

Monthly Newsletter

**KAPLAN DIGITAL
PATHWAYS**♦
May 2024

Unleashing the Power of Volunteering: Join the Movement!

Welcome to the third issue of our newsletter! This time, we're diving into a topic that's close to our hearts: the power and beauty of volunteering.

Volunteering isn't just about filling up hours; it's about igniting change, building bridges, and leaving a lasting impact on our community. It's a chance to step out of your comfort zone, develop new skills, and make connections that go beyond the classroom. Imagine the satisfaction of seeing an event you helped organize come to life, or the joy of knowing your efforts brought a smile to someone's face.

One of the most impactful ways to volunteer is by supporting our incredible student representatives. These individuals are the champions of our student body, tirelessly advocating for your needs and working to create a better college experience. In this issue, we spotlight their efforts and achievements. By lending them a hand, you're not only amplifying their voice but also becoming a crucial part of our college's progress.

Here are some exciting ways to get involved:

- **Join Focus Group Discussions:** Occasionally, requests from focus group volunteers are sent out. Be on the look out for the next one.

- **Showcase Your Talents and Engage in Events:** Be an active participant in events organized in the college. Your energy and enthusiasm can help these events reach new heights.

- **Share Your Vision:** Have an idea to improve our community? Our student reps want to hear from you. Your insights could spark the next big initiative.

Remember, every small action contributes to a larger movement. By volunteering, you become a key player in creating a supportive, dynamic, and inclusive community. Let's work together to make our college a place where everyone can shine. Dive into this issue for more inspiration and stories about how volunteering can transform lives—including your own. Let's harness the power of giving back and make a real difference, together!

-COLLEGE SERVICES TEAM



Career Focus: How can volunteering help your career?

Volunteer work is always an enriching experience. It allows you to grow as a person, learn more about the world and give back to society. But, you may be wondering: “how exactly can volunteering help your career?”.

Impress employers and secure a job

In today's ever-competitive job market, it's important to stand out from other applicants. A great way to do this is by having volunteer work on your CV or résumé.

It not only makes your job application unique, but also shows that you possess skills that can be transferred from your volunteer role to the workplace. These can include anything from leadership skills and creativity to having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic. Getting involved in community projects and charity work will help you strengthen these particular skills and attributes.

Volunteering also gives you the chance to adapt to different situations, which is a useful ability to have when it comes to job interviews. This, alongside the development of your confidence and communication skills, means you'll be able to impress employers before you've even started your job.

Many of our university partners offer opportunities to volunteer. For example, the University of York has an established network of partnerships with local charities.

Each year, 600 students apply for roles across fields such as health and wellbeing, social justice and sustainability.

Build connections

Another answer to the question “how can volunteering help your career?”, is that it helps you to meet people. It's always important to make connections and network with other professionals. And it's a good idea to start making these connections from the college and at the university, as it may come in useful when applying for jobs after you graduate.

This is because a close connection could either write a great letter of recommendation for you to show to a potential employer, or they may even help you find a job or employ you themselves.

For example, the University of Birmingham offers community volunteering opportunities at a number of well-known organisations, such as Childline and the National Trust. Securing contacts with employees at such reputable charities will make your recommendation from them more credible, and more likely to stand out to an employer.



Career Focus: How can volunteering help your career? (cont'd)



Develop as a person

Volunteering can contribute greatly to your personal development and help foster your values. This especially applies to volunteering roles that involve community service. These types of volunteering positions are very popular among students, with many of these establishments offering programmes in collaboration with local communities.

Additionally, because the impact of your community service is a result of how much time and effort you put into it, it helps you develop a strong work ethic and a sense of responsibility and accountability. These characteristics will be admired in the workplace and help you go far in your career.

Experience a work environment

It's valuable to seek progression and development outside of the classroom. A great way to do this is by obtaining real-world experience in a work environment with different teams, colleagues and people to report to.

This type of work teach students professionalism in the workplace.

