



UNIVERSITY *of* NICOSIA

UNIC's Innovative Approach to Elevating Students' Career Readiness!

#EuropeanYearOfSkills

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Agenda

- ▼ **Section 1:** UNIC Insights on Career Readiness
- ▼ **Section 2:** The UNIC Advantage in #SkillsDevelopment
- ▼ **Section 3:** Concluding Thoughts

Section 1

UNIC insights on career readiness

Did you know?

Many (freshmen) students lack essential career preparation and training, leaving their skills and interests underserved

Did you know?

Our students possess limited insight into the diverse spectrum of professional careers

Did you know?

Many find themselves at a crossroads, uncertain about the ideal career path to pursue upon graduation

Did you know?

Students' career aspirations and abilities may not always align with their academic disciplines or chosen fields of study

Did you know?

Insufficient emphasis on fostering a culture of career development and growth within the educational framework

Section 2

Introducing the UNIC CSC Approach:
Empowering Students Success through Skills Development and
Career Enhancement

UNIC Career Success Centre (CSC)

- ▶ Transforming students into highly sought-after professionals
- ▶ Personalised career advice and resources
- ▶ Linking students with diverse job market opportunities
- ▶ Equipping candidates with skills to excel in their careers

potential empathy
grab opportunities
stand out dream job
success volunteering
we help you!
CVsoft skills
portal network coaching
opportunities experience
skills career
communication
motivation career planning
unique potential

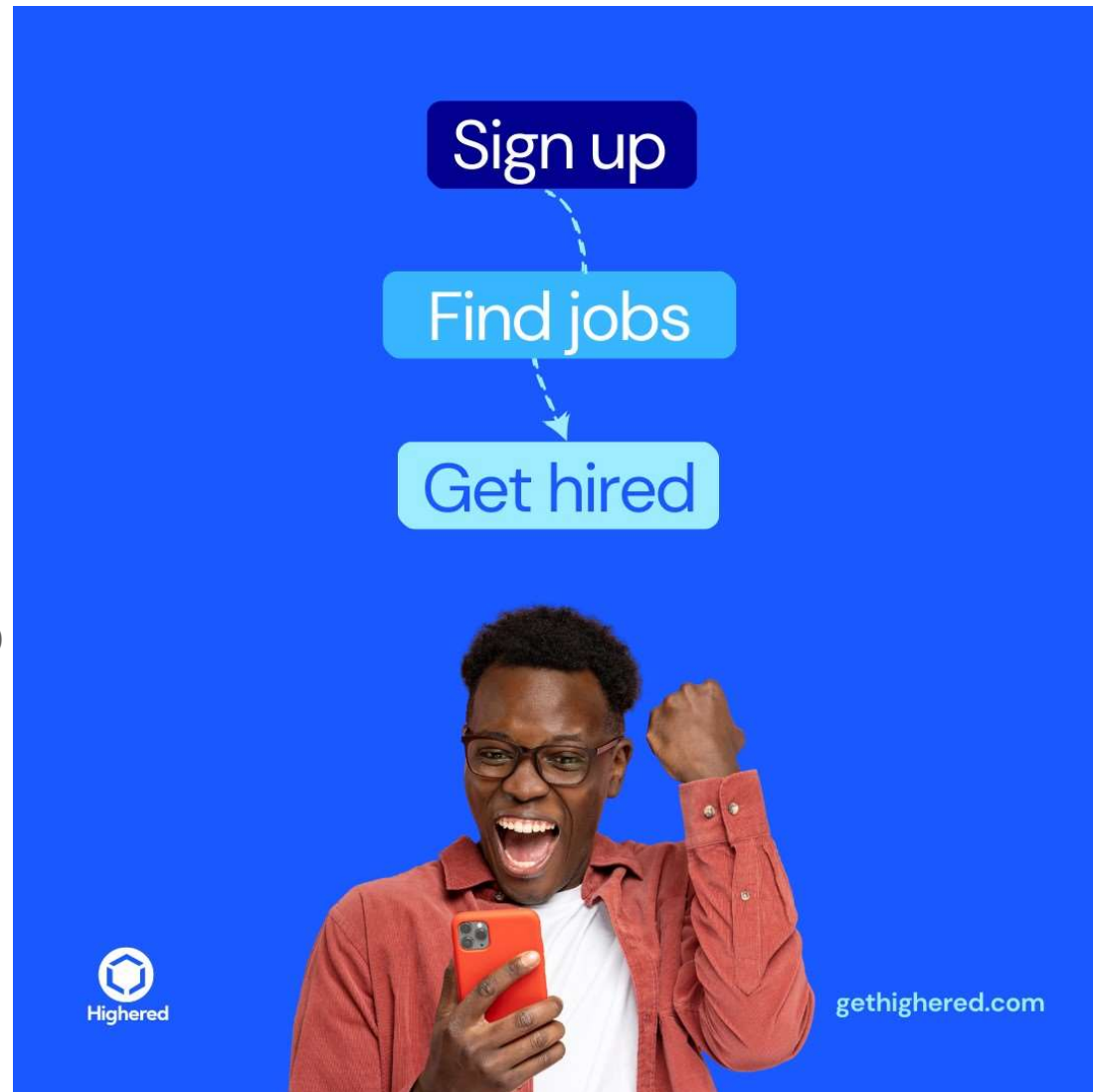
#skillsdevelopment #careerdevelopment #skills #softskills

