

# Start Networking Today!

## Freshman Year

- Get to know your professors, advisor, classmates, and B2E mentor.
- Participate in as many organizations and activities as your academic schedule will permit you to handle
- Consider joining a fraternity or sorority
- If currently employed, establish relationships with your boss and coworkers
- Visit Norman Career Services

## Sophomore Year

- Participate in several career interviews to bring your career into focus
- Attend informational sessions to obtain as much knowledge as possible about potential careers and employers
- Forge ties with professors, classmates, and coworkers
- Research internships in your career field(s)
- Obtain student membership to professional organizations
- Visit Norman Career Services

## Junior Year Very Important Year!

- Brainstorm a large list of potential networking contacts
- Have network contacts in your field critique your resume
- Make a list of companies you would like to work for and link these to your network contacts
- Sign up with one or more career networking sites, for example: LinkedIn
- Check for a database of alumni in your field to add to your network list
- Schedule several informational interviews in your field
- Create a business card with your contact information on it
- Begin to introduce yourself to every guest speaker you encounter
- Become increasingly active in professional organizations
- Intern within your field of study
- Visit Norman Career Services

## Senior Year

- Decide where you want to live after graduation
- Narrow your list of dream employers based on geography
- Strategize ways to contact key people in your dream companies
- Join professional organizations in your targeted geographical area
- Meet with your advisor early for an in-depth discussion of your career goals
- Continue to maintain contact with professors, students, employers, guest speakers, and others you have met through networking efforts
- Find out if your department offers a professional mentor program and request to be matched with a mentor in your field
- Fine tune your network contact list and set a goal to contact a certain number each week or month
- Continue informational interviewing
- Begin to contact people with whom you interviewed earlier in your academic career and inform them you are approaching graduation and remain very interested in their organization
- Enjoy your graduation ceremony because you should graduate with a job in hand!
- Visit Norman Career Services