

University of Technology, Jamaica

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Dear UTech Alumni,

Can we help each other?

We'd like to think so!

But just to be sure, if you don't mind us asking....

- Would it help to boost your confidence, if you were sure you had a well crafted, value adding
 resume and/or LinkedIn Profile, which clearly and impressively answers the No. 1 question in a
 Hiring Manager's mind "What value will this candidate add to my organization?"
- Would you feel more hopeful if you had someone to help you develop a job search or career management strategy so you could get on with your life...with better fit between who you are and what you do, plus better compensation-focus-joy-peace?
- Would it mean a lot to you to be able to handle this...wait...period [the wait to find a job, or the wait to find a better job] without feeling fearful, angry, anxious and uncertain?

If You Answered "Yes!" to Any of the Questions

Then we can definitely help each other!

Did You Know...?

Due to the recession and poor state of our economy, our students struggle to remain in school. First it was that they would still come, but take less credits per semester; but with the economy not improving greatly at the level of the individual family, many have to drop out, and those who fight on to stay, while doing the bare minimum number of credits, still struggle and struggle and struggle.

Just imagine how hard it is to do well in school with financial burdens weighing you down every day. So financial challenges are a double-edged sword for our students who wish to do well academically, but just can't afford the tuition, accommodation and other fees.

Perhaps you experienced that while you were here? Or perhaps you had classmates you had to help out so they could finish their programme? Or perhaps you know students now, who can't finish their course of study?

Here in the Alumni Relations Office we get requests from students directly or through their faculty and administrative units to assist with funding for:

- Tuition
- Accommodation
- Class projects
- Student Services events

We have helped on one or two occasions. Mostly, we have to turn down the requests, because the University is affected by the recession and poor economy too. As you may know, UTech, Jamaica has received a declining subvention from the Government over time, as the Government increases funding for its greater priority -- Early Childhood Education.

In practical terms, among other areas, the University is unable to give Alumni Relations a robust budget. So we cannot respond adequately to student requests, nor can we do the quality and variety of programming necessary to engage you as Alumni. We really want to do this in order to support your personal, professional and business development, and do it in ways that would help stimulate your own growth and achievements despite the recession. You are the reason our office exists, and we want to serve you better and in more value-adding ways.

And how does the University currently help students with financial need? We have a Welfare Office which gives grants based on need. But look at the numbers though.

The Welfare Fund

Is currently financed by our students' contribution...taken from their fees. The benefits given to students with financial challenges are:

Tuition - \$20,000 (max)

- Lunch subsidy \$200 per day per Academic Year
- Bus Pass with JUTC \$500 per week per Academic Year
- Medical Expenses per recommendation from Medical Centre \$20,000 (max)
- Boarding Fees \$20,000 (max)
 (2015 data provided by Welfare Office)

What do you think of those numbers, given the cost-of-living at this time and the reality of a devaluing dollar? And given that the Welfare Fund is financed from tuition, we don't have to tell you how the Welfare Fund is impacted, if fewer students can afford to attend per semester.

So how can we help each other?

We want you to donate to UTech, Jamaica through the Alumni Relations Office to enable us to:

- Support the Welfare Fund on your behalf as an Alumn, via 10% of proceeds
- Build our capacity to fund programmes and services to enhance the personal, professional and business development of the alumni community, as we continue to strengthen the relationship between our University and you.

And in exchange for the following donations you will receive

Professional Development Service	Donation	Discount %	Donation (including discount)
Resume Review A detailed review of your resume with comments written on relevant sections of the document. As relevant, additional resources will be shared to guide your further revision of the resume. 2 reviews via email, before and after critique and your revision.	\$3000		
LinkedIn Profile Review A detailed and written review of your LinkedIn Profile explaining what elements are necessary in the profile to align with the algorithm used by LinkedIn, so that you can maximize the networking benefit of this very powerful social media platform exclusively for professionals. 30 mins by phone/internet e.g. Skype or In person. Appointment required.	\$3000		
LinkedIn Networking Strategy Consultation A coaching session outlining networking activities within LinkedIn so you can network effectively based on your specific goals for joining LinkedIn. 30 mins by phone/internet e.g. Skype or In person. Appointment required.	\$3000		

Professional Development Service	Donation	Discount %	Donation (including discount)
Job Hunting Strategy Consultation A coaching session outlining multiple job hunting strategies which include traditional, online and off-line activities. 30 mins by phone/internet e.g. Skype or In person. Appointment required.	\$3000		
Professional Development Consultation A coaching session on strategies to overcome a career or workplace related challenge or to create a realistic life/work goal worthy of you. 30 mins by phone/internet e.g. Skype or In person. Appointment required.	\$3000		
Any three (3) services	\$9000	10%	\$8,100
Any four (4) services	\$12000	15%	\$10,200
Any five (5) services	\$15000	20%	\$12,000

In addition to receiving the professional development service(s) of your choice, your donation will be formally acknowledged by the University.

We know that with Alumni Relations traditions across Higher Education institutions, it is the custom to request donations based mainly on your philanthropic spirit. There is a place for that and no doubt there will be occasions when you voluntarily give, and also, we will ask you to respond in that way. However, we feel that on this occasion, we can help each other and work as partners.

We will help you achieve your professional and business development goals

While you help us strengthen the University's capacity to serve you and our student clients.

So if you are

- Jobless
- In need of a better job or career change
- Interested in strengthening your professional network
- Committed to investing in the development of our youth through education

Or.... if you would like to sponsor an alumn who needs these services but can't afford to make a donation, like members of last year's Graduating Class who are still unemployed, or our upcoming Graduating Class of this year who may face employment uncertainty

CONTACT US TODAY

to express interest in *Donating for Professional Development* and we will share with you the **Alumni Relations Professional Development Donation Form** with full details inclusive of payment options on and off-campus, and give you an appointment for your professional development service.

Contact

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Let Us Help Each Other Grow and Accomplish Much!

Thank you for supporting UTech, Jamaica.

Acres

Cheryll Messam, CPC Alumni Relations Manager