

Intro Hi, I'm Jake Walsh, and I'm Orion LaMontagne. Thank you for tuning in to The Manage-A-Bull MBA podcast where we have deep dive conversations with students, faculty and staff, and alumni to give you a comprehensive picture of the life inside of a top tier MBA program. In this episode, we talk with Kate Jarvis, MBA student and recipient of the Connection to Excellence scholarship. The scholarship is awarded the highly qualified full time graduate students who are returning to school after extensive work experiences. In our conversation, Kate explains what it's like to be a student again, after nine years as a professional in the workforce. Be sure to check out our show notes where we will post links to the UB MBA web page and contact information for Kate Jarvis and ourselves. If you enjoyed this podcast, follow us on Twitter at @UBSchoolofMGT to stay up to date on what's happening in the UB MBA, were extraordinary because our ordinary. Thank you and enjoy.

Orion Money

Jake That one was perfect

Orion We're not going to get much better than that. Ahhh, its getting easier Jake.

Orion Today we're here with Kate Jarvis who is an MBA candidate, and also a recipient of the Connection to Excellence scholarship. So welcome

Kate Thank you, hi guys, it's nice to be here.

Orion So we just wanted to kind of, I guess, kind of start with your background. So the C2E Scholarship is kind of focused on individuals that have substantial amount of work experience that that's kind of a determining factor to receive that. And so maybe we can kind of lead into, you know, where you where you started and how you ended up here and kind of go from there.

Kate Sure. So I do have a substantial, substantial work experience. I was out of school for nine years, before I decided to come back here to UB for the MBA program. My original undergrad and graduate degrees are in clarinet performance. So I took a little bit of a more unusual route to come to the business school. But after I graduated, and, you know, was out auditioning for orchestral jobs and trying to find my way in the world. I started working at a small pharmaceutical company in the area was doing sales admin work for them, which I really enjoyed. And I like getting to work with the people there in the sales marketing department and doing some event planning and reporting for them. Eventually, that

job ended and I took a subsequently a couple other jobs. And every time I felt like it was all taking a step back. And I really thought that a lot of that had to do with the fact that I had some good experience, but I didn't necessarily have the resume or the credentials to really push myself to that next level of my career. So after talking it over with my husband, who has an MBA himself, he went to Canisus for that. He suggested that I get an MBA, and UB was my logical choice for that, obviously, its local we're from Buffalo, I've been here for the last nine plus years. So I didn't want to move out of state for the program. And we live about 10 minutes away. So nice and close for me.

Jake

When you were kind of coming into this decision, like how was that decision process? How did you really get there? Like, was there a certain point where you were like, screw this, I'm going to go back to go school? Or was it kind of gradual, like when you were getting these new jobs was like, maybe I should go back to school? And like, how was that build up. And one of the decision to go back to school really cemented itself. in your, in your mind?

Kate

It was it was this first scenario that you mentioned the all of a sudden, it's just like, Yeah, I got to do this. For eight and a half of those nine years, I would have told you, I am never going back to school, I'm done with this. I don't want to do papers and tests and work in any of that. But the longer I thought about it, the more sense it made that that was a good way to advance my career. And also, I was ready to learn again. And I think when you're done with undergrad and grad work the first time around, you just want to get out into the world and be in a quote unquote, adult, whatever that means, you know, you want to do what you want to experience, life after school. And you don't necessarily want to go back to that right away. So it took me a while to realize that that was the path that I wanted to be on. But I think I appreciate being in school and the opportunities that that affords me more than I could have if I gone back sooner.

Jake

that's something I think all three of us can relate. I mean, I'm a little bit younger, I wasn't out quite as long, but I to like I'd finished school and left for a while and then came back. And I do think coming back after time off in the working world, you do appreciate the classes a little bit more. And the fact that being within the program a little bit more, I think, you know, it probably varies per person. But I've definitely like I've got it back in school with a whole new outlook that I was the first time. You know, I it's just the change of perspective of being out there and doing something else for a little while, I think really helps drive that in.

Kate

Yeah, I'm here because I want to be at this point. Not because I feel like I necessarily have to be.

Orion like, it's when you first graduate high school, it's like, well, college is the next thing and you just Yep, you just go and you do that's what.

