



# BETA ALPHA PSI XI KAPPA NEWSLETTER

This month's newsletter is dedicated to the virtual BAP Oceania Regional Conference that was held on Friday, 17 April 2020. Below are some of the highlights from the conference:

## RESILIENCE AND LEADERSHIP DURING RADICAL TIMES: BY KEYNOTE SPEAKER ANNA COOSHNA



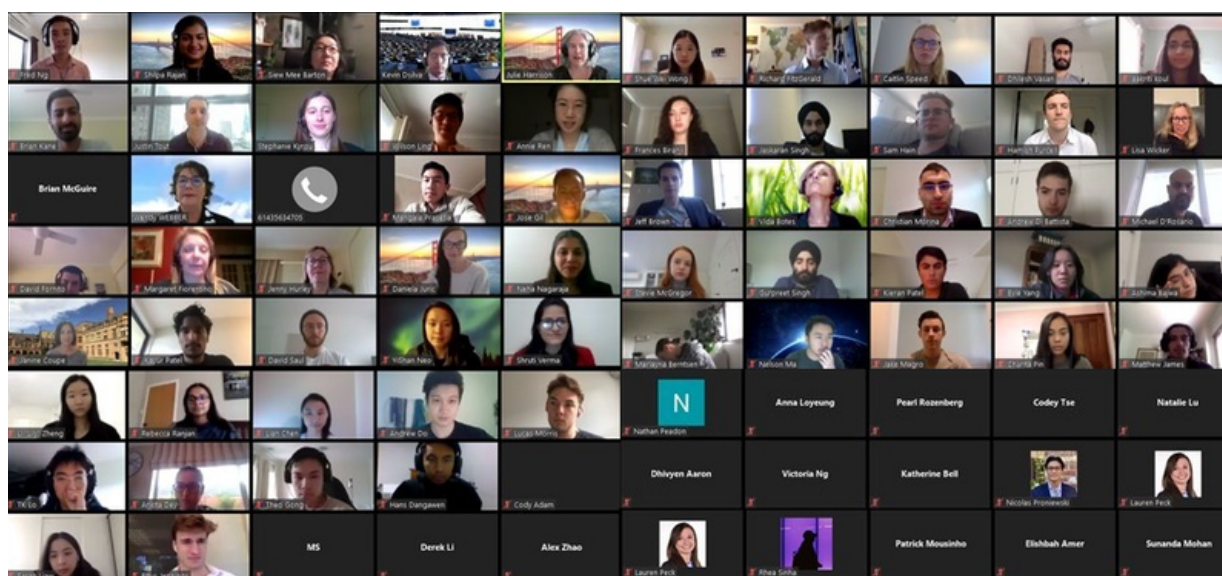
Anna Cooshna, a highly accomplished Director of Advisory at Deloitte Australia, was our keynote speaker for the event. Talking about resilience during hardships, she had the following advice to give the attendees:

- *Take care of yourself and your health during these difficult times and remember that this too shall pass*
- *Make sure that you are communicating how you are feeling*
- *Develop a positive perspective by acknowledging that yes this is a hard situation, but hold on and embrace having this time to reflect on yourself and spend time with loved ones, be it in person or virtually*
- *Focus on your grades and make sure to develop your interpersonal skills so you are more employable when you graduate. Work on emotional intelligence, do extracurricular activities, be flexible with your time, be empathetic, trustworthy and know what the recruiter is after.*

When talking about leadership, Anna said she believes in authentic leadership while building relationships. Some of the lessons she learnt from her personal and professional experiences have helped her become a resilient leader. For example, being sent to live in Mauritius at the age of 18 really challenged her to develop grit. Being mentored as an undergraduate student by a university staff member also provided key development when she needed it and this relationship has endured over many years. To close off the session she encouraged the attendees to be their authentic self and take ownership of their future.

## CHAPTER OPERATIONS- UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

This regional Conference marked its first ever chapter operations presentation that was presented by Richard Fitzgerald from the University of Sydney. He talked about the effects of the COVID-19 virus on their chapter operations and the ways in which their chapter has adapted to the situation. He then opened up the floor to all the attending chapters to share their views about how they are helping their members cope during these difficult times. Some of the ideas included workshops to develop workforce skills in university students, problem solving workshops, personal level interactions with members, design thinking workshops and online trivia nights.



## BEYOND 2020: FUTURING IN BAP OCEANIA BY DR FRED NG FROM UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Dr. Fred Ng talked about the introduction to Futuring BAP, that is, developing a long term vision for BAP chapters in the Oceania region and holding workshops for the same. Dr. Ng then had the attendees split off into breakout rooms to discuss what they would think of BAP 2020 in the year 2025. He talked through the process of creating a long term vision for each chapter. He left us thinking about the strengths that each chapter possesses and how they can leverage it to overcome the challenges they may face. Dr Ng is working with Xi Kappa's former Faculty Advisor, Dr Siew Mee Barton, on a research project exploring the future of BAP in our Oceania region.

## ALUMNI PANEL | HONOR THE PAST, EMBRACE THE FUTURE

The Alumni Panel was held by the BAP Oceania Alumni Representative, Brian Kane who is currently based in Sydney and working as a Management Consultant at Accenture within their Financial Services - Customer Strategy team. As part of this role, he specializes in everything from customer experience to channel transformation to marketing and data analytics for Banks and Insurance firms. The featured panelists were Wilson Ling, Stephanie Kyrou (Deakin), Justin Tout (Deakin), Annie Ren and Mangala Prasetya who interacted with the attendees. They answered the attendees' questions related to their experiences with BAP, tips to find employment, professional skills to help them leverage opportunities, morale building, enhancing digital literacy, sharpening technical and human skills and creating opportunities for yourself.

## STUDENT FEATURE OF THE MONTH



### KEVIN DSILVA

#### Master of Business Analytics

Kevin arrived in Melbourne in June 2019, returning to the classroom after an absence of 9 years – that time well spent amidst the arid plains of southern, northern and western India in consumer products firms' marketing team capacities. With a young and hard-working wife in tow, he started off in T2 2019 and was relatively quiet outside that classroom, until an October 2019 PwC Australia Tech Academy opened his eyes to the practical applications of the very same Business Analytics he was studying. From Process Engineering to real-time risk modelling, cyber security to AGILE, Python to Scala, he hoped he would one day conquer them all. While he is yet to work in that dream role till date; he has since worked in a full-service, integrated Digital Marketing Agency as a Performance Media Manager, servicing some of Australia's most beloved companies. He has also ascended into the Executive Committee of a couple of student-led societies in fields as diverse as Data Science and International Affairs and won a couple of Victorian Hackathons with sustainability-themed solutions. More importantly, he has been to around 25 in-person networking events in and around the Melbourne CBD on topics ranging from Analytics, Marketing, Information Technology, Sales to Human Resources, and on sectors as diverse as Private Equity, Healthcare and Mining. He is currently working as a part of a broader global Analytics coalition to assist in an exemplary and rapid response to the unforeseeable COVID-19 emergency. In his spare time, he may be espied at the Melbourne Chess Club or the Australian Institute of International Affairs, of which he is an honorary student member. He is also a humble but proud member of our very own Beta Alpha Psi – Xi Kappa chapter.



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