round UK, around Europe and you can find a lot of people who work different with you, it is very interesting. Secondly I think during the study or during the work, during the time you are finding your job, before you doing something you need to spend more time thinking. For me, I just think you can spend lots of time finding a job with no direction, it's a waste of time. I think you can think more before you find your job, what's your interested in, what's your advantage, what you want, I think it will help you.

The final is especially for Chinese international students. During interviews, please keep yourself confident, I think confidence will help lots of people to like you, to interview with you because they would like to talk with you, you can express yourself and tell others what a wonderful person you are and please remember if you do not trust yourself, nobody can trust you.

IT Recruitment Consultant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: CMP

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: J.M.Gemini Recruitment Solutions

Industry: Recruitment/IT

Location: Shanghai, China

Job Description/Duties:

Our company is a recruitment company; we focus on middle to high management position recruitment. I focus on IT industrial and IT related positions.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I graduated from UEA in 2003 and after I graduated I came back to China to find a job. First I started in the IT industry as a junior and after one year I was promoted to leader. In 2007 I transferred to the recruitment industry. I worked in a local head hunting company for one year, and I joined this company in 2008.

Any advice for other international students?

Try to get some internship opportunities and build your networks during your study.



Manager

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Business Management

Year Graduated: 2006

Organisation: Fly Dragon International Far East

Industry:

Location: Shanghai, China

Job Description/Duties:

I work as a manager for international group mainly doing orders, managerial work and normal office work. Also my most important job is as assistant of my directors. I have to visit factories and suppliers, with my director, I just been back yesterday with suppliers because they got a problem with my orders, I have to sort it out.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I graduated from UEA 2006 but actually I started looking for jobs in 2004, the end of September I think, I spent 6 months looking for jobs but did not find anything so I popped to the careers centre for help, and finally I got job in Littlewoods in Fakenham, also in the Norfolk, very close to Norwich. I was an Account Executive and later on a Purchasing Assistant in that company for three years. During that time I learnt a lot.

Any advice for other international students?

I would say to study as your first job, because as student study is the most important to do. I regret, I didn't do that well, I didn't get a lot of good marks! It was a pity when I was doing my job because a lot of things I should have learnt I could have really used during my job. But don't give up, get as much information as you like from your friends, from your professors even.

Plastic Business Department Manager

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Business Economics

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: Zhejiang Grand Import &Export Co.,Ltd

Industry: Trade

Location: China



Job Description/Duties:

My duty is to expand and set up a global network for this commodity and to help my company to be more international.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Since I left UEA in June 2005, I went to London, started in SOAS which is the 'School of Oriental and African studies' in University of London for my Masters, which was International Management for China. It was a good major and can help any foreign student, any English student, any European student to understand more about China, to help them to future work, to working in China as expatriate for the multi-national companies and in the mean time it also helps Chinese student to work in the multi-national companies in China and overseas.

The job which I got soon as I came back from London after graduating from my Masters in September 2006 was just by chance. Because I was keen on this industry for importing and exporting and commodity trading, I selected 5-10 big well-known names in the industry and tried to contact human resource offices in each company. So obviously I created a job opportunity for myself. Luckily when I called to the human resource of my current employer they liked my resume with my educational background, so I got an interview.

Any advice for other international students?

My advice to the future or the current UEA students, please try to get involved with local students, try to look at yourself, forgot you are foreign, forgot you are overseas student, try to be a native and try to attend more society activities. Try to remember sport is going to make you make new friends and

learn some new skills, for example, play golf, play football and make friends with international students because otherwise after your student life passes, you have no way to find such amazing campus with so many students over the world to meet at the same location at the same time. So please take the chance, practice your English, learn as much as you can from your course, from your major, from your knowledge, then you can come back to your country, to working with a national company and with your own advantages.

Audit, Vice President

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Bachelors Business Information Systems
Masters Advanced Computing Science

Year Graduated: 2004

Organisation: Haitong Capital Investment, Co.,Ltd

Industry: Auditing/Finance

Location: Shanghai, China



What did you do previous to your current job?

After my graduation, I applied to Bank of China London branch, and I worked there for around one year, and after that my parents advised me to come back to China. And then I applied to PriceWaterHouse Coopers, Shanghai office, on the website, and I came back in August 2005, and started my auditing working experience from there. After around two years, I transferred from PriceWaterHouse Coopers auditing firm to the consulting firm to do financial and tax due-diligence in the consulting firm. By the end of last year, I found a new job in the Haitong Capital, it's a similar role to make financial due diligence and try to find any critical financial issues of the target companies.