Kate Year you don't about it. But even like I said where I was, I could have gotten another job tomorrow was easily but I don't think I would have felt any more fulfilled in then I was at my previous ones. And the way that I saw for myself to really be doing something more meaningful and impactful with my career was to jumpstart that by coming back.

Jake Yeah. Soon as you made the decision. How did how did things start rolling? Like what was your plan of attack to start putting out feelers or was it just UB right away? Or did you apply other places? Or?

Kate I well, so first, I had to look at the application device, because it was about actually probably a little under a year ago. And now we're into January. So it's probably March ish. When I really was like, oh, and I'm going to do this, and I'm going to try for fall. Yeah. So first plan was, can I still apply anywhere? Because that was it was a very last minute decision. And then can I figure out how to take the GMAT, because I didn't have any tests, anything going in and get all that done in time, for an application deadline. I found out that UB was actually the school that had a hard admission deadline, they had it I think it was June 1. So at that point, that was my goal for that. I also looked at Niagara University and Canisus. But they both have rolling admissions. So it was less important. And I knew my first choice is UB. So I figured I'll pull it up. And if that doesn't happen, then I can, you know, look at one of the other schools after that. But I had they tell you, they have to take the GMAT help three weeks, before you need your score. So that limited me to an early May date for that. And so I had two months, I studied a lot of math. Because math is not my strong suit. I did pretty well on the verbal, not so good on the mat, very average on the math, but obviously well enough to be here. And that sort of happened that I was just, you know, writing the essays and getting a couple of recommendations which obviously since I had work experience, there were former coworkers of mine, who were more than happy to oblige with that.

Jake So this has all happened you had you had your eye on this C2E scholarship? Or was that something that you found out about when you're receiving it? Or how did that? How did that play out?

Kate Yeah, I had no idea existed until Erin O'Brien called me said, Hey, I'd like to interview you and talk about this opportunity. And so I showed up in the, because our schedules were a little crazy. I was working at the time, we ended up meeting at a bar for a drink one afternoon. So that was my entrance interview for the school. And, you know, going into obviously, she told me about it. So I looked up that kind of a deal and a really cool opportunity. So I go in with the whole, you know, what do I have to do to

ensure that I get this or you know, what, what can I do to help myself with this process? And she's like, well you're here talking to me. And I was like oh

Jake

No pressure

Kate

No pressure at all. But it was it was good, though. She Erin is lovely to hear you just talked to her a little while ago. So it was it was a fun interview. And she told me a lot about the program and the different opportunities here. And that just made me really excited about joining the program.

Jake

So getting into it, and this is kind of fealded for both you right now. I don't know if I mentioned it, but Orion is also a C2E scholar. So what exactly is the C2E scholarship? Like? What does it pertain? What are the rules requirements? Cause I know there's like outside of class things you have to do as part of being a scholar, and its continuing to excellence? That's what it stands for?

Orion

Connection

Kate

Connection to excellence.

Jake

Okay. C2E, Connection to Excellence. This is a scholarship that's awarded to 10 students per year, roughly?

Orion

Yeah, I think it's I think there's Yeah,

Jake

okay. So we have about probably 20 roughly, students total in the score, I now have it in a very limited stuff. I know, I know that there's some things you have to do. But it's a full ride. Those are that's my limited knowledge. So I'd love for the two of you to expand upon that or correct me if wrong.

Orion

Now that I'm thinking about it. I think it's I think it's 10 for the whole two years. think there's about 10.

Jake

Okay, so five a year.

Orion

So yeah, so about five a year,

Kate

There's only four of us for our year and three second years.

Jake

Okay. Okay. So yeah, if you if you could just elaborate a bit on exactly what the scholarship is what pertains to it.

Orion

So, I guess I can, I can kind of start

Kate

Sure, go ahead

Orion And you can kinda jump in. So like you mentioned, Jake, the, as far as like, the tuition and stuff, things of that nature. It's, it covers all of the tuition for the MBA program, which UB is already a good value for that. But that's still thousands of dollars, that that is covered through that program. But it's actually a lot more than that. And that's kind of, I think, the more valuable aspect of being in the C2E mix is all the extra stuff and the networking events that you get to be a part of. We want one of the more memorable ones was we were invited to M&T Bank for a meeting with an executive within the within the firm. And we got to go up, and I'm not sure what floor was really high up in in the building.

