



Volunteering and financial support from alumni is crucial to the continued growth of any institution of higher learning. By creating avenues for stronger links between alumni, current students, and the institution, it may bring significant advantages in enhancing the educational experience of the student. Because every alumnus/a has gone through the process of being a student and graduating in their own unique manner, they all have something distinctive to offer the institution.

Career Mentor

As the number of college grads rises, the number of available jobs falls, increasing competition for employment. The importance of employment opportunities is magnified in certain fields. Students in their last year of school need to give significant thought to their future careers. Alumni may help current students by advising them on how to advance in their chosen fields and by helping them get entry to the educational or professional institutions where they formerly studied or worked. In order to help students and recent grads find jobs in certain industries, professors might consult with alumni for advice. Changes may be made to the university curriculum so that it better prepares students for the careers they want to one day have.

Role model and inspiration

A successful alumnus may be an inspiring example to current students and is often well-liked by the community. Alumni who come back to provide their assistance to the school have already shown their worth by living through the same experiences as the current students and understanding the difficulties they confront. Time management, money management, character development, and career management are all areas in which alumni may provide invaluable insight and inspiration to current students. In this approach, alumni may help instil the correct values and attitudes in students that are consistent with what the institution wants to portray.

ROLE OF ALUMNI (CONT.)

ALUMNI IN TOUCH

BY ANGELYCA ANAK
HENDRY



Providing knowledge and experience

In addition, former students may help universities create innovative academic programmes by sharing the knowledge they've gained in their fields of study. An alumnus's contributions to a university may take several forms, including those of guest lecturer, committee adviser, industry expert, and project partner. Because of this, their local university will progress for the better. If the institution is interested in doing research in the business sector, its alums may be able to help it break into relevant networks in Malaysia and elsewhere. This allows the university to advance within a certain sector by putting into practice the ideas that have been examined and evaluated with other specialists within that sector. If the institution is successful in spreading its acquired knowledge, it will gain national and worldwide clout.

Possibility to Participate in Continuing Education Programs

Those elder members of the alumni community who have found success may serve as a fantastic resource not just for recent grads but also for younger alumni. If the university's alumni network is effective and well-respected in the business world, in industry, and in the larger community, it will help younger graduates go forward in their jobs and advance professionally. More and more schools are now offering postgraduate courses to graduates who received a first or second class honours degree, helping them further their professions after graduation.

Efforts to attract students should be enhanced

Former students, and the students' friends and families, might be persuaded to enroll in the university of their choice by the encouragement of alumni. Students may also learn from the graduates about entering the workforce. A student's decision on where to enroll in college may be heavily influenced by the reputation of the institution and the professional achievements of its graduates. Besides that, alumni who want to participate voluntarily might serve as ambassadors, contributing to the university's active student recruiting activities. Depending on the alumni's abilities and positions, the projects may be carried out on a local, national, or worldwide scale.

ROLE OF ALUMNI (CONT.)

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Intensify attempts to raise money

Alumni, particularly older ones who are more financially secure, may ease the financial burden of college for kids from low-income families. It's like sparking an idea that will change the pupils' life for the better. Scholarships, cultural events, club and association outings, enabling infrastructure for individuals with disabilities (OKUs), and creative upgrades at the institution may all benefit from increased fundraising efforts if there is an active alumni association. The greatest endowments in the world are held by colleges like Harvard and Al Azhar, with significant contributions from graduates. Hundreds of academics in many disciplines are able to keep their jobs thanks to the endowment fund, which also allows for the continuation of very successful academic program and the funding of groundbreaking scientific research.

Promote the prestige of the university

The reputation of a school may benefit from the opinions and remarks of its alums, which can be shared via media or other physical or digital channels. The public may believe that the graduates have a better grasp of the difficulties now facing the institution because of their prior experience there. Successful graduates who have gone on to work in a wide range of fields, both at home and abroad, attest to the validity of the university's educational offerings, the significance of its research, and the strength of its student body as a whole. The greater the alumni's standing in their respective fields, the greater the university's public profile.

Summary

The alumni play a key part in the growth of the school. Every alumnus has something to offer that can help current students, recent grads, other alums, their schools, and the world at large. In order to realize its goals, the university places great importance on the input of its alums, both in terms of shaping the direction of the institution and offering suggestions for addressing any problems that may arise. The alumni are a valuable resource for the university, and their efforts may help boost the institution's profile both at home and abroad. Last but not least, successful alums may serve as an example of societal cohesion and an engine of economic development and advancement within the context of bolstering state and national development.