

Alumni Roadmaps

When building for your future, you might ask: “how does someone get that job or get into that industry?”

Networking with alumni reveals how unique skills, experiences, and relationships can contribute to career goals. That’s why Queen’s Student Alumni Association (QSAA) has conducted information interviews with some Queen’s alumni from diverse fields. In collaboration with Career Services, the Alumni Roadmaps have been designed to provide a snapshot of the most important details from these interviews along with advice and insights for current students’ career development. Additionally, there are a variety of links and resources provided throughout.



Rico Garcia
Engagement Manager

Learn more about Rico and his career path on Page 2.



Kevin Semple
Product Manager

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Andrea Mosher
Academic Obstetrician & Gynecologist

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Stacy Kelly
Philanthropy Director

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Allison Williams
Staff Lawyer

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Hannah Lee
Medical Student

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Rico Garcia

Engagement Manager



Undergraduate Insights

- Get involved! You develop multiple skills from extracurriculars.
- Quality over quantity. Choose one or two things you are passionate about and excel at them.
- If you are passionate about something that isn't on campus, go ahead and create it.
- Be disciplined and keep a routine.

Community & Extracurriculars

- Hosted the CRFC 101.9 FM Weekly Radio Show.
 - Worked as a Residence Life Don and a Senior Don.
 - Chaired the Alma Mater Society Board of Directors.
 - President of Arts & Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS).
 - President of the Queen's Student Alumni Association.
 - Queen's Innovation Centre Summer Initiative (QISCI) entrepreneurship program.
- Get involved in [student government!](#)

Experiences After Graduation

After his undergrad, Rico started as a Business Analyst at McKinsey & Company. He travelled across the globe for projects and gained experience working in diverse cultures.

Rico also joined the Queen's University Alumni Association (QUAA) immediately after graduation. 7+ years since his graduation, he's had several different roles.

Check out the [QUAA Website!](#)

Relevant Skills

During his Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Rico developed technical skills. He then pursued a Master of Public Policy, where he advanced his transferrable and quantitative skills and gained subject matter expertise.

During his studies, Rico was involved in different student-leadership roles where he gained transferrable skills like negotiation, public speaking, leadership, and communication.

Visit [the club directory](#) to explore 300+ AMS student clubs!

Degrees, Training & Certificates

Rico complemented his Bachelor of Arts in Economics at Queen's University with a Master of Public Policy from Harvard University.

Several of Rico's peers hold a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

Explore credential requirements for prospective careers using the [Canada Job Bank's Job Profiles](#).

Career Advice

- Know who you are working with to provide personalized suggestions when consulting.
- Say yes to opportunities beyond your comfort zone.
- Focus on fostering human relationships, not a social media presence.
- Be ready to put in the work, stay open-minded, and don't be afraid to try new paths when one doesn't work out.



Kevin Semple

Product Manager



Undergraduate Insights

- Get outside of the university bubble.
- Try new things – don't be afraid to fail and learn from your mistakes.
- Build a strong network.
- Find something outside of school that you enjoy, like a subculture, club, and/or activity.
- Read textbooks before class.

Community & Extracurriculars

- The Queen's Mostly Autonomous Sailboat (QMAS) team.
- The Queen's African Caribbean Student Association.
- An Intramural basketball team.
- The Kinetic Crew.
- QUIP Internship – Systems Designer at Ericsson.

Learn about [Queen's University Internship Program \(QUIP\)](#)!

Experiences After Graduation

While working for Ericson, Kevin joined a small team of engineers on a 4-month assignment in Stockholm, Sweden. Later, he spent a year with Actua, engaging youths across Canada in STEM workshops.

Kevin went on to work in Vancouver as a Customer Success Manager and Solutions Consultant in the "software as a service" field, before joining Microsoft as a Product Manager. Book a [career appointment](#) to explore options for post-grad.

Relevant Skills

Kevin's coursework during his Bachelor of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering helped him develop problem solving, communication, and writing skills.

As a dancer and head of operations for Queen's Recreational Breakdance Club, Kevin honed his ability to present himself and engage with an audience.

Review the list of skills and competencies developed during a degree in the "What will I learn?" box of the [Major Maps](#)!

Degrees, Training & Certificates

Kevin's Bachelor of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering was coupled with on-the-job training and self-learning.

Educational backgrounds in the Tech industry are diverse and include bachelor, master, or PhD degrees in computer science, engineering or other related fields.

Explore Queen's [Grad Maps](#)!

Career Advice

- Be prepared to tell your story.
- Engage with others to connect personally and professionally.
- Learn to admit when you don't know something.
- Find something meaningful in your work. I am part of a group focusing on diversity & inclusion at Microsoft.



Andrea Mosher

Academic Obstetrician & Gynecologist



Undergraduate Insights

- Find your personal style of learning.
- Find a core study group and help each other.
- Find a good group of friends for support.
- Undergrad is an opportunity to create great memories and build a strong foundation for your career.

Community & Extracurriculars

- Volunteered with ASUS Lost Paws and at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston.
 - Chaired the Queen's Women in Science and Engineering organization.
 - Worked as server and caregiver throughout the summer.
- Explore the ["Summer Job Search Links"](#) tipsheet.

Experiences After Graduation

After moving to Calgary for medical school, Andrea joined the Calgary Queen's University Alumni Association (QUAA) branch where she was able to meet diverse Queen's alumni from various fields.

Through QUAA, Andrea met a local pediatrician and was able to shadow them in order to learn more about being an MD.

Find your [local QUAA branch!](#)

Relevant Skills

During her Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Life Sciences, Andrea honed her own personal style of acquiring knowledge, which served her well throughout the rest of her academic career.

Andrea's coursework also provided a strong foundation for studying medicine.

Check out [Queen's Student Academic Success Services!](#)

Degrees, Training & Certificates

After her undergrad, Andrea pursued the Leaders in Medicine MD and PhD program at the University of Calgary. She then completed her Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at McMaster University.

All physicians need a Doctor of Medicine degree (MD).

Learn more from our ["Applying to Medical School!"](#) Tipsheet.

Career Advice

- Seek contributions from all team members as diverse perspectives and experiences are valuable.
- Do not wish away where you are; soak in the present moment and be grateful.
- The vision you have for yourself evolves over time. You may reach the same endpoint through a different journey than you anticipated.



Stacy Kelly

Non-Profit Executive



Undergraduate Insights

- Be open to opportunities as your path is not always linear.
- I wish I had done an overseas adventure, like an exchange.
- Take mixed electives in other subjects to broaden your knowledge base.

Community & Extracurriculars

- President of the Kingston Student Housing Cooperative and sat on the Main Campus Residence Council.
- Joined Model UN.
- Joined Ontario Public Interest Research Group.
- Joined the Queen's Student Alumni Association (QSAA).
- Founded the Adventure Camp at the Arts & Science Undergraduate Society.

Review current job postings with the job board on [MyCareer](#).

Experiences After Graduation

Stacy worked as a Program Manager and later as an Advancement Officer for Smith School of Business, before becoming a Senior Campaign Officer for Queen's. Next, he moved to Toronto for 11 years to lead Alumni Relations & Development for OCAD University, followed by taking on the role as Director of Philanthropy for The 519. He is back in Kingston as Executive Director of Community Foundation for Kingston & Area.

Explore [Queen's Alumni Chapters!](#)

Relevant Skills

Stacy's community involvement outside of the classroom helped him develop his transferable skills. At Queen's, Stacy published in the peer-reviewed *The Undergraduate Review* and the *Queen's Anti-Racism Review* which improved his research, communication, and writing abilities.

Check out the [Queen's Journal](#) and the [Undergraduate Review!](#)

Degrees, Training & Certificates

Stacy complemented his Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Philosophy with graduate studies in Education at Queen's and a "Leading with Foresight" certificate from OCAD University.

Educational backgrounds vary and may include post-secondary degrees or certificates in a related field.

See the [workshops](#) Career Services offers in the MyCareer events calendar, including their Graduate School workshop!

Career Advice

- Always be ethical, stand up by voicing your concerns, and lead by example.
- You need wisdom to know what you need to accomplish, so seek out advice from experts.
- Know yourself, your goals, and your aspirations.
- Your boss may not always be your leader and mentor.



Allison Williams

Staff Lawyer



Undergraduate Insights

- Prioritize your personal well-being and be kind to yourself.
- Take advantage of everything the university offers that is of interest to you.
- Be open and willing to change your academic path as you develop and discover your interests.

Community & Extracurriculars

- A Queen's Residence Don.
 - A Clark Hall Pub staff member.
 - The Alma Mater Society - Food Bank Manager.
 - The Alma Mater Society - Social Issues Commissioner.
 - President of the Queen's Student Alumni Association.
 - Summer internship with Countdown to Queen's.
- Check out the [Summer Work Experience Program \(SWEP\)](#).

Experiences After Graduation

- A yearlong TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Fellowship.
- Summered as an Ian Scott Public Interest Intern for the Grand Council of Treaty #3 Women's Council.
- Participated in Immigration & Refugee Intensive Program.
- Completed articles at the Office of the Children's Lawyer and was called to the Ontario Bar in 2016.
- Worked in private practice for a few years before joining Justice for Children and Youth (JFCY).

Relevant Skills

Through her coursework, Allison enhanced her skills in critical thinking, scenario analysis, time management, and organization.

She was also exposed to a variety of perspectives, which helped her reflect on important societal issues, like gender equity.

Explore the courses available to Queen's students on [LinkedIn Learning](#).

Degrees, Training & Certificates

Allison completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science and Women's Studies at Queen's, and a Master of Political Studies at the University of Toronto. Allison then went on to pursue her Juris Doctor (JD) degree at Osgoode Hall Law School.

To become a lawyer, one must complete a JD or a Bachelor of Law and pass the barrister and solicitor examinations. Check out the ['Applying to Law School'](#) tipsheet.

Career Advice

- Never underestimate the importance of networking with people in your field.
- It is okay to change your professional course.
- Seeking out a professional career coach is a helpful resource.
- Get out of your comfort zone and be willing to take on different opportunities.

Book a [resume or cover letter appointment](#) today!



Hannah Lee

Medical Student



Undergraduate Insights

- Always ask for feedback. Constructive criticism is truly the best way to learn and grow.
- Be intentional with your time and dedicate some to your passions and interests.
- Pulling an all-nighter is never worth it.

Community & Extracurriculars

- ASUS – Community Outreach Commissioner.
 - Peer Support Center Volunteer.
 - Summer Jobs – daycare employee and hockey instructor.
 - Research with Queen's Public Health Department.
 - Internship with Institute of Clinical Evaluative Sciences.
- Learn about [student research opportunities, funding and resources](#) online.

Experiences After Graduation

As a medical student, Hannah worked on a qualitative research project with local physicians and the Indigenous Wellness Council to describe how COVID disproportionately impacted marginalized groups in Kingston. She is also combining two interests in neonatal care and palliative care with a research project in the Department of Pediatrics. Check out [Queen's Connects Career Network for Students and Alumni](#) on LinkedIn to build your professional network!

Relevant Skills

While balancing her course load and extracurriculars, Hannah gained time-management skills and learned how to delegate and prioritize tasks. She also gained conflict resolution skills in her leadership roles.

Reflect on your transferrable skills with [the Queen's Skills Cards](#).

Degrees, Training & Certificates

While completing her Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Life Sciences, Hannah completed student courses from the Human Rights and Equity Office on positive space, anti-oppression, and suicide prevention.

Explore [courses for students](#) from the Human Rights and Equity Office.

Career Advice

- Remind yourself that you deserve your place and that your mentors were once where you are.
- Many people will experience imposter syndrome. It is often challenging to seek out opportunities or ask to be included, but it's always okay to advocate for yourself.
- It is okay to make mistakes because mistakes are one of the best ways to learn. Making a mistake is better than not trying.

Summary of Links and Resources

Rico Garcia

- Visit [the club directory](#) to explore 300+ AMS student clubs.
- Get involved in [student government](#).
- Explore careers using the [Canada Job Bank's Job Profiles](#).
- Check out the [QUAA website](#).

Andrea Mosher

- Check out [Queen's Student Academic Success Services](#).
- Explore the "[Summer Job Search Links](#)" tipsheet.
- Learn more from our "[Applying to Medical School](#)" tipsheet.
- Find your [local QUAA branch here](#).

Kevin Semple

- "What will I learn?" box of the [Major Maps](#).
- Learn about [Queen's University Internship Program \(QUIP\)](#).
- Explore Queen's [Grad Maps](#).
- Book a [career appointment](#) to explore options for post-grad.

Stacy Kelly

- Check out the [Queen's Journal](#) and the [Undergraduate Review](#).
- Review current job postings with the job board on [MyCareer](#).
- See [workshops](#) Career Services is offering in the MyCareer events calendar, including their Graduate School workshop.
- Explore [Queen's Alumni Chapters](#).

Allison Williams

- Explore the courses available to Queen's students on [LinkedIn Learning](#).
- Check out the [Summer Work Experience Program \(SWEP\)](#).
- Check out the "[Applying to Law School](#)" tipsheet.
- Book a [resume or cover letter appointment](#) today.

Hannah Lee

- Reflect on your transferrable skills with [Queen's Skills Cards](#).
- Learn about [student research opportunities, funding and resources](#) online.
- Explore [courses for students](#) from the Human Rights and Equity Office.
- Check out [Queen's Connects Career Network for Students and Alumni](#) on LinkedIn to build your professional network.

Additional Career Resources

Career Services:

Available to current students and alumni who graduated in the last 12 months.

- **Career Appointments:** book one today through [MyCareer!](#)
 - [Career Education & Coaching](#)
 - [Resume & Cover Letter Reviews](#)
 - [Job Search for International Students](#)
- **Drop-In Career Advising:** [Mon-Fri, 12-2 pm](#) via zoom or in-person; Zoom link in the [MyCareer](#) events calendar.
- **In-House Workshops:** Interactive [workshops](#) on a variety of [career topics](#).

Career Resources

Available for all students, alumni, and the general public!

- **Tipsheets:** Great first place to start, information on a variety of [common career topics!](#)
- **Major Maps & Grad Maps:** Summaries of Queen's [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) programs.
- **Queen's Best __ Magazines:** Strong examples for [resumes](#), [cover letters](#), and [interviews](#).
- **Queen's Skills Cards:** 44 transferrable [skill cards](#) designed to facilitate skill reflection.
- **Queen's Skills Sorter:** Online [interactive tool](#) to support transferrable skill reflection.

Other Links and Resources

- [Queen's Alumni Chapters](#) – get involved in the Black Alumni Chapter, Indigenous Alumni Chapter, or Queer Alumni Chapter.
- [QUAA Branches](#) – connect with alumni around the world.
- Find global opportunities through [international exchanges](#) and the [Bader International Study Centre](#).
- Looking for a mentor, or the chance to speak to any of these incredible alumni? Contact gsaam@queensu.ca.