Kate Yeah one of the top ones.

Orion Yeah. One of the top ones. And in the actually have a little, a little single table restaurant up there for the executives of MIT. And it's just a table in a room with a giant window overlooking the city of Buffalo. And they have a kitchen back there and, you know, chefs working and stuff. And so they actually, you know, had this awesome dinner. Several Courses.

Kate Yeah a full course meal. Yeah, that was pretty cool. And I agree with that. So my, my understanding of, you know, the basic requirements for the scholarship backing up just a little bit are it's a combination of work experience, and entrance exam scores, and then undergrad grades. So all that plays into who they consider for it. And I think they look for people who have a little bit of a unique background to know myself as a being in the arts. And I know, Orion, you have a military background.

Orion Steve Didas was a model. So you know.

Kate Yeah. But they look for something unique about us, I think is part of it. And then, yeah, I mean, obviously, deciding to quit your job and come back to school full time, it really helps to not have to pay for that. But beyond that, I agree with Orion, you know, just the opportunities of meeting some of the top level executives that the sponsor companies who right now are Rich Products, and M&T Bank are the two corporate sponsors for the scholarship program. And, you know, just having some connection there getting to be the face of the program, and in some ways, you know, that they asked us to step forward and be in the ambassador program and, and sort of push the school but in a good way, and because, you know, they, they trust us to do that, which is that's also a nice feeling, you know, to know that they want me to be here, and then, you know, they value me as a student.

Jake Yeah. I think I just want to take a second to really reiterate that this is a scholarship that's definitely more geared towards individuals who have extensive work experience, and are now coming back to school.

Kate I believe its three years outside work experience.

Jake Because that's something that when I had originally been applying, I'd heard of the scholarship. But the fine details on that I hadn't been as clear around so I didn't completely realize that it was more geared towards you know, people returning from extensive work experience. But I also find interesting I'm curious if you two might know, did either of you knew about this before you were getting in. Do you know, if Steve or Michael, cause Mike's the other the fourth, right? You know, if they had known about this scholarship before they got it? I just find it kind of funny because I knew about this, like before I even submitted an application and then to hear that people got it hadn't even heard of that. I thought it was oddly humorous, you know.

Orion Yeah, it's kind of kind of funny. I think it sounds like Steve didn't know about it, either. Because I know that he was kind of recruited in the interview, he was already accepted to another school. And after he met with Erin, he switched gears and said yes.

Jake Erin has that effect.

Orion He decided UB was the place to be so and I don't think I've ever talked to Mike about it. In the second year.

Kate Yeah, I haven't asked anyone specifically that question, although I did get stopped in the bathroom one day by another student in the class, and she was asking me a little bit about it. So obviously, people do know about this scholarship. And I don't mean to sound like creepy like she stopped being the bathroom. C2E scholar if your education and everything you know, but right, I don't entirely know how to respond to like, someone just offered me money.

Jake That's, that's awesome. And congratulations to both of you, obviously.

Orion Thanks.

Jake To do that. So I think stepping back a sec. Beyond the scholarship. So what are some of the I know you're saying you're kind of the face of the school to an extent you've done both like, the day in day out? Part of being the scholar? What does that include? Because I know at least talking to you Orion, you like almost once a week during the fall, and you had some type of thing you had to do? So maybe elaborate a little bit more on what those events are? And then is there other stuff as well, or just kind of those events we had in the past? Or I'm curious what else goes into the scholar?

Kate Oh, well, as as you both know, as part of the program, we don't have classes on Fridays, which is intentional, you know, partially to allow us to

work time, you know, with our teams and groups and then also they use that for the day of the week where they have most of the C2E events so that will be again meetings lunches with people at M&T and Rich products which we did a few of those and that was kind of the the main other event, part of the scholarship is keeping 3.25 or higher GPA. So obviously we're extra motivated to be getting good grades in the program and doing going above and beyond with her classwork as well. I don't know Orion Do you have anything to add to that?

Orion Yeah, I think um, most at least for the first several weeks of the semester most Fridays we had some kind of event with either rich products or with M&T some kind of interesting networking event or learn about companies or there was team building or are no creative problem solving workshop, which is awesome. It was a they had toys to play with us some kind of like trick magic to make us think of ideas. It was it was amazing.

