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# INDUSTRY WEEKLY DIGEST

YOUR WEEKLY DIGEST OF CONTEMPORARY INDUSTRY TRENDS

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## GET YOURSELF OUT THERE!

Our amazing industry is all about people! Putting the past three years aside, business and employers are back and want to hear and connect with you throughout your time at SHTM at Surrey! Get yourself to different networking events, talks and visit places that you want to find out more about. Send that email, connect on LinkedIn, push the boundaries as the opportunities are endless!

In this week's Industry Digest, guest contributor and SHTM alumnus, [Alex Wilson](#) expands on these opportunities.

Have a great weekend!



## LAY THE FOUNDATIONS, BUILD THE SKILLS, EMPLOYABILITY WILL BE ENDLESS!

Alex Wilson

I graduated from the University of Surrey in 2012 with a BSc International Hospitality Management. I have since worked within the luxury hotel market for over ten years, predominantly within rooms. Located at Brown's Hotel in Mayfair for over six years and now at The Goring in Belgravia since 2021. In 2019, I was awarded the Vice-Chancellor Alumni Award for charitable and voluntary work.

I have always believed in the ways in which to make yourself more employable, ultimately this is what you want to achieve when you graduate at the end of your course. Over the past ten years I have come back to Surrey every year to talk to students about skills and employability as it is so important to your success.

"Knowledge can sometimes be overrated" said Sir Tony Robinson, but he noted it was how you apply it that brings you the greatest success. My advice would be to really use your time wisely, especially over your summer breaks; try and find a part-time job, work at a summer school or perhaps even volunteer for a charitable cause. By doing this adds to your bank of skills to take forward with your studies and adds to your CV.

You ultimately want to stand out when you Graduate, studying and lectures are important, but it is all the extra-curricular activities that employers like to hear about and that make you different as an individual. These include fundamental skills, social and emotional skills, technical ability, team working and self-management skills are just some of the key ones to build during your time at Surrey; having these skills and the examples/stories to go with them are brilliant. Moreover, how you hone, grow and reflect on developing these will be more critical to your future.

A final thought I will leave you to ponder, as you progress through Surrey and future employability "the answer is always yes, what is the question"!

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