

IET On Campus: Career Question Time events

The IET On Campus Kazakhstan student community recently invited software engineer Askhat Murzabayev to share his early career experiences at a Career Question Time event. During the evening he discussed his internship at Twitter, working in the USA and developing his own business, giving the students a chance to ask questions about how he got to where he is today.

How did the event idea come about?

The On Campus Kazakhstan student community based at Nazarbayev University (NU) aims to offer career advice and support to its members and so the committee uses every opportunity to invite speakers to come to the university and talk with students. The Career Question Time event was one of the latest to be organised by the group, which regularly holds career days and talks.

How did the group approach the event?

Past president of the student community, Aisulu Izmailova, first met Askhat at another event at the university, when he was invited to give a speech on entrepreneurship by the AIESEC student organisation. After his presentation Aisulu took him aside to ask if he'd return and share his experiences with students from the engineering departments. He agreed and a month later the event took place.



Past president of the student community, Aisulu Izmailova

How did they develop and promote the event?

The committee uses the university's email service to send out announcements about upcoming events, but the group also sent out specific emails to all the students at NU studying electrical and electronics engineering, robotics and mechatronics and computer science to invite them to this special event.

What learnings did they take from the event?

The main things the committee members and student attendees took from the talk was inspiration and career advice, as Aisulu highlights.

“Askhat began by sharing his story so far; describing his time studying, interning at Twitter and working on a project at Stanford University in the USA. After that he told us about his career successes in Kazakhstan. His talk was both informative and inspirational. He then went on to give us a lot of advice on how to come up with new ideas, how to start projects and how to choose your career path.”

What skills have they gained from this activity that they could add to their CVs?

The focus of the event was to inspire and inform, however, those involved in its development can highlight skills such as planning, organisation and teamwork.

What feedback did they get from students who participated?

Askhat spent three hours with the students, which they all said passed by quickly. A great storyteller, they loved hearing about his experiences so far and getting the opportunity to ask him some questions.


“He had a lot to say and share with us,” says Aisulu. “All of the students who came that evening were very inspired by him.”

Will they run the event again?

The student chapter plans to ask Askhat to return in the future and speak with more students. It is likely they will also look for other young professionals willing to share their stories and offer advice.

We'd love to hear what your group is up to – share your photos and videos to:

 /IETMoreEnergy

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To find out more about IET On Campus including event cases studies:

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