Kate They had Billys

Jake Oh yeah? Billy!

Kate Going all the way back to orientation week.

Orion Very similar to that whole setup, where you just walk in and the table was filled up with all these little toys and things. Jake here had a pet snake toy.

Jake It was a pet dragon.

Kate Dragon Sorry.

Jake He had a beard, he was a Dragon named Billy. I wore him around my neck. You have to unlock the little kid inside you sometimes.

Kate Yeah we have fun here occasionally when we're not freaking out about stats.

Jake Yeah,

Orion One thing with the with the Friday thing, though, to, for anyone that that's looking to apply for the C2E scholarship or lying to having an interest in it on Friday is also when some of the some of the more challenging classes do their reviews. And so that that makes it a challenge, because we miss a lot of those. So. So that's definitely something to keep in mind. It's, it's hard, because those are the almost everybody goes to those because they're, you know, they're really that useful, especially for the statistics class.

Kate Right. And I do feel like I missed out a little bit by not being able to go to those. That being said, though, all of the faculty that I ever approached with a question or, you know, needed some extra attention outside of

class, they were more than willing to, you know, spend the time particularly Frank our statistics teacher, he can walk in his office, whatever, and ask him questions, and he's always happy to chat and tell you whether you understand what he's saying, once you leave the office, you know, sometimes to come back. But it worked out.

Orion Yeah. And then and then you also have your team to rely on to the rest of the rest of my group? You know, I definitely had to, they kind of would fill me in on what's going on. And, you know, the, the group assignment stuff.

Kate Even outside of just the group, a really good atmosphere of camaraderie. Yeah, whole class, you know, everyone's trying to help for with study guides, or, you know, checking answers with other people for you know, like, do we don't get the same thing on these problems. So it's really nice that you don't really feel like you're in your own little bubble here, you know, even just going outside of the people that you work next to day in day out, you know, everyone's willing to answer a question and help out if they can.

Jake Yeah, so I guess, you know, side stepping off the C2E stuff for a minute. What were your thoughts on first semester? You got one down? How'd it go for you?

Kate So it went? We're good. Mark marketing ruined my 4.0. Which makes me real mad.

Jake ohh really,

Kate yeah. You know, it was it was good.

Jake You got As in everything else.

Kate Yeah

Jake Power to you.

Orion She's super smart.

Kate That's what music school does to our obsessive with our studying. Yeah. Like, you know, sitting in a practice room until midnight is no big deal. So

Jake you gotta do what you gotta do, I suppose.

Kate So I survived, I survived semester one

Jake Sounds like you more than survived.

Kate Grades do not completely reflect the emotional toll. You know, and, you know, going in everyone says, The first semester is crazy hard, and will put you, you know, test you to your limits. And I think that is 100% true.

And I also 100% needed last month to sit on my butt and not do a whole lot. Yeah, so I'm hoping for a little bit better a little, you know, school life balance semester, so fingers crossed that, you know, that's actually thing, but I made it, I made it through, it's good. It's, it's really different. Coming back, you know, after being in the, the, you know, I keep calling it the real world, because, you know, I was fortunate, I got to have jobs that I could leave at work, when I left the office every day, you know, for the most part. And having homework, again, for the first time in nine years is a bit of a shock, feeling like I really didn't have time to be doing all the things that I wanted to be doing with my free time, you know, not being able to spend as much time with my husband as I wanted to, and family and friends. So that that was hard. For me, and I'm looking forward to once I'm out of the program again, in a week going back to that, in a way and I'm sure whatever job I get will, and, you know, I'm here because I want that will have more of an impact on my life outside of for that it has in the past. But I I think that the main difference between work, and school is just a certain amount of leaving it at the office, no matter what is going on. So you know, getting back into that really feeling like I'm spending a lot of time reading and studying and doing projects and everything. That was that was the biggest challenge for me. And the biggest challenge for me going forward, being honest about it is learning how to be better to myself. Going forward, you know, I spent a lot of time really worrying about getting that 3.25 which, you know, obviously, it worked out. But knowing that I do have a little bit more room there to, to take some time for myself, rather than just spending time on the school work all the time.