Career coaching

- ▼ Elevate students' career aspirations through personalised discussions
 - ▼ Expert career advice and guidance
- ▼ **CSC career trainings**
 - ▼ CV, Interview skills, LinkedIn profile
- ▼ Mock interviews/CV reviews
- ▼ Explain the job application process
- ▼ Emphasis on skills development and experience building
- ▼ How to succeed in roles they apply
- ▼ Explain how their education relates to various professions

Job opportunities

- ▼ **Highered** – EFMD career management platform
 - ▼ Holistic approach and student experience on career development and preparation
 - ▼ Global opportunities within the EFMD network
- ▼ Local and international employment and internship opportunities



The image shows a vertical flowchart on a blue background. At the top is a dark blue rounded rectangle with the text 'Sign up' in white. A dashed white arrow points down to a light blue rounded rectangle with the text 'Find jobs' in white. Another dashed white arrow points down to a light blue rounded rectangle with the text 'Get hired' in white. Below the flowchart is a photograph of a young Black man with glasses, wearing a red shirt, holding a red smartphone and celebrating with a wide smile and a raised fist. In the bottom left corner of the blue area is the Highered logo, which consists of a white hexagon with a stylized 'H' inside, and the word 'Highered' below it. In the bottom right corner of the blue area is the website address 'gethigher.com' in white text.

Internships

▼ Industry Liaison Office internships

- ▼ Open to 3rd and 4th year students for degrees where the internship is an elective course
- ▼ Students are funded 500 EUR and receive academic credits
- ▼ 68% of students placed received offers for permanent employment placed - 31% employed by host organizations and 37% by different organizations
- ▼ Programme ends Nov 2023 – to be continued with paid/unpaid placements

Internships

▼ Standard flexible internships

- ▼ Can be tailor-made based on company's needs
- ▼ Time period, duration, field of study and students' profiles satisfying the internship requirements based on company's needs
- ▼ Can include any program of study of interest to the company

▼ Virtual short internships = job simulation

- ▼ 5-6hr virtual work experience programs that give students a genuine career advantage with Fortune 500 companies
- ▼ Students learn valuable career skills
- ▼ Development of practical skills
- ▼ Gain a hiring advantage



Student assistantship programme

- ▼ UNIC invites a selected group of students to participate in the UNIC Student Assistantship Programme, offering a gateway to internal engagement while pursuing their studies
- ▼ Immerse themselves in a hands-on experience within diverse positions, directly connecting with the real-world job environment
 - ▼ Computer science enthusiasts find their niche at our cutting-edge Computer Centre, while administrative roles abound for those with a flair for organisation
 - ▼ Administrative positions are also vastly available
 - ▼ Opportunity to sharpen their soft skills

EU careers student ambassador

▼ Role description

- ▼ Act as a point of contact for students interested in an EU career
- ▼ Develop university networks and provide information on EU jobs
- ▼ Maintain an active online and social media presence
- ▼ Give presentations, attend university career events, and find interesting speakers
- ▼ Answer questions about career opportunities with the EU



Events & networking

▼ Guest speaker series

- ▼ Industry experts are invited to share their experience and professional advice - through seminars, interactive workshops and mini trainings.