Any advice for other international students?

What I can advise to current students is try to communicate with advisers in careers centres, my lesson is when I found the career centre was very helpful it was too late for me to apply for any job opportunities/graduate programme/graduate recruitment.

Try browse any, any websites of the companies which you are interested in and try to find any job opportunities on the website. Try to know more friends in, know more classmates in the university and try to join any event held by Student Union to create your network in the university, that will be very helpful in your career. Everyone can help you in your career in the future.

Associate

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Masters in Data Mining

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: Urban Science

Industry:

Location: China



Job Description/Duties:

Currently I working in a American consulting company called Urban Science. Our company provide consulting services to some main car manufacturers of the world such as ShangHai General Motors

and Shanghai Volkswagen. My company has two main services, the first one is the dealer network optimisation, another one is customer relations management. Now I'm working on a network optimisation project, my job is clean the data which clients send to us, this task is crucial for the success of the whole project, because good data will provide the company good results, true results.

What did you do previous to your current job?

After I graduated I came back to China, back to Shanghai, straight away, and started my job hunting there.

Any advice for other international students?

Prepare early for your job hunting.

Vice Director Shanghai Children's Home

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: International Child Welfare

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: Shanghai Children's Home

Industry: Child care

Location: Shanghai, China

What did you do previous to your current job?

I was working before I went to UK, went to UEA and after I graduated I got a promotion.



Employee of Central Government

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: International Human Resource Management

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: State Postal Bureau

Industry: Government

Location: Beijing, China

What did you do previous to your current job?

After graduation I went back to Shanghai and got a job in a hotel management company. I got the job through the internet – we have 3 major job seeker websites in China and I got that from www.findonejob.com. Within just 5 days I got a response from the company. My position there was human resources specialist and I was responsible for the performance management of all the company.



Any advice for other international students?

Try your best to accumulate your international working experiences, in the UK, in Europe, wherever, just outside of China, because most of the foreign companies or large companies, require you have the international vision, have the international working skills, that is very important for you and if you want to be at a higher position in your company that is really necessary.

Internationalisation is very important, especially in Modern China, so I suggest you go travel in Europe, in all of the UK, not just staying in Norwich, and research the skill.

For all international students I hope you can communicate with most people who are not from your country, I hope you can make more and more international friends and that will be really wealthy during your life.

Software Developer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Advanced Computing Science

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: Mott MacDonald

Industry: Management, Engineering and Development, Consultancy

Location: Cambridge, UK

Job Description/Duties:

Developing and maintaining online systems and database design

Any advice for other international students?

- Know yourself. Know your limitations. Know what kind of job you can do. Know why you can do it better than others.
- A good exam result is not always necessary but it can add lots of points, especially when economy is going down. So do your best to get a good degree.
- Participate in any of the work related activities even it part time. This can improve your CV.
- Trust your abilities and self confidence. Only when you have confidence in yourself then others will have in you.
- Make people think you are likable. Similar as "XFactor", the person who can get most votes not must be the best singer. You can get lots of points if your boss and colleagues think you are an interesting guy and would like to work with you.

Manager for International Business Department

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA Business Economics

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: Zhejiang Grand

Industry: Commodity Trading Business

Location: China

Job Description/Duties:

After formally joining Zhejiang Grand in Nov 2006, I set up firm relationships with all brokers who I visited in London, and start trading. It was a good start and excellent chance for me. It's my most important job responsibility for the first year in 2007. In 2008 and 2009, I took new challenge for commodity trading business which is more focus on the spots market, such as importing and exporting plastic raw materials. In 2010, because of the expansion of business and strategic plan for the enterprise, the company committee would like to upgrade the company to be internationalized based on the well constructed



domestic distribution network and channels. Then I am been promoted to be the manager of International Business Dept based on the knowledge of the industry and overseas study background.

What did you do previous to your current job?

There was a good opportunity to get involved with my current company via education background. When I was in U.K., The Company was seeking U.K. university graduates who could establish the partnership with London Metal Exchange (LME) market. Fortunately, I was in London for postgraduate study, hence I became the liaison person for Zhejiang Grand. Mostly I did the pre-marketing research with LME during the period in London. It's kind of Internship Stage.