Jake

Yeah, I mean, that's, that's definitely important thing that anyone who's interested in the program should keep in mind and anyone who's currently in the program, I mean, you have to take care of yourself mentally, you know, throughout the process. Or else you're going to burn out, you know, and I, there's some people I saw with over the semester, some people like, different people handle it differently, you know, the level, of course work, or everything, I think all three of us handled it quite well. But you know, that definitely, it's very important to take care of yourself. So moving forward.

Kate

Yeah so moving forward I'm promising myself, I'm going to be a little bit better at it. But yeah, no, I mean, it. It's what I signed up for too, and I knew, I knew that's what was going to happen. And, you know, my entrance interview with Erin, and she was saying, you know, you can do anything for 15 weeks at a time. And it's true, it's like, there's an end date, which makes it which makes it more bearable. And I think as a student coming back, you know, I have a built up tolerance for that, you know, I'm a patient person, and I'm willing to delay some of that, you

know, gratification or gratification of sitting there and watching Netflix for 15 hours straight, which I will do. You know, but really just saying, Okay, well, I'm going to put that off, and I'm going to, I'm going to work hard for the next however many weeks and seeing that payoff is nice to know,

Jake

I'm curious what you would both your thoughts might be on this as for not just coming back, squat to a while. But have you noticed that at all? Or is it going to be different? We do have a lot of young students in the program who are continuing straight through undergrad who are 20, 21, 22, as after coming back from the job world after you get like a 10 year break? Was that difficult at all? or How was that getting back into school? With some students who never left school and are still there for the first time. And I'm just curious how that worked out.

Orion

For me, it's a little bit different because I I came back and finished my bachelor's degree. So I was I, I did spend some time in undergrad before I went into the MBA, even though I you know, work was out in the workforce for several years. So, so I guess I was I was kind of not completely out of school mode. But one, you know, huge challenge for me, especially. And this is even in some of the undergrad stuff. Like when I took calculus, I hadn't taken a math class in like, over a decade, and then went into calculus, yeah, showed up, hey, I'm here with the calculus. That was hard. And so I literally would just sit on the couch, doing my homework for hours and hours and hours, like, looking at the practice problems trying to reading through the textbook and, you know, and then checking my answers and, you know, just grinding through it. so, yeah, I mean, it's, there's definitely challenges, and it's a whole different world.

Kate

I think for me, a lot of it was trusting my teammates, and classmates who had been in school to help me through a lot of that type of thing, you know, either knowing how to turn in projects, and like, just the sort of mechanics of a lot of school work. You know, I felt like I can contribute with ideas and plans and things like that. But when it came down to the actual like, Okay, how do we do this project? Or how do we do this thing, you know, trusting the folks who have been in school, who knew how to do these things, and who have been doing projects and papers for, you know, the last six years straight, whereas, you know, it's been a long time for me since I did that. So just remembering, like, how to do a citation and stupid stuff like that. But like, I haven't always last time I made a citation before, you know, 10 years ago. So I know. It's,

Jake

that's not even the way I wouldn't even thought to look at that. But that's it's makes sense, though. Yeah, it's like, a little stuff that you kind of overlook when you're in the thick of it.

Kate For sure. And then, you know, like I said, just putting a lot of faith in other people to get their parts of things done. And, you know, it's not a one person carrying a team. It's everyone can doing their part. And a lot of my work experience had been me doing my thing. So working with the team, so closely was a newer experience for me and something that, you know, it's got its ups and downs, when you're working with people and trying to get major projects done in grades depend on it. So you know, really learning how to navigate through that. And it's been a big thing for me.

Jake Was there anything the semester that caught you off guard? Was there anything like coming into the program, that you had an idea, and that idea was completely wrong? Or something that just blindsided you and you weren't ready for? Like, what was maybe the biggest surprise of this past semester?

Kate taking tests again?

