Steps for Connecting with UMD Alumni via Terrapins Connect

Get started today: [https://terrapinsconnect.umd.edu](https://terrapinsconnect.umd.edu)
- Click “Join Our Community” to get started
- You will be prompted to create an account with LinkedIn, Facebook, or your email address
Join as a student to start connecting with alumni!
To begin creating your profile, fill out your information. There are only six easy pages.
Unless you were instructed to join a group through a class assignment or faculty member, select “No” here.

List your anticipated graduation year.
Last step for creating your profile – sign the responsibility agreement.

**Professional Responsibility Agreement**

As a participant of the University’s Mentorship & Network Program, I am preparing to professionally network and will be held to high ethical standards and responsibility. I recognize that the University holds itself and employers to the highest level of professional integrity and social responsibility.

I understand and agree to the policies and principles below, which

You must scroll through the entire agreement. Once you have done so, please sign below by clicking and dragging your mouse to certify that you have read and agree.

**DRAW YOUR SIGNATURE:**

BACK

NEXT
You’ll receive a confirmation email. Once you verify your account, you’re ready to start connecting with alumni!

The tabs at the top of the screen will help you navigate.

If you want to explore who is available to chat with in your field of interest, start with the “Network” tab.
View the Networking page. We will go through different options for utilizing this resource in the following slides!
Use the Search box to find alumni using key words, organization names, or skills.

Or, search for a specific major, industry, degree, etc. using the tabs.
Select the option that is most appropriate for your needs.

Get started by selecting “Request Meeting” to schedule a 30 minute phone/video chat conversation with the alum.
If you select “Request a Meeting,” you will see this screen. Click what you would like to talk to the alumni about.

The blue ribbons signify the topics the alumni is willing to speak with you about.
Now, you’ll set up your meeting by:
- Choosing a method of communication
- Proposing times for the discussion
Finally, you’ll create a message to send to the alum explaining why you want to connect.

Check out the “Feedback” on your message. You’ll be given suggestions for making the most of your message!
Your meeting will be confirmed with an email notification (sample above)!
Hi Crystal,

You have a video call coming up very soon.

**Meeting Details:**

&

**Time:** Today at 2:30 PM EDT

Click [here](#) to start the video chat when you are ready. You can also navigate to and open the message thread from your PeopleGrove inbox. Open the message and click on the video chat button in the top right to get started.

If anything has changed, please [click here](#) to view your message thread to reschedule.

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On the day of your meeting, make sure to check your email. You will receive an email detailing the phone number or link to use to connect with the alumni.
Review these resources before getting started:

**Sample questions to ask Advisors**

**Informational Interviewing: Tips for Networking**

**BSOS Student Tips:**

- Make the most of your conversations by preparing questions ahead of time.
- Don’t forget to thank each alum for volunteering his/her time.
- Don’t ask for a job! But you could inquire, “How did you land your position?”… “Do you recommend a certain search strategies for positions in _____?”