▼ Company career days

- ▼ Industry specialists from the company are hosted to present their business lines and operations
- ▼ Explain what skills and qualifications they are looking for from candidates
- ▼ Company can recruit on the spot
- ▼ Organised jointly with the respective Schools and Departments of interest to the company

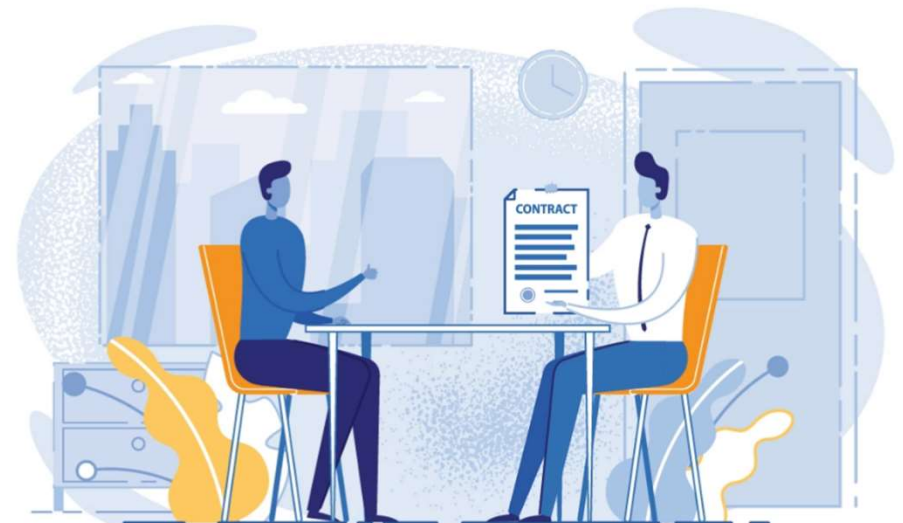
Job fairs

- ▶ During the academic year 2022-2023, 100+ companies were hosted with 1k+ students visiting the fairs!
- ▶ Company representatives inform students about employment opportunities, nature of professions, skills needed
- ▶ CVs submission and spot interviews



Erasmus traineeships

- ▼ Work placement in Europe via UNIC Erasmus office
- ▼ Supported during all degrees/programmes of study up to 1 year after graduation



Graduates' Days | A Ticket to Employability

The Erasmus Office and the Career Success Centre of the University of Nicosia offer services exclusively to all recent graduates, on a regular basis, emphasizing employability after graduation, in the context of the "Graduates' Days" (06 June until 20 June).

Ariston Graduates

- ▼ Ariston series of assessments are based on advanced psychometric methodologies and mathematical models
 - ▼ Aiming at analysing the personality of an individual using an advanced expert system
 - ▼ Holistic unified approach of personality, skills and technical knowledge
- ▼ **Ariston Graduates** identifies suitable **professions** and **postgraduate programmes** and is appropriate for
 - ▼ Adults who are looking for alternative jobs
 - ▼ Adults who wish to discover aptitudes, abilities and talents they might have but are not aware of or wish to reassess their career and professional activities in general

Section 3

Wrap up

Start career preparation from year 1

- ▼ Design their career path to achieve career goals/orientation
- ▼ Enrich CV/gain the benefits of work experience during studies
- ▼ Engage in internships/volunteering
- ▼ Develop/shape talents and skills that the industry requires

Cultivate a strong culture:

STUDENTS SHOULD INVEST IN THEIR CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Develop career/soft skills and experience demanded by the industry during studies →

competitive professional-ready candidates →

Get hired right after they graduate

End note

- ▼ Effective career preparation and exposure to world of work should start from **school**
 - ▼ Not enough to prepare pupils only for their studies while in school
- ▼ Career centres should work closely with academic faculty to raise awareness and with the industry to identify necessary and lacking skills in the world of work calibrated to latest trends in the industry
 - ▼ Constantly find new ways of approaching students and how to make “careers” more appealing to them
 - ▼ E.g., students could gain academic credits for anything pertaining to career preparation, equivalently embed career courses and job simulation programmes/industry microcredentials into the curricula

Thank You!



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