Jake Yeah,

Kate yeah, it's been, you know, again, it's been a long time, because I did do that. And the first actual, like, reading test we had was an accounting quiz, I think, and I did horribly on it. You know, it's a little 10 point quizzes and classes before that, and that was no big deal. But I like I bombed that first accounting quiz. So that was my wake up, like, I need to learn how to study again, you know, I can do the work, I can do the reading, but I need to learn how to memorize it at least long enough to get through tests and things. And so I think that was a big, that was a big moment, for me being like, well, this, this is something that I didn't really remember how to do, I can't just like go in and automatically make it happen. Other things, you know how easily, it almost did come back to me after I made that realization, just, you know, shifting around my priorities and my methods and studying a little bit and how I was able to make that pay off. Yeah, you know, that's, it's good to know that I can be adapted that way you want it to be

Jake Yeah I feel like it's almost like muscle memory to an extent once let yourself get back in the groove of things

Kate A little bit but business school is very different from music school

Jake that I can personally agree with.

Orion That's actually what I was just going to ask because your, your educational background is really, I don't think I've ever even run into a music student before. So what's it like going from an arts specifically music bachelor's program, and then into a fairly competitive

Jake You did graduate level work in music too?

Orion See, I didn't know that.

Kate Both of my degrees are in classical clarinet performance. And I like that I think what music school teaches you is stamina to achieve, right, because you have to sit there, it's expected that you're practicing your instrument aside from doing your classwork and whatever. And in whatever rehearsals you have throughout the day, minimum of three hours. And that's on the low side. So as a wind player, you know, you, you can physically only do so much with your breath with your share of the mouth position, you have to use to play the instrument for anyone who doesn't know where to string players can practice, you know, five, 7, 10 hours a day, sometimes, like they, they're, they're really intense about it. So as a wind player it's a little bit less stressful, but it's still you know, a lot of hours in a practice room by yourself, just wood shedding tough stuff to get it down. A lot of rehearsal, a lot of being in an ensemble. So teamwork, but teamwork in a very different way than it is in Business School. Because here, you know, you have a team project, and you have to sort of delegate and assign, figure out what everyone's going to do. When you're in music school and you're playing in an ensemble, you know what part you have to play, you've been assigned a part, it's for your instrument, it's tailored to you. So your job is to learn that and make that fit with everybody else. So it's teamwork. But it's also teamwork in a very different way. And that was interesting to me actually coming back and realizing that those skills transferred to business school, but only so far, because there's a lot more decision making that has to come in here, you know, where I say, Well, I'm a good writer, so I can write part of this paper, or, you know, I know how to do this statistics problems. So I'm going to work on this part of the presentation, as opposed to just going while I'm playing the clarinet part in this music that I have to learn this first classes go. It's, you know, liberal arts, so I had music history, music theory, which can get a little bit mathy when you're in the 20th century, modernist stuff, but nothing like statistics or accounting. So I hadn't, you know, haven't taken a math class since high school at this point. And that's, now we're talking 15 years, not just nine. So you know, that that was a, that was an interesting thing to come back and try to remember my base level of statistics and accounting, and all that to do those classes here. You know, all the theory stuff, the organizational behavior, the communications, that is easy to me, and I think that translates well, from my music background, just because it's more theoretical, and it's more it's more subjective rather than objective wearing.

Jake Yeah. So now that we've, we're past music school, on the time, their way into the School of Management, looking forward, you know, what, what

is your plans? What do you want to do with the MBA, now, now that you're on track to receive one in spring 2020.

Kate

hopefully, fingers crossed. I think I'm still, I'm still figuring that out a little bit. I plan on doing marketing concentration, with some data analytics, and also maybe some consulting classes buried in there. I would love to be doing something that maybe has to do with community outreach for a company in the area, or people always ask me, Well, do you know, do you want to do hurts management because, you know, you went to music school. So you know, do I do that, that I, and as much as I would love to do that I would rather be in charge of maybe cultural outreach for a company, you know, like, M&T, who sponsors tons and tons of stuff in the area, doing something from that side, where I feel like I could make more of a difference on the community level, then, you know, just parts admin for, you know, say, the BPO, the orchestra here, like, Oh, you want to work for that, right? That really let you know, like, I support them, obviously. But it's also that's a little it's, it's close to home. In terms of the, you know, music is never going to be my career at this point. And, and I'm moving past that in terms of like, I, I accept that. And I know that I'm okay with that. And I don't even necessarily want to make it sound like business schools, you know, my backup option, because I realized that I like the lifestyle. And I like a lot of what having a traditional nine to five job affords me. That being said, I will always be playing clarinet in local groups, and I have one private student right now. And you know, I don't go looking for private students, but when they come to me, I'm more than happy to teach them. So it's, it's an interesting balance for me in my life of, you know, Arts and Business and all the things that I'm interested in. So it's a really long way of not answering your question. I don't know, we'll see. You'll see, um, you know, I think there are a lot of opportunities out there. And I know, I want to stay in Buffalo. Ideally, I want to work for a couple of one of the larger companies in the area, when I'm out. So I've worked. Now I, I worked for a company that was literally me and my boss. So I was doing all the Office admin, and he was doing all of the delivering of supplies as a supply company. And I work for a company that has a worldwide presence. So you know, I've kind of run the gamut of that. And I think I like larger companies, but also ones that definitely have that strong community presence and have the family feel even though the reach of the actual organization might be large.