Any advice for other international students?

Be keen to your interest for certain industry; exchange ideas and advices with friends about future job; be good listener from professional industry elites and experienced employees.

- be very active for university social activities and societies
- enjoy sports, play golf, etc
- make friends with other international students
- travel with friends
- study hard and play hard, get best score as you can

• **CYPRUS**

IT Project Manager

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA:

Year Graduated: 1984

Organisation: Bank of Cyprus

Industry: Banking

Location: Nicosia, Cyprus



What did you do previous to your current job?

After graduating from UEA, I had 2 job offers to work for Tesco in their logistics department, or to join Andersen Consulting as a Trainee Management Consultant. Instead I opted to do an MA in Management at the University of Kent at Canterbury (1984-85). Coming back to Cyprus in January 1986, I joined the army to do my National Service. After spending 26 months in the army I immediately joined WANG computers as a Systems Support and Training Administrator in Nicosia Cyprus. A year later I joined Deloitte Haskins and sells as a Management Consultant. In February 1992 the Bank of Cyprus head-hunted me and made me an offer to join their Information Technology Department as a Project Manager. A job I keep until today.

• **FRANCE**

Business Developer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA International Relations

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: L-3

Industry: Defence/Naval Aviation

Location: USA

Job Description/Duties:

Proposal Co-ordinator and business developer for a defence contractor.

What did you do previous to your current job?

My first job after finishing at UEA was working at a warehouse while I was looking for a better suited job, I just needed money. Eventually I was able to get a job in the Defence industry working in Naval Aviation.

Marie-Curie Post-doctoral Fellow

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BSc Microbiology

Year Graduated: 1999

Organisation: Hellenic Centre for Marine Research

Industry: Research

Location: Greece

Job Description/Duties:

Marine researcher

What did you do previous to your current job?

Post-doctoral research assistant (2yr)

Lecturer in Biological Sciences (3yr)

Marine researcher (2yr)

International Lawyer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: International Trade Law

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: Bignon Lebray & Associates Law Firm

Industry: Law

Location: Shanghai, China

What did you do previous to your current job?

After my study at UEA, I applied for a French LLM and after this LLM, I passed the French bar exam. During my law school I have to do an internships so applied to Bignon and Lebray to get this internship, and after I took my course as a lawyer Bignon and Lebray found me a job.



- **GERMANY**

Assistant Professor

Current state of employment: Employed, part-time paid work

Course at UEA: PhD in History

Year Graduated: 1999

Organisation: Postdam University

Industry: Higher Education

Location: Germany

Job Description/Duties:

Research and teaching in an English and American studies department.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I completed a BA, MA and PhD in History at UEA. I then went on to do a part-time and supply teaching in higher education. I got a full-time job as sub-editor for a news agency before returning to part-time teaching and freelance journalism for 6 months. I then had a full-time post as a journalist for a year.

Professional Translator

Current state of employment: Self-employed or freelance

Course at UEA: MA Modern Languages and European Studies

Year Graduated: 1986

Organisation: CZTA

Industry: Translation/Languages

Location: Netherlands

Job Description/Duties:

Translation of (mainly) technical texts from English or Dutch into German.

What did you do previous to your current job?

In 1986 I joined RWS- a major UK translation company. In 1995 I started my own translation business.

Post Doctorate

Current state of employment: Employed full-time in paid work

Course at UEA: BSc Ecology with a year in Europe

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: University of Oslo

Industry: Research

Location: Norway

Job Description/Duties:

Research in Genomics and marine biology, lab work, PhD student supervision.

What did you do previous to your current job?

PhD in Germany, Marie Curie fellowship in Oslo, current post-doc position.

Consultant

Current state of employment: Employed full-time in paid work

Course at UEA: MA International Relations and Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2001

Organisation: Triodos Facet

Industry: Advisory Services

Location: Netherlands

Job Description/Duties:

Acquisition, providing advisory services to clients, reporting.

What did you do previous to your current job?

United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (sustainable finance initiative of United Nations).

World Resources Institute (supporting sustainable enterprises in developing countries)

E+Co (clean energy investment firm)

Triodos Facet

Press Relations Officer

Current state of employment: Unemployed and looking for work

Course at UEA: MA Comparative Literature

Year Graduated: 1998

Organisation: Various

Industry: Cultural and Political issues

Location: Germany

Job Description/Duties:

Press work, public relations

What did you do previous to your current job?

