



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

Swansea Futures

ALUMNI CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 2023



Welcome Message from The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Welcome to Swansea University's Swansea Futures Alumni Conference.

The aim of today is to facilitate a space for networking, personal and career development, entrepreneurship and inspiration. For students this event provides an opportunity to network with and hear from our alumni on a number of key topics that will provide you with insight, advice and knowledge, enabling you to succeed and be change makers in your chosen career path. For our alumni the event provides an opportunity for networking and discussion with others regarding the key topics facing the future world of work. Ultimately we will establish new connections and build upon existing relationships – bringing together our students and alumni like never before.

Having been founded by industry for industry over 100 years ago, we are proud of Swansea University's roots of collaboration, ingenuity and entrepreneurship. We remain dedicated to the ambitions of our founders as we continue to collaborate with stakeholders to maximise real world impact and positive change. This event brings together alumni, students and staff epitomising the vision of our University and Faculty.

The talks and panels that have been organised today, will give our students the opportunity to learn about what it means to be a graduate of Swansea University, what opportunities this will offer and how to maximise networks.

Thank you for taking the time to attend and contribute today. We look forward to continuing conversations with those of you here, with a vision of creating long-lasting partnerships and exciting collaborative opportunities together.

Order of the day

Time	Session	Description	Venue
1pm-1:30pm	Registration	Registration for the day Refreshments	Taliesin Create
1:30pm-1:40pm	Welcome and Introduction	Hosted by Professor Elwen Evans KC and Dr Louisa Huxtable-Thomas	Taliesin Theatre
1:40pm-2:10pm	Keynote	Bringing your a-game and staying up-to-date with Ize Idemudia	Taliesin Theatre
2:10pm-2:20pm	Break Taliesin Theatre		
2:20pm-3pm	Parallel Session 1	»The Insider's Guide to Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset	Taliesin Create
		»Where your Swansea degree can take you: The Future World of Work	Taliesin Theatre
		»Career Journeys: From University to now	Mall Room
		»Achieving Goals: Producing Impact	Taliesin Studio
3pm-3:30pm	Refreshment Break Taliesin Theatre		
3:30pm-4:10pm	Parallel Session 2	»Professional Development: Setting yourself apart	Taliesin Studio
		»Networking: Building Connections	Bar Area - Upstairs
		»Sustainability: Careers with Social Impact	Taliesin Create
		»Secrets of Leadership: Leading in a changing world	Mall Room
		»International Opportunities: Finding jobs in the UK and using your UK qualifications overseas	Taliesin Theatre
4:15pm-4:45pm	Panel Session	Graduate Skills for the Future: What recruiters are looking for	Taliesin Theatre
4:45pm-5:15pm	Keynote	From Student to CEO with Joelle Drummond	Taliesin Theatre
5:15pm-7pm	Networking	A dedicated time for networking, with food and drinks available for delegates	Taliesin Create

Parallel Sessions 1

» *The Insider's Guide to Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset, with Andrew Overton, Dr Ben Reynolds, Joelle Drummond and Sion Ravs*

Hear from our Alumni as they share practical advice and stories of their own entrepreneurship journeys to help you:

- Take the first steps to starting your own business
- How to stay motivated and key skills you'll need to succeed
- How to promote yourself and your business.

This advice filled session is for anyone who has entrepreneurship ambitions and wants to learn directly from others who are already leading their own enterprises.

» *Where your Swansea degree can take you: The Future World of Work with Ben Donovan, Kathryn Hallett and Josh Simlett*

The world of work is constantly changing, and jobs are not one size fits all. During this session you will hear from our Alumni about how employers and employees are responding to the challenges. The panel will explore what influences are currently shaping working practices and business culture and predict what changes may come in the future; and how you can set yourself up for success.

» *Career Journeys: From University to now, with Laura Alliss, Mark Holloway, Kathryn Loosemore and Penny Roberts*

Everyone's career journey is unique and shaped based on their experiences through internships, roles, and the companies they've worked for. Hear from our Alumni as they showcase how they arrived at their current role and how they've developed their career over time from graduating at Swansea to now. Learn how they have applied what they learnt, challenges faced and overcome, and their advice for shaping your graduate future.

» *Achieving Goals: Producing Impact with Mark Townley, Emily Jones and Francesca Tate*

How do you set goals? What steps do we need to take to curate our own careers? Hear from our alumni at different stages in their careers about how to transition from University and develop in your career.

Parallel Sessions 2

» *Professional Development: Setting yourself apart with Ben Donovan, Emily Jones and Kathryn Loosemore*

You've got the degree but that's just the beginning. How do we take advantage of development opportunities to expand our skills? What opportunities should we look for?

» *Networking: Building Connections with Francesca Tate, Kathryn Hallett and Penny Roberts*

Professionals use networking to expand their circles of acquaintances, find out about job opportunities in their fields, and increase their awareness of news and trends in their fields or the greater world. Our alumni will talk you through how they have used their networks so you can make the most of yours.

» *Sustainability: Careers with Social Impact with Dr Ben Reynolds, Mark Townley and Sion Williams*

Do you want a career that tackles a local, national or global challenge? In a world where you can be anything, many people are choosing to focus their work and careers on making the world a safer and fairer place. The panel will share advice on developing careers with social purpose, leaving a positive legacy on the world, and the mechanisms of making change happen. If you want a career with an impact, don't miss this.

» *Secrets of Leadership: Leading in a changing world with Josh Simlett, Laura Alliss, Mark Holloway and Andrew Overton*

This is your opportunity to hear and learn from inspirational alumni who have led organisations, each with different career journeys. In this session, panellists will talk openly and honestly about the challenges of holding a leadership position, how much they rely on their instincts, what they find most rewarding and pinpointing the pivotal moments in their careers that got them to where they are today. Don't miss this session if you aspire to take on a leadership role.

» *International Opportunities: Finding jobs in the UK and using your UK qualifications overseas with Chido Ranganayi, Natasha Mawera and Oyeinditon Churchill*

Meet some of our international alumni to discover how they have navigated the job market in the UK and overseas.