Jake

Yeah, that's a fair answer, you know, to know, the direction, maybe not the destination, but the direction you want to go, I think that's sometimes more important than the destination is, you know, the journey of where you're trying to end up and how you're trying to get there not just a title at the end of the road, you know, that it's more like a whole lifestyle that you're looking to achieve?

Kate Yeah, I think that's fair, I think more than saying, I want to, you know, be a marketing manager. Sure, but I want to make sure that it's for a company that I really appreciate, fit in with

Jake It aligns with your values.

Kate Right. So it's to me it is it's more holistic than, than just saying, career. Yeah.

Jake So for prospective students, current students, future students, what if you had, you know, a short spiel of advice that you could throw at them? What would it be?

Kate Okay, You know, I think, with any, with any program, you have to be willing to see where it takes you. And you have to be willing to sort of go all in on the journey and put aside the like, why am I doing this? This is what why do I have to take this class? Or why do we have to do this activity, and really see it for what it's worth. And I think that's a perspective that I have as an older returning student that some of the younger students, it doesn't come as easily to them, you know, so, two weeks of orientation at the beginning of the program, for example, which I agree is a long form.

Jake It was a long two weeks

Orion I was okay with it

Jake I was okay with it, but it was long.

Kate Yeah, like, I feel like I had a tolerance for it. Because you look at a lot of the, say, team building activities instead, like why, why are we building a catapult and like

Orion I loved building the catapult

Jake I thought that was one of the better parts of it

Orion I thought stuff like that was really fun,

Kate Really, like, you know, seeing that it's not just about the catapult it's about, you know, working with the team and achieving something and in sort of laying down your prejudices about the activities themselves and going along for the ride. And I think that that's been really important for me to be able to do,

Orion yeah, and, and kind of reflecting on the things that happened. And, and not just discarding them, because you're right. You know, there, at least when I built catapult, there was all kinds of head butting. And in that particular group that ended up and, and so there are little moments, with stuff like that, for sure, that you don't get, if you're just sitting in a

lecture, you actually have to engage with other people on something and then, you know, you see what happens. And some things work. And some things don't. And definitely, definitely matters, that stuff is what makes things happen.

Kate It does. And actually, I'm, again, I'm really glad that orientation is what it is, because I'm naturally a pretty shy person. So getting us there for two days and forcing us to meet new people and, you know, sit with different people and work with different groups, it really forced me to break out of my shell a little bit and meet people and talk to them and get to know them, which you don't have to do once you're in the program as much. I mean, obviously, you have to work with the group that they signed you to for your projects and classes. You know, but I make connections with people beyond that immediate circle, that it was it was really nice to go into the program, having a little bit of that, especially because I you know, I am coming from outside. So, you know, if you're in pharmacy school, and you're doing pharmacy, dual degree program, and that's fantastic. But you know, all the other people who are in pharmacy programs, you've got your sort of built in circle of friends almost, and people that you can rely on where, you know, for me it was it was meeting a completely new set of people. And I really appreciate the opportunity to have done that.

Jake Looking forward to advantage this week?

Kate Sure! I hope they tell us a little bit more about what we need to do for the interview.

Jake Yeah there hasn't been a whole lot of details

Kate Yeah they're having a mock job interview

Jake feel like it's Yeah, just an interview competition, essentially sees the best interviewing. So I don't know exactly how that's going to work out.

Kate How am I doing?

Jake So far, so good. But I'm not going to be hiring you. So slightly different perspective. But ah, anything else guys?

Orion No, I think that's all.

Jake