

CHANGE MAKERS

Welcome new graduates

Returning home and embarking on a new path can be an exciting and anxious time for new graduates as they navigate their new path. What better way to welcome new alumni in the fold than to give them a warm welcome back to their home country. It is also a wonderful way to recruit new alumni in to your alumni groups.

Here are a few steps you can take to welcome them home:

- Choose a location and select a date that most of new graduates will be back in the country for. This would generally be around late August for the mid-year graduates, and late January for end-of-year graduates.
- There are a number of ways you might like to welcome home new graduates:
 - An informal networking gathering
 - Invite an inspiring alumnus to speak to the new graduates about their experiences returning home
 - A panel style event featuring a new graduate
 - Speed mentoring (5-10 minutes, alumni to graduate)
- Reach out to the UQ Alumni Relations and Engagement office to find out how many new graduates are returning home. Also plan to have alumni attend the event to welcome new graduates to the alumni community.
- With assistance from the Alumni Relations and Engagement office, create an invitation and registration link so you have an idea of who will attend. This is also a great way to gather information on new graduates and have industry human resource representation.
- If the event is a more formal occasion, you may like to visit alumni.uq.edu.au/host-event and refer to the **How to host an event** tool.
- Host the event.
- Collate attendee details and send to the Alumni Relations and Engagement office.
- Invite new graduates to join your social media pages, and get involved with the alumni community.
- Stay in touch!