

Cracking the { code }

Tales in networking and branding

About us 🖐️

- **David An**

- Graduated from UIUC in May 2023
- Currently working in the startup space !!
- Hobbies outside of work: endurance cycling, running, and writing :)

- **Monica Para**

- Graduated from UIUC in May 2023
- Currently working in trading
- What I love to do: running, reading, and playing Mario Kart!

A cold application is a dead application

Being Daring

- **Cold messaging is effective** if you have **intention**
 - Whether it is **having genuine interest of learning more about someone's personal journey** or seeing them as **someone that can help you achieve your goals**
 - When messaging them, **point out something that made you interested in talking to them** whether it be a post they posted **you resonated with, share similar interests, etc**
- **Schedule 20-30 minute informal coffee-chats with a plan**
 - What do you **want to get out of the coffee chat?**
 - Informal Mentorship
 - Professional or Personal Advice
 - Aside from asking how **they can help you, ask how you can help them**
 - Thank them for their time
- **Most important question to ask in the end: who should I talk to next?**
 - Personal story how I landed my first product management internship through coffee chats

Networking with Purpose

- A career fair is a great way to network with like-minded peers, recruiters, and get a glimpse of what an industry is like
- With so many people, **how do you stand out from the crowd?**
 - A personal story from college and my first internship. What did I do different? Challenge the status quo.
 - **Being genuine** and **taking the effort** to make these relationships and connections with others.
- Making yourself stand out and **building** relationships
 - **Relationship Piggy Bank**
 - Follow up with purpose, **be actionable**
 - Being **resourceful** with **school and events**
 - From the recruiting side, stories about candidates that stood out to me, what recruiters look for

Opportunities in School

- Everyone says you should get involved, but how do you get involved with something?
 - **Join a community** you are interested in **learning something new** or **recreational**
 - **Being able to teach others goes a long way**, especially **TAing classes you enjoyed**
- During my sophomore and junior year, I became a TA for my university's Intro to CS course (CS124) and **it helped me:**
 - Be able to **explain abstract concepts in simple terms**
 - Develop **leadership skills** by **taking initiatives to improve the course experience** from suggestions made by students and course staff
 - **Build meaningful relationships** with my **professor and other TAs** that initially started with a Course Staff Discord channel for weekly game nights that grew into a **community that helped me navigate both academically and professionally**

But what kind of opportunities are there?

Internships



Traditional opportunities to spend the summer or a semester working full time for a company to gain professional experience

- **Software Engineering**
 - Microsoft
- **Product Management**
 - Salesforce APM
- **Finance**
 - Synchrony BLP Finance
- **Consulting**
 - Boston Consulting Group

...and more!

Externships



Non traditional opportunities where you get to spend a few days or weeks gaining exposure to technical skills and what it's like working at the company. Often times you have the opportunity for the next year's internship program.

- **Software Engineering**
 - Microsoft New Technologists
 - CodePath SITE
 - Uber Career SWE Prep Fellowship
- **Consulting**
 - BCG Bridge To Consulting Workshop
 - Bain & Company CREW
- **Others**
 - Paragon One
 - IBM Accelerate Summer Program
 - Synchrony BLP Sophomore Summit

...and more!

Rotational Programs

Non traditional opportunities typically for new grads to rotate with 2 - 3 teams within 2 years.

- **Software Engineering**
 - Capital One TLDP
 - Target
- **Product Management**
 - Meta RPM
 - Salesforce APM
- **Data Analytics**
 - United Airlines ECDLP
 - Capital One Data Analyst Rotational Program
- **Finance**
 - Synchrony BLP Finance
 - Microsoft Finance Rotation Analyst

...and more!

Extracurriculars

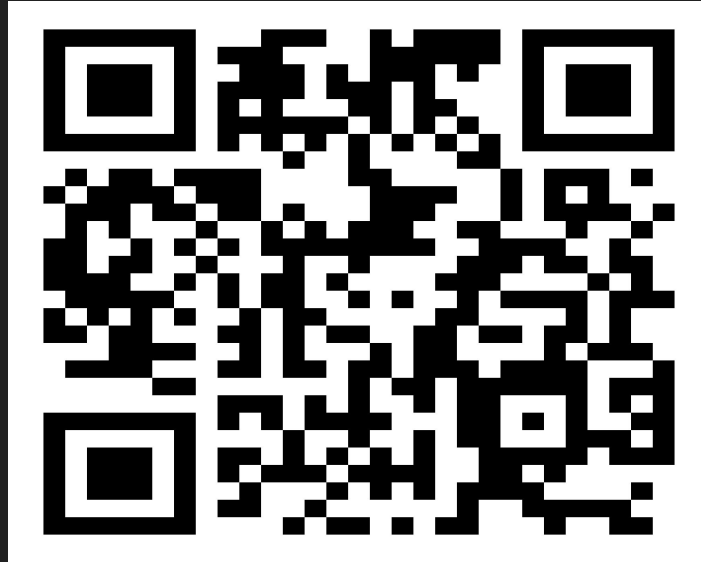
Extracurricular events are a great way to meet friends from a wide variety of different backgrounds and make some lasting connections.

- **Hackathons**
 - Like Technica :)
 - MLH
- **Interest Groups**
 - National Center for Women in Information & Technology (NCWIT)
 - Rewriting The Code
- **Conferences**
 - Grace Hopper Celebration
 - SWE

...and more!

One more thing...

Our Resources!

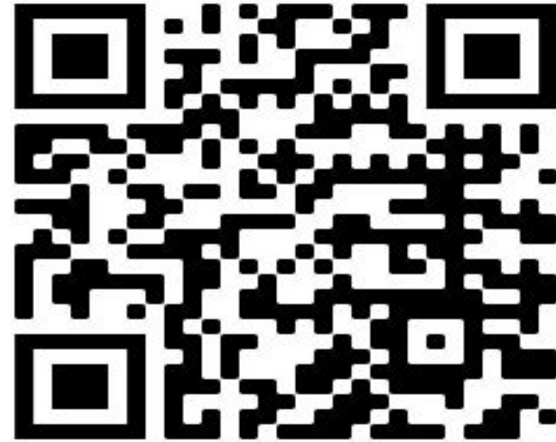


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Let's Connect!



David An



Monica Para

Thank You!
