

# Career Fair

Tuesday, June 25, 2019



## PROGRAM

10:00 – 11:50	Short Company Introductions and Speed-Networking
13:00 – 14:30	Communications Workshop by Jacobs <i>Fake It 'Til you Make It:</i> An Actors Guide to Communicating with Confidence
15:00 – 16:50	Career Fair Booths
17:00 – 17:45	Career Fair Plenary Panel



For some of you this may be the first time that you will get to interact with several different companies in the water sector. This guide aims to provide you with information about the Career Fair as well as guidance in preparing for your interaction with the companies at the Career Fair and for real-world interviews.

The Career Fair is a fantastic opportunity to gain as much knowledge as you can on the job interview process. Companies will ask you questions that are typically asked in a job interview. Since this is not a real job interview, the questions will not be specific to a particular position but rather meant to get you to better present yourself, know what to expect, and get personalised feedback. You'll learn how to highlight your skills, strengths, passions and weaknesses and how to illustrate how you applied your skills and strengths to a situation, or used problem solving when in a difficult situation.

## What to Expect

- A day full of networking, capacity building, and professional development.
- Networking with a mixed group of potential employers, mentors, and peers.
- A platform to showcase your potential, skills, experience, and educational qualifications.
- Engagement with companies and getting information by asking questions in an informal environment.
- Learning from your experience and improving as you progress through the session.
- Feedback on how to improve your performance in future interview.

### TIP #1

**Don't forget to update your CV, make copies, and bring plenty to the conference. Hand them out to relevant people during the conference.**

### TIP #2

**Bring your business cards and hand them out at the conference. Ask others for their business cards and follow up with them after the conference.**

### TIP #3

**Bring a notepad and a few pens and note down key points given by the "interviewer".**

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## Top Interview Questions

1. What is your most significant career accomplishment to date?
2. In five minutes, could you explain something to me that is complicated, but you know well?
3. Tell me something about yourself.
4. Why should someone hire you?
5. What are your strengths and weaknesses?
6. What do you know about the company?

## Answering Tips

1. Research the industry and company.
2. Share your accomplishments.
3. Maintain eye contact.
4. Avoid saying fillers such as “um”, “basically”, “actually”, “so”, etc.
5. Be courteous and professional.
6. Use the STAR technique: **S**ituation, **T**ask, **A**ction, **R**esult
7. Ask for clarification.
8. Try to stay calm and smile.

## Questions You Should Ask

1. What skills and experiences would make an ideal candidate?
2. What are the biggest challenges that an entry-level/mid-level candidate like me would face in your company?
3. What is the typical work week? Can overtime be expected?
4. What are the biggest rewards of the job and working for this company?
5. What can you tell me about this organisation that isn't widely known?
6. How is success/performance measured in your company?

Please note that IWPC cannot guarantee that you will secure employment by participating at the Career Fair.

## CONTACT CAREER FAIR LEADS

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### Francesca Giaccherini

On March 2019, Francesca completed two years as a Postdoctoral researcher at Western University and Trojan Technologies (MITACS Elevate Fellowship). She holds a Ph.D. degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Florence (Italy) and Technical University of Braunschweig (Germany). During her Ph.D., Francesca has spent two years as Visiting Scholar at University of California Irvine (USA) to develop biological, carbon and energy footprint models for wastewater treatment process analysis.

### Medhavi Gupta

Medhavi is a Water Design Specialist at Jacobs Engineering in Toronto. Medhavi has experience working on projects which include conceptual design, feasibility studies, and predesign. She holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from University of Western Ontario (CA), on wastewater treatment and particularly in biological nutrient removal, anaerobic digestion, and fermentation. As a process engineering specialist with a focus on wastewater research, Medhavi has produced a range of publications and conference presentations on treatment processes, and is an active volunteer within industry groups.