Discover your dream career

Volunteering roles are an opportunity to try something new and work in an environment that you aren't familiar with. This could lead you to discover a job, a sector or even a company that you'd really like to work in, one that you may not have considered before.

So, can volunteering help your career? Yes! Hopefully you're now excited about the benefits of volunteering and the choices available to you.

-Talía Gilliam

CALL *for* VOLUNTEERS





Our Student Representatives In Action

Our dedicated student representatives have been hard at work, tirelessly gathering feedback and addressing your concerns. Over the past few months, they've actively engaged with students, listening to your worries and suggestions through meetings and feedback sessions. They have then taken these insights to the staff, ensuring that your voices are heard at the highest levels.

Thanks to their efforts, significant progress is being made on many of the issues you've raised. We want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our student reps for their unwavering commitment and hard work. Their dedication is making a real difference in enhancing your college experience.

Looking ahead, the month of June will be another crucial feedback period. During this time, we encourage you to share your thoughts and concerns. You can do this by completing an anonymous feedback form or by meeting with student reps personally. Our goal is to continue improving your college experience, and your input is invaluable in this process.

In addition to gathering feedback, our student reps have been active participants in focus group discussions on a variety of topics. Focus groups involve small, diverse groups of students across the Kaplan Network coming together to discuss specific issues in depth, providing detailed feedback and generating ideas for improvement. This method allows us to gain a deeper understanding of student perspectives and develop more effective solutions. They have been outstanding!

Now that you've heard about their hard work, let's meet our past student representatives who finished their program with us in May 2024. Congratulations to them!

Name: **Ahad** Bin Bashar

Award: Foundation Certificate for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: **Claudia** Efata Manuellaputri

Award: Pre-Master's for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: **Xiaopeng** Lin (Penny)

Award: Pre-Master's for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: **Songlin** Hua

Award: Pre-Master's for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: **Sasha** Tong Siu Kei Derbidge

Award: Foundation Certificate for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: **Xin** Liu

Award: Pre-Master's for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Currently, we have an amazing new set of student representatives who have hit the ground running and have put their best to improve the college experience students have. Let's meet them too:

Name: Bo Wu

Program: Digital Pre-Master's 2 Terms for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: Yiqing Wu

Program: Digital Pre-Master's 2 Terms for Business, Law and Social Sciences



Name: Eliane Coulibaly

Program: Digital Pre-Master's 2 Terms for Science and Engineering

Name: Weiyi Gu

Program: Digital Pre-Master's 2 Terms for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: Huili Cong (Scarlet)

Program: Digital Foundation Certificate 2 Terms for Business, Law and Social Sciences

Name: Chaochao Zhang

Program: Digital Pre-Master's 2 Terms for Science and Engineering

Some of them have graciously shared a bit of their lives with us so sit back and get to know the students who have volunteered to serve you.



BO WU

Hi, I am Bo Wu, and I am currently a student majoring in Education Leadership Management. My dream school is the University of Nottingham.

As a student representative, I am truly honoured to have the opportunity to communicate with everyone in this program. I have a passion for learning and am always eager to acquire new knowledge. I also enjoy sharing my insights and ideas with others. I believe that we can make a positive and uplifting learning environment through our collective efforts. I look forward to further interaction with everyone.



SASHA DERBIDGE

Hello everyone! My name is Sasha and I'm a student representative for Kaplan. I completed a foundation course in Business, Law and Social Sciences while at Kaplan and I found the course to be incredibly insightful and allowed me to prepare for my progression onto the University of Nottingham for my Bachelor in Law.

This course not only taught me the importance of proper essay formatting such as citations and references. Apart from my lessons being academically relevant to my degree of choice, I was also able to make friends with many students from various parts of the world. I am very grateful for all the useful feedback given back by teachers across the course and I hope all new students at Kaplan enjoyed the journey as much as I did!"



ELIANE



CHAOCHAO

My name is Chaochao Zhang, a preparatory student of Kaplan, and I will go to the University of Nottingham to study for a master's degree in Computer and science in September this year. I used to work as a big data engineer and project manager, so I have a better understanding of the importance of professional knowledge. I also hope to learn computer related knowledge in depth. I am looking forward to the life of studying in the UK. I am looking forward to communicating with international students from different countries to expand my horizons and make myself better.

