UNIVERSITY OF St.Thomas

Unlock Your Tommie Network

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Welcome & Kickoff

Chat Introductions

Networking Basics

Grounding Your Goals

Making the Ask

Unlock Your Ecosystem



Career Resources and Services

1. 1-on-1 Appointments
2. Career Events and Fairs
3. Networking Strategy
4. Resume and Cover Letter Review
5. LinkedIn Optimization
6. Interview Practice
7. Job and Internship Search
8. Employer Connections
9. Career Exploration/Transition
10. Headshots

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Introduce Yourself in the Chat

Drop these details in the chat now:

1. **Name & Location:** Where are you joining from today?
2. **Field/Sector:** Current industry or target career area
3. **St. Thomas Connection:** Major, grad year or program

Optional:

Share Your LinkedIn or Contact Info

- Drop URL or email to grow your Tommie connections

What is Networking

Drop your thoughts in the chat:

What is one word or phrase that come to mind when you think of networking?

What is Your Networking Style?

You Bring:

- Unique skills
- Lived experiences
- Strengths
- Interests
- Contributions
- Values

Why Are You Networking?

- Are you job searching?
- Working to build your professional community?
- Exploring career options?
- Learning about an industry or organization?
- Something else?

Knowing your purpose helps set your goals

Ground Your Goals

Effective networking relies on a relationship-first mindset rather than transactional requests



Curiosity

Approach every conversation with a desire to learn about others' unique journeys.



Community

Lean into shared Tommie values and foundational alumni experiences.



Common Good

Seek mutual growth and ways to actively support fellow alumni advancement.

Making the Ask

If you are feeling reluctant, remember:

People like to be helpful

People appreciate the opportunity to share their story

Tommies help Tommies

When Reaching Out:

Choose with Intention

Be Clear and Concise

Make it Personal

Making the Ask: Wisdom from Tommie Alumni

“Approach outreach with a learning attitude. Say: I’m trying to learn about XYZ industry. Would you have 10 minutes to chat? I would love to learn about your background.”

- **Casey Holley**

“Keep the message concise and structured; separate out paragraphs; have an introductory sentence; and make sure to state clearly your ask/request.”

- **Daniel Hildebrandt, Maureen Michels, & Eshan Varma**

Hint: Keep requests clear and structured for painless reading

Hint: Mentioned a shared St. Thomas background or mutual interest

Unlock Your Tommie Ecosystem

St. Thomas Connect:

- Student/alumni networking & mentoring

Alumni Events:

- Tommie Alumni Pop-in @ Grayfox (Dayton Building) – October 27
- Tommie Give Day – November 10
- Alumni and Friends Christmas Luncheon – December 4
- Tommies Together – April 21
- Tommies @ the Twins (TBD)

Sustaining Momentum: Following Up

Thank You Note – Within 24 Hours

- Send a brief note referencing specific advice shared or topics covered during today's session

Value Share – 2 Weeks Later

- Forward an article or resource related to your discussion

Progress Update – Ongoing

- Share milestones or let them know how applying their advice turned out

Reciprocal Support – Pay It Forward

- Offer to introduce new Tommie Grads or share relevant opportunities



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Questions?