1998-2000 Junior PR Manager, Agency QUERVERBINDUNGEN, Berlin

2000-2002 PR Manager, Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege, Berlin

2003-2004 PR Manager, Stiftung Genshagen, Berlin

2004-2010 Freelance PR Manager for cultural and political institution

Lawyer

Current state of employment: Employed full-time in paid work

Course at UEA: MA International Commercial and Business Law

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: Lovells LLP

Industry: Law

Location: Germany

Job Description/Duties:

Corporate lawyer in international law firm, i.e. advising companies on mergers and acquisition, restructurings etc.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Traineeship in Dusseldorf, Germany and New York city, US between 2005-2007; started current position in February 2008.

Jurist / Trainee Lawyer

Current state of employment: Employed full-time in paid work

Course at UEA: Certificate of HE Common Law

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: Higher Regional Court Brandenburg

Industry: Law

Location: Germany

Job Description/Duties:

Preparing myself for the 2nd State Examination

What did you do previous to your current job?

I achieved the 1st State Examination, moved to New York City and worked in a law firm. I started my current position in February 2009.

- **GHANA**

Director, External resources Mobilisation Division

Current state of employment: Employed full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA International Relations and Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2006

Organisation: Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

Industry: Economics

Location: Ghana

Job Description/Duties:

Management and co-ordination of multilateral donor assistance to the Government.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I returned to my previous place of employment, and after 6 months, was assigned to act as Director of the Multilateral Division. A few months later, I was requested to take up the Aid Effectiveness portfolio in addition to my normal schedule.

Lecturer

Current state of employment: Employed full-time paid work

Course at UEA: PhD Education

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: Ghana Government/University of Education

Industry: Teaching

Location: Ghana

Job Description/Duties:

I teach courses in education

What did you do previous to your current job?

Consultancy services

Programme Officer & Assistant Editor of 'African Agenda'

Current state of employment: Employed full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA International Relations and Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: Third World Network-Africa (TWN-Africa) & Policy Think-Tank

Industry: NGO

Location: Ghana

Job Description/Duties:

African Agenda is a bi-monthly magazine with world circulation.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I actually got my current job after a friend alerted me of a job advert he had seen minutes earlier in Ghana's most widely read daily newspaper, the *Daily Graphic*. I applied for it, and after a reasonably tough three-stage interview and assessment process, I was appointed.

Prior to my current job on return from UEA, I was working with Multimedia Group Limited, a Ghanaian media and entertainment company, as the online editor of www.myjoyonline.com, one of the country's two most popular portals. This was an exciting job too because I had practised journalism in Ghana and Florida (USA) before coming to UEA for postgrad studies and I bought into the vision of Multimedia Group which also owns Ghana's most respected independent radio station, JOY FM.

Presently, I am largely into policy analyses, Africa's political economy, to be precise international trade and investment; extractive industry – mining and oil; and gender. The knowledge, experiences and skills I acquired at UEA have served me particularly well at my current job, in part because of the modules I studied, as well as, the core area of TWN-Africa's research and advocacy work –Africa's

political economy and the shifting terrain of global economic (and possibly military) power currently underway. I also get to travel around the world quite a lot – from ECOWAS, to African Union, World Trade Organisation, UN, EU-Africa, World Economic Forum and Social Watch meetings.

Any advice for other international students?

Don't just be interested in a course but carefully think about how you may apply what you study on return to your home. It is also crucial to speak to people who are in the sector or industry in which you aspire to work in before leaving for school abroad, this way the modules you pick as part of your course as well as the subject of your thesis would come in handy when you're done with your course. Then again, it would be much easier to return to some of these same industry players to enquire if there are any vacancies and/or for pointers to job vacancies.

Lastly, UEA is a great place and Norwich a great city too and I miss them! Make the time, if you can, to go to Language School and enrol in one of the languages because the world is changing so fast and it is just important you can work in more than one international language.

- **GREECE**

Environmental Consultant

Current state of employment: Self-employed or freelance

Course at UEA: MSc Environmental Impact Assessment Auditing and Management Systems

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: N/A

Industry: Environmental Consulting

Location: Greece

Job Description/Duties:

Environmental Impact Assessment, Environmental Management Systems (ISO – EMAS etc.), Waste Assessment

What did you do previous to your current job?

Since graduating from the UEA ENV MSc course, I am working as an environmental consultant (self-employed) and I am doing another MSc in Waste Management.

- **ICELAND**

Quality and Environment Manager

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA in English and American Studies

Year Graduated: 1991

Organisation: RARIK

Industry: Utilities (electricity etc.)

Location: Iceland

Job Description / Duties:

Management of projects in my field of work relating to structures, quality standards, environment and safety.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I went straight from UEA to work as a quality officer in a shipping company and from there to my current employer in 1996 in a management position. I have also been very active in project management internationally.

- **INDIA**

Managing Director

Current state of employment: Self Employed or Freelance

Course at UEA: Masters of Business Administration

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: GoAhead Consulting Ltd

Industry: IT Outsourcing and Recruitment

Location: UK

What did you do previous to your current job?

I started the business myself in London.

Associate Professor

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: PhD in school of BIO

Year Graduated: 1999

Organisation: Veterinary University Punjab

Industry: Teaching and researching

Location: India

Job Description / Duties:

Teaching, research and extension in the field of food safety to veterinary students.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Associate professor – veterinary public health until February 2002.

Assistant Company Secretary

Current state of employment: Employed full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA Economics

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: Hornbill Finance Ltd.

Industry: Non-banking financial corporation

Location: India

Job Description/Duties:

I am in-charge of handling the paperwork in a financial company dealing in a financial company dealing with providing loans to the public as well as preference shares. Currently appearing for the Company Secretary exams in order to earn the title of CS-Company.

Oracle System Support Analyst

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Information Systems

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: Middlesex University

Industry: Finance

Location: London, UK

Job Description / Duties:

Retrieve relevant information on Oracle Financials ERP using SQL from the Oracle database. Interacting with clients on a daily basis to resolve their queries.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Graduated in 2009.

Advice for other international students?

I would advise students to tap in to every good opportunity they come across during their studies. Studies play a vital part in obtaining good grades, but companies will also look towards the extra-curricular activities they perform. The integrated course at UEA will provide the knowledge, whilst extra-curricular activities will provide an edge over other candidates applying for same job.

I worked as an Associate Tutor during my postgraduate studies, where I taught both undergraduate and postgraduate students. I worked on an analysis report for the school on admissions. These being the opportunities that I grabbed after graduation gave me edge on many of the candidates of similar calibre and I continued the job of Associate Tutor until I started my new job. These opportunities helped me understand the difference between UK and Indian work culture. Preparing the analysis report gave an opportunity to use the knowledge I gained during the course.

- **ITALY**

Administrative Officer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA Development Studies

Year Graduated: 1996

Organisation: Italian Ministry of Economics and Finance

Industry: Public Services

Location: Italy

Job Description / Duties:

Civil servant – managing public expenditure

What did you do previous to your current job?

1996: export manager in Venice-Murano industrial district. Then in Angola as administrative officer (NGO). In 1997 joined Venice Chamber of commerce. Started current job in 2005.

- **JERSEY**

Fraud Specialist

Current state of employment: Employed full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BSc Chemical Sciences

Year Graduated: 2005

Organisation: Jersey Telecom

Industry: Telecommunications

Location: Jersey / UK

Job Description/Duties:

Design and Implementation of fraud control systems.
Consultancy on telcom fraud matters and revenue assurance issues.
Network monitoring
Police tracing liaison

What did you do previous to your current job?

Casual work until being employed as a management accountancy analyst on a short contract. Then moved to current position and have been so since January 2007.

Financial Accountant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA French and German

Year Graduated: 2000

Organisation: Man Investments

Industry: Hedge Fund Administration/Financial

Location: Ireland

Job Description/Duties:

Financial reporting, budgeting and tax.

What did you do previous to your current job?

2 years as a German market analyst, then trained as a chartered accountant.

- **MALAWI**

Economic Consultant/Research Associate

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Graduate Diploma Economics and Social Studies

Year Graduated: 1992

Organisation: African Development Economic Consultants (pty) Ltd (ADEC)

Industry: Economics

Location: South Africa

Job Description/Duties:

Economic analysis and strategic planning

What did you do previous to your current job?

1992-1994 Malawi Government, Economist & Senior Economist (Economic Planning & Development/Ministry of Trade & Industry)

1994-1995 Malawi Investment Promotion Agency

1995-2000 Diplomat, Malawi Consulate, RSA

- **MALAYSIA**

Assistant Professor

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA Development Studies

Year Graduated: 1997

Organisation: University of North Texas

Industry: Education

Location: USA

Job Description / Duties:

Teaching Masters in Public Administration graduate courses, and researching disasters and temporary housing/shelters.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I taught at the university of Malaysia for three years, enrolled and completed my second Masters (this time in Public Administration in South Texas), then my doctorate in Public Administration at Florida State University.

Sales Manager

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2004

Organisation: Bamba Experience

Industry: Adventure Travel/Tourism

Location: Mexico

Job Description / Duties:

I have to make sure that we are selling our product, which is adventure tours in Latin America. I have to make sure our marketing process is going well, I have to come up with new products.

What did you do previous to your current job?

After university, I spent a year in Kenya and Tanzania working in NGO's. Then I came to Mexico in 2005 and haven't left since then. I enjoy Mexico and its people, and I found this dream job and I am now happily working here.

Senior Lecturer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: PhD Biological Sciences

Year Graduated: 2003

Organisation: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

Industry: Higher Education

Location: Malaysia

Job Description/Duties: Academia

Research Executive

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: TNS Research International

Industry: Market Research and Business Analysis

Location: Malaysia

Job Description/Duties:

Market research,
Client servicing
Account management

- **MAURITIUS**

Assistant Manager, Ernst & Young

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: BSc Accountancy

Year Graduated: 2000

Organisation: Ernst & Young

Industry: Risk Advisor

Location: Mauritius

Job Description/Duties:

Team lead local and overseas assignments in the risk advisory department of the firm. Type of assignment includes internal audit, documentation of procedure manual, compliance reviews, etc. My job allows me to travel to Luxembourg, Tanzania, Senegal, DRC and Nigeria.

What did you do previous to your current job?

After graduating from UEA, I was employed at PWC as an auditor in the Assurance Department before joining Ernst and Young Advisory Department in January 2006.

- **MEXICO**

European Sales Specialist

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc in Strategic Supply Chain Management

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: Midwich Ltd., www.midwich.com

Industry: Services (Distributor or Technology Products)

Location: Diss

Job Description/Duties: Research and open new accounts in the European Market

Any advice for other international students?

Identify your strengths, skills and experience

Define the kind of job you want to do.

Do not stop looking. No matter how many interviews you have been to, keep on looking until you get an offer that interests you.

Make use of opportunities such as advice offered by Careers Centre Advice at UEA, job fairs and employment web sites.

Lots of patience is needed, believe in yourself and think positively after all the sky is the limit!



Postdoctoral Researcher

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: PhD Social Studies

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: National Autonomous

Industry: Academic Research and Teaching

Location: Mexico

Job Description/Duties: Academic research in social geography, teaching students.

Senior Manager at KPMG

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA Economics and Mass Media

Year Graduated: 2002

Organisation: KPMG

Industry: Consulting

Location: Mexico

Job Description/Duties:

Manage human resources communication projects for external clients.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Experience in financial analysis, corporative sales and project management. Obtained a diploma on business coaching skills and human dynamics at Insight seminars.

Manager of Hydrometeorological Centre

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: PhD Environmental Sciences

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: Queretaro Water Commission

Industry: Water Supply and Sanitation

Location: Mexico

Job Description/Duties:

In charge of the production, management and maintenance of hydrological and meteorological data for the state of Queretaro Water Commission.

What did you do previous to your current job?

After completing my PhD at UEA on the impact of climate change on Groundwater-fed wetlands I have continued my research in the impact of climate change in water resources in postdoctoral research in Queretato.

NEPAL

Lecturer/Researcher



Current state of employment: Employed full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA Education and Development

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: Kathmandu University, School of Arts, Development Studies Centre and Academic

Industry: Education

Location: Kathmandu, Nepal

What did you do previous to your current job?

Now that I think over it, I have always been offered job by the college or university I studied in. As soon as I completed my undergrad degree in Social Work from St. Xavier's College, the college principal offered me to run a program for less privileged school going aged children of the college's ambient community. I ran the program for 3 years.

After I completed my MA from Kathmandu University (with the Chancellor's Gold Medal for securing the highest CGPA in the university) and got an offer from UEA for second MA from School of International Development, I was offered to join Kathmandu University's Development Studies Centre to teach and research upon my return. The offer was renewed a couple of months before I returned from UEA and I accepted it. While at UEA, I was thinking over an academic career and am enjoying it.

Any advice for other international students?

I do not know if I can advise, but I can certainly share my own experience. I think the answer lies in searching within oneself than to search outside, i.e. to explore what my interests are as I explore different courses and participate in different activities as a university student. The coursework that I wrote and the feedbacks that I received while at UEA drew my interest towards academic world. This interest and the support I received inspired me and I thoroughly enjoyed the four months of dissertation process (my students think I am insane when I share this, but I inwardly smile when I see some of them understand what I am saying and are beginning to enjoy as they are designing their research). The point is that, if I am interested, I will enjoy and this enjoyment gets shown during my job interview, or as I talk to possible employers. I believe that because I enjoyed what I did, I got the jobs.

Netherlands

Environment Policy Consultant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Environmental Assessment Management

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: Ministry for the Environment/Spatial Planning

Industry: Making National policy

Location: Netherlands

Job Description/Duties:

Policy maker in national special planning projects; environmental consultant soil regulations.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Found work as a junior policy consultant (implementing environmental policy) just before graduation, moved on through a secondment to actual policy making (from the primary environmental agency in Netherlands to ministry level).

Norway

Education Specialist

Current state of employment: In voluntary work

Course at UEA: BA Development Studies

Year Graduated: 2006

Organisation: UNESCO

Industry: Education, Science, Cultural development

Location: Cambodia

Job Description/Duties:

I work for UNESCO in Cambodia as a UN volunteer. I work closely with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports to develop policies, master plans etc. I also lead a couple of non-formal education projects in rural areas of Cambodia.

What did you do previous to your current job?

After my masters I worked almost two years for Capital Quality Limited which is the Investors in People quality centre based in London. I then moved home to Norway for 6 months and worked briefly at a music school before I went to Cambodia.

Portugal

Aviva IT Graduate

Curret state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Business Information Systems

Year Graduated: Unknown

Organisation: Aviva

Industry: IT

Location: Switzerland

Job Description/Duties:

As an IT Graduate at Aviva, I focus my energy on design and architecture. It is a challenging position and everyday is different. From Business Analysis, to Testing, passing through design and system analysis, there is a lot to do and many opportunities. I am now on my third placement of the scheme, as a Solution Designer and the objective is to design the Aviva Life Call Centre application. This involves a large team of people and a challenging Agile development with the most exciting technologies available in the market such as IBM Websphere and Service Oriented Architecture.

Before that I have worked in other areas of the business involving an exciting Ecommerce Portal which has been recognised by the industry as the 'best portal available in the market'. You can see what I have been up to at www.controlyourpension.com and watch the tour. If you are a computing student, you will understand what I do since it matches pretty closely what you have learnt (Context, data flow diagrams, operational models, software engineering, etc).

I have also developed a lot of new skills and been trained to quite a good extent, Prince2, ITIL, Financial Certificate, Design Thinking, IBM Websphere among other courses that develop my soft skills such as leadership and presentation skills.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Before graduation I decided to apply for a graduate scheme. I was looking for a big company and was also keen on staying in Norwich. After a presentation of the scheme at UEA from Norwich Union (now Aviva) and a talk with current Aviva graduates, I decided to apply a couple months just before my exams through their website. The first stage was done! After that some online tests, followed by a phone interview. The final stage was the assessment centre. A full day of activities, group work, presentations and case studies. It was a bit stressful, but I felt well prepared.

Any advice for other international students?

As an advice for all International students: do not be afraid of applying or think that you will not be able to make and therefore giving up before starting. It is very important that you apply and do your best; sometimes passion and desire are far more important than technical skills. There will always be situations where you will be out of your depth – it's how you deal with these that matters. There is no shame in asking questions and you gain confidence and new abilities every day through those.

Switzerland

CFO

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Law undergraduate (Visiting Student)

Year Graduated: 1996

Organisation: Cinergy

Industry: Publishing and Content Provider

Location: Switzerland

Job Description/Duties:

Manage a media company with approximately 30 employees and 30 freelancers.

What did you do previous to your current job?

I established my own company while I was still studying. I'm still working for the same company which I sold to an investor.

Taiwan

PhD Student

Current state of employment: Studying at a graduate or professional level

Course at UEA: MSc Strategic Supply Chain Management

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: University of Reading

Industry: Teaching and Research

Location: UK

Job Description/Duties:

Research student at Informatics Research Centre.

Regional Director, SI-UK Education Council

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Unknown

Year Graduated: Unknown

Organisation: SI-UK Education Council (China, Taiwan, Hong Kong)

Industry: Study abroad and English services

Location: Shanghai, China

What did you do previous to your current job?

Since I still was a student at UEA, I worked as a part-time Taiwanese ambassador at UEA to assist prospective students with information on curriculum, entrance requirements, and campus life, as well as Pre-Departure preparation and consultation after their arrival in the UK. I find myself particularly enjoy and actually have the knack of interacting with students. I feel fully rewarded by helping students out from learning difficulties. Thus, I emailed the UKEAS in Taipei to introduce myself when I still at UEA and fortunately got the job there to serve as the PR and Marketing.

As the PR officer for Integrated Marketing of UKEAS, I was responsible for the work in brand integration public relations of UKEAS in Taiwan, and my responsibilities included the formulation and implementation of scheduled activities; products, advertising and marketing planning, and cross-sector project write-ups; maintenance of information on official website; media planning,

recommendations, implementation, analysis of physical and virtual channel market research, and planning of corporate branding activities.

After few months later, I was invited to work as PR & Marketing manager at Cambridge Taipei since I have successfully helped UKEAS to increase their market share. I also helped Cambridge Taipei to transfer themselves from an IELTS school to Study abroad company.

With my education background, my work and student leader experience combined. I believe I can bring in a great variety of insights, innovation and ideas in this industry and was seeking the opportunity to work globally. I therefore join the SI-UK and am doing my best to contribute to the success of the SI-UK Education Council to extend their market globally.

Research Assistant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Strategic Supply Chain Management

Year Graduated: 2008

Organisation: China Times Group

Location: Taipei, Taiwan

What did you do previous to your current job?

When I am graduated, the situation was very bad for looking for a job, in 2008, many enterprises went bankrupt and lay off many employees. However, some outstanding classmates or alumni who already found a job can help you. Remember to improve your English and try to get great scores in TOEIC. The English certificate and UEA diploma would also help you to find a job ,too.

Senior Manager, Hair Ornament Manufacturer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Unknown

Year Graduated: Unknown

Organisation: Yih Fang Industry. Co. Ltd

Industry: Manufacturing

Location: Tainan City, Taiwan

Manager, Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management Division



Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc in Business Management

Year Graduated: 2002

Organisation: Semiconductors and Passive Component

Industry:

Location: Taipei, Taiwan

What did you do previous to your current job?

The employment opportunity is referred by my ex-boss when I was working in Apple Inc.

Advice for other international students?

The essential skill of presentation helps me a lot on playing my present role.

The key is to know what your expertise is; otherwise, it's difficult to find a real job you want.

The most important one is to understand what you want and what you can do; moreover, to chose what you love and to love what you had chosen.

Recruitment Assistant

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MSc Marketing

Year Graduated: 2009

Organisation: Global Career Company and Recruitment

Industry: Recruitment

Location: London, UK

What did you do previous to your current job?

My career just starts, I don't have much experience to share at this point. I went on the website and uploaded my CV then someone called to ask me about the internship opportunity.

Advice for other international students?

Never give up although it's a bad time. Try to find your sell point and sell yourself.

Study hard and get a 2:1 or first. Try to take the internship opportunity then see if you have potential to work in the industry or are you happy with what are you doing. It's hard to find what you really what when you just start your career.

Thailand

Lecturer

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: Masters in International Trade Law

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: Ramkhamhaeng University

Industry: Education

Location: Thailand

Job Description/Duties:

Teaching Law

What did you do previous to your current job?

From 2007-2008 I completed both an LL.M in US and Global Legal Studies and a certificate of concentration in Intellectual Property Law at Case Western Reserve University (USA), both with honours. I started lecturing in Law in 2008.

USA

Library Technician

Current state of employment: Employed, full-time paid work

Course at UEA: MA Film Studies

Year Graduated: 2007

Organisation: Library of Congress

Industry: National Library

Location: USA

Job Description/Duties:

Quality control of digital imagery.
Digitization.

What did you do previous to your current job?

Consulted at Dickinson Colleges and then became an archives technician at the National Archives and Records Administration.