MUCH
appreciated

CLAUDIA

Hello! I am Claudia from Indonesia. A fun fact about me, I used to study Graphic Design in the UK and later did a career shift into Marketing, which is what I will be pursuing for my Master's later on. I am delighted to serve the Kaplan community as your representative to help create a better learning experience for you all.

The transition from working to studying was not easy. Whilst this is my first time studying online, the experience has never been better. The Kaplan team has given enormous support throughout the course, making the process of learning a breeze.



TEAMWORK MAKES



THE DREAM WORK!



SCARLET

Hi everyone! My name is HUili Song, you can call me Scarlet. I am from China and will study Finance, Accounting and Management at the University of Nottingham. I am honored to be a student representative. I will listen to your opinions and suggestions, and try my best to fight for more rights and resources for you, and I hope I can help you!



SongLin Hua (Lynn)

ABOUT ME

During my study in Kaplan Group, I completed a brief on Diversity and Demographics together with members of Class 12 O23. Prof. Michelle Aitken published the Kaplan Group online Learning System VLE System- PM614 Organisational Management course Theme10: Diversity and Demographic trends in the workplace for future freshmen to learn.

I am an enthusiastic and attentive person in everything I do. I am also very patient and responsible, and I had the honour of taking the position of Student Representative during my studies at Kaplan Group. I am happy to help students and teachers to solve problems. In addition, I am also very serious and rigorous in my academic work and will endeavour to solve my research problems. Overall, I am a rational and caring person.

