Welcome to the second issue of the ICDC Newsletter! We wish to thank all those who have given us their feedback on our first issue. We incorporated some changes to make it an enjoyable reading experience for all. We are delighted to share with you interesting articles on the latest activities organized by our center and on the most talked about topics in the job arena.

During the last part of 2009, ICDC entered into a new partnership with Barclays Bank through the Student Sponsorship Program. Eight deserving UAE national students received sponsorship through this program. We have also organized an Open Day to showcase “The Big Start” Business Plan competition organized by Al Tamimi Investments. Aside from these activities, two articles titled “What to Do When You Lose Your Job” and “Working Your Way Up to Success” includes the results of extensive research to provide you with the best tips and advice.

Indeed, this issue is a rich source of information for you to ponder upon and utilize. We hope that you will enjoy reading it. In addition, we would like to get your feedback and suggestions on how to improve the content of our newsletter. We highly encourage your submission of articles that we will consider for publication in the next edition.

Cordially,

Amina El Marzak

UD CAREER FAIR 2010
JUMPSTART YOUR CAREER WITH BLUE CHIP COMPANIES

- Update your CVs! OR
- Set-up an appointment with your Career Counselor for assistance in CV writing.
- Companies are coming to hire the right talent

March 2nd & 3rd, the Common Room, 2nd floor, MSUD Building, 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

DRIVEN TO SUCCEED!
Destination Employment

1. CREATE / UPDATE YOUR CV
2. MEET YOUR CAREER ADVISOR TO REVIEW YOUR CV
3. ATTEND THE CAREER FAIR
4. READ THE STUDENTS’ CAREER FAIR GUIDE

Participating companies include:

El Marzak

message from the ICDC manager
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A lot of successful people were neither born successful, nor were they handed the opportunity to achieve on a silver platter. All of them went through the same rigorous uphill battle to become what they are today and that is “the best in what they do.” So what helped successful people achieve their goals and made their dreams become reality? They all have something in common and these are the most valuable traits that one should possess to reach the top.

1. **Plot Your Expectations:** You cannot achieve anything if you do not expect anything. Set high expectations and standards for yourself so that no matter how high or low they are, you won’t get sidetracked from your objectives.

2. **Do Not Fear Failure:** Everybody has their share of failures and this is what makes them stand up, pick up the pieces and eventually makes them stronger and better individuals. Failure is a natural way of learning and improving oneself. Successful people learn from their mistakes and are therefore shrewd enough not to commit the same ones again.

3. **Never Cease to Try:** It may seem annoying at times but successful people are the ones who never cease to try out new ideas and don’t shirk from risks, and challenges. The trial and error method has been proven to be successful time and again.

4. **Never Give Up:** The hunger to be the best in what you do and what you can be is what makes people successful. Successful people are never satisfied with one or two successes, nor will they be the first ones to leave when the going gets tough. They just persist and face life with a determined attitude of never quitting till its over.

5. **No Pain No Gain:** Athletes are the perfect illustrations of this adage. They spend hours and hours on long and tedious practice to be the fastest, strongest, and the best in their field. In the end, the much coveted gold goes to the one who does all the hard work.

6. **Make Things Happen:** Everybody can dream of being successful, but those that do something about their dreams are the ones who become successful in life. You cannot be successful by just imagining things. You have to spend time and effort and go through a lot of trials and failures before you reach the top of the ladder. That is why it is important for you to make that first step in climbing the ladder of success so one day your dreams become reality.

7. **Know Your Passion:** You cannot be successful in something that you do not have interest in. Do something that interests and excites you. You will be surprised how things can be done very easily if you have a passion for it and interest in it.
In these very uncertain times, no job is recession proof. The probability of you losing your job is very high especially now that companies are in a cut-back mode and will probably do a lot of cost-cutting to survive the slump period. The fear and anxiety of losing your job is more than enough to give you sleepless nights, eye bags and worse, illnesses that you have never realized existed but which are now staring you in the face.

So what do you do if you lose your job? Fear not, there are ways and means to overcome what may seem like the end of the road. Check out some of these tips below which can help you on the road to recovery.

1. Negotiate an acceptable severance package: Even if your company does not offer a severance package, you can always try to negotiate such a package, especially if you are one of those employees who have an exemplary track record.

2. Retrain, Update and Network (RUN): This is no time for you to rest, relax, and enjoy the sunshine. You have to do double time since it’s not only you who is looking for a job. You’re out there competing with millions of others.

3. Use online job boards: There are different job boards for different industries. Depending on which industry you are targeting, some sites may prove more useful than others. Some recommended online job boards are: Monster Gulf, Bayt, Gulf Talent, Charterhouse, Clarendon Parker, Jobs in Dubai, Jobtrackme and IQ Selection.

4. Use your money wisely: Losing your job is also a time for you to rethink your priorities and to adjust your budget. You may also have to realign your lifestyle which means spending your money only on necessities. Tightening one’s belt in times of uncertainty can certainly go a long way in helping you survive this difficult period.

5. Diversify: Look for other means of earning a livelihood. This is the best time for you to hone your skills and talents, capitalize on them. If you can bake great cakes, then you can make some money from this. If you are good at drawing then you could apply for a part-time job as a layout artist or designer.

6. Seek support: It’s a devastating feeling to lose your job especially if you are the bread winner in the family. Accepting the situation with an open mind and allowing family members to give their support will surely make things easier for you.

7. Think positive!: It may take as long as 3 to 6 months to become re-employed and for some, even longer. Don’t let such long wait get you down. Never give up. It is through patience and persistence that one finally achieves his or her goal.
The “Big Start” is a student entrepreneurial competition enabling the winning student(s) to set-up and run their own business after they graduate with full funding and support from Al Tamimi Investments. The winning student(s) will have a structured shareholding in their business and will be given the title of CEO.

The competition is open to candidates from all nationalities and from all majors. The only entry requirement is that you are a final year undergraduate student. The Big Start is administered online and to participate, you need to register at www.thebigstart.ae

To date, the University of Dubai is 2nd out of 34 universities in the student registration category, and in the first round of the business plan proposal submission.

Veronica Zyurnyayeva is the new ICDC coordinator. She is an incoming sophomore at the University of Dubai studying Business Administration in Management. Veronica is a consistent honor student with a 4.0 GPA in her first year. With her support, ICDC looks forward to providing UD students, alumni and employers with increased services and new and innovative programs.

You may send your comments and suggestions to: icdc@ud.ac.ae