

SPEAKER SERIES

Collaborations



The U of A Career Centre works with more than 400 volunteers annually to deliver career education programming to students and alumni. Our connections to professionals in the community and our ability to engage them in meaningful ways allow for cost-effective, impactful programs.

What is a Speaker Series?

Speaker Series provide students with timely, first-hand career advice and insights that highlight possible/potential career paths. These events help students understand the meaningful ways in which their education is applicable in the workforce.

Work with us and inspire students

We appreciate the time professionals take to share how their degree and the knowledge and perspectives gained along the way continue to shape their career.

At Speaker Series, we ask professionals to:

- Share personal career stories and/or experiences that focus on how to navigate the transition from university to the workforce.
- Identify the skills and experiences that contribute to building a successful career.
- Offer advice on next steps and possible approaches students can take to carve their own career path.

Format

Speaker Series can be offered virtually or in-person. Virtual events allow us to reach a broader audience of speakers, students, and alumni outside of Edmonton.

We have offered Speaker Series for over 30 years and we continue to appreciate opportunities to collaborate with campus partners and stakeholders to serve the members of our campus community.

To ensure we continue to adapt the program to meet the needs of our students, we offer Speaker Series in a variety of formats to suit audiences. Some of which, include the following:

- **Facilitated discussions:** A Career Centre staff member moderates a discussion between the speakers and encourages questions from students.
- **Small group discussions:** Professionals provide a brief introduction before engaging in a series of 10-minute rotating discussions with groups of 4-6 students. This format works best with a smaller audience.

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Sponsorship

Speaker Series are possible with sponsorships from faculties, departments, student groups, and professional associations. Becoming a Speaker Series sponsor showcases your support for students' career development and highlights the benefits of your programs.

Sponsorship Rates

The costs associated with sponsoring a Speaker Series can range from \$300 to \$400, depending on the size of the event (e.g. number of speakers, anticipated attendance).

Hosting a Speaker Series

We are happy to assist you in hosting a Speaker Series that meets the career education needs of students. To ensure the successful planning of this type of event, we ask that you provide us with a minimum of three months notice to allow us time to recruit speakers and promote the event to students. To request a Speaker Series, please contact careereducation@ualberta.ca or call us at **780-492-0498**.

Stakeholder Engagement

A Speaker Series event can highlight your department or organization's support of student services in the following ways:

- **Prospective students and parents:** These free events are open to the public and provide audience members with an opportunity to learn about possible career options in your discipline. Hearing insights from professionals can help a prospective student decide if an academic program is the right fit for them.
- **Current undergraduate and graduate students:** Students want to use their education and understand its value in the job market. Interacting with professionals who are applying their degrees in their careers can help students renew their level of engagement in their studies and life on campus.
- **Alumni engagement and advancement:** Alumni are looking for meaningful ways to connect to the U of A. These events provide a glimpse into the impact their contributions and interactions have in helping students to succeed.
- **Employers:** These events provide opportunities for employers to connect with students. They reinforce the value the students' degree and studies bring to the workforce. Each event provides students and employers the opportunity to network.

Office Hours:

September to April:
Monday – Friday,
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

May to August:
Monday – Friday,
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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