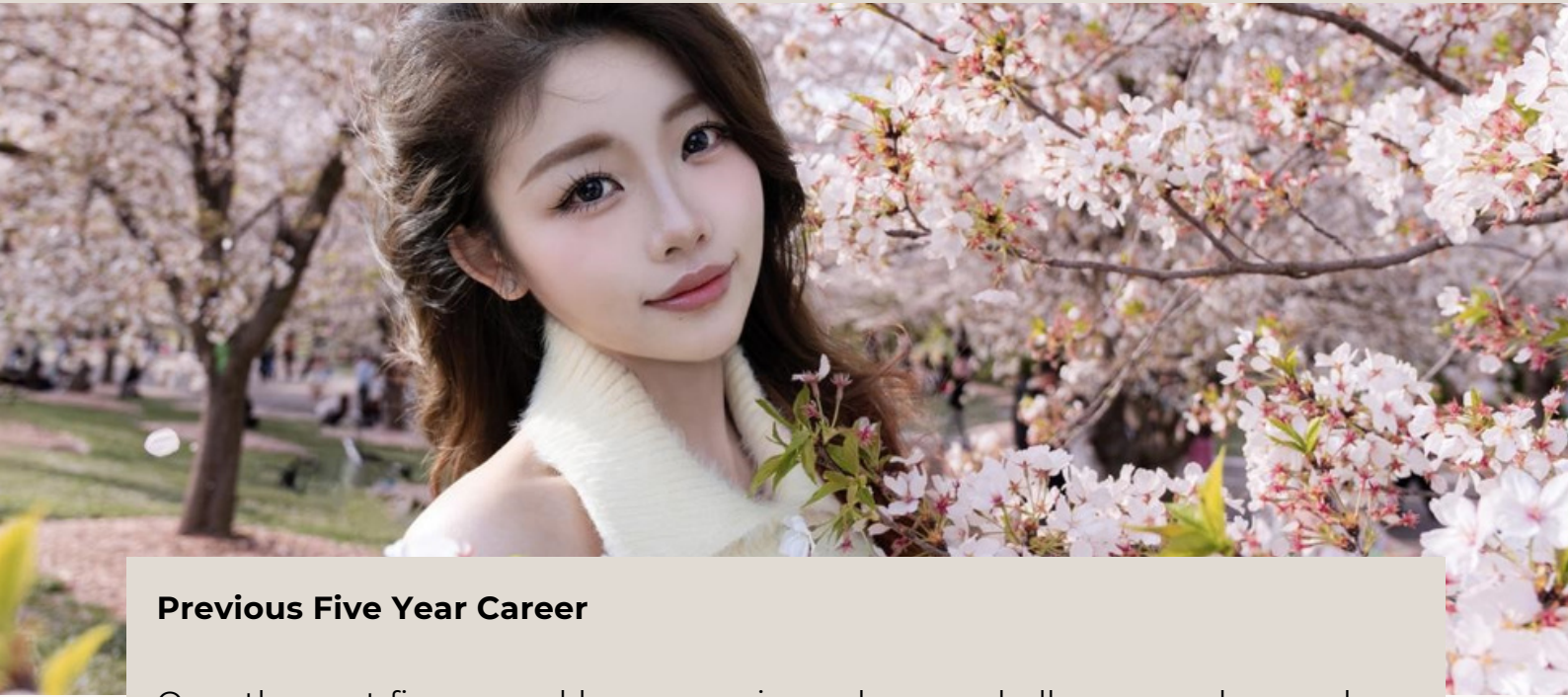
The Me in Life

In life, I am a lover of life. I love to pursue beauty and food to make myself look more confident and beautiful. But really I am an ENTJ/ESTJ switcher. As an ENTJ, I am full of determination and leadership skills, always striving to pursue my goals and dreams. I love challenging myself, facing difficulties bravely, and learning and growing. However, sometimes, I switch to ESTJ mode and become more practical and detail-oriented. I will study beauty tips and enjoy cooking food to make life more colourful.

To me, life is like a painting that needs to be painted with various colours and strokes. I like to use my passion and creativity to decorate this painting and make it more colourful. Whether pursuing career success or enjoying food and beauty, I will go all out and enjoy every piece of life to the fullest because I can only become more fulfilled and happy by loving life.



SONGLIN HUA



Previous Five Year Career

Over the past five years, I have experienced many challenges and rewards as a Realtor. Working with various clients taught me to listen to their needs and find the best property. Each successful transaction gives me the satisfaction and pride of knowing I have created a wonderful home for my clients. In the process, I improved my sales skills, built many long-lasting client relationships, and won many trophies and honours for Link Home, a listed company in the unicorn of China's property industry. At the same time, I learned how to deal with various complex property transactions and updated my market knowledge. These experiences have allowed me to grow and become a more professional and experienced real estate agent.

My Future Plans and Ambitions

My work experience has made me appreciate the meaning and fun of Marketing, and I am very eager to learn all the expertise of Marketing to help me on my future path. Therefore, I will study the mysteries of Marketing and applicable social practices to help me deepen my sub-field. My ultimate ambition is to create a company and establish my Influencer marketing operation. I am very much looking forward to it and rooting for myself!



Proverb of the Month

by Nomsa Naidoo

"Nana korobi, ya oki" – Japanese proverb



Meaning: "Fall seven times, stand up eight."

This Japanese proverb teaches us that perseverance is one of the most important virtues. It reminds us that hardly anyone succeeds on their first try or even their second—you just have to keep on keeping on!

Upcoming Events

**DATE****10th - 14th June 2024****SUBJECT**

General knowledge and the knowledge about the city of your progression university.

Join us for Trivia Time, an exciting event where you can connect progressing to the same university as you, compete, and expand your knowledge! Test your trivia skills while making new friends progressing to the same university as you. Don't miss out on the chance to win a prize and kickstart your university journey with a blast! You may be the winner. Who knows?

And guess what? *Winner goes home with a prize.*



Email Writing Etiquettes

tips & tricks to writing a great email

JUNE**2024**

Join Chat Café

to sharpen your English vocabulary in a fun way.



Every Tuesday 2:00-2:45pm (UK Time)





DO YOU WANT TO BE A
PART OF THE JUNE EDITION?



Then, send your submissions to >>>

Do you want to share your
ideas, stories and great work
with the Kaplan Community?

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WORK
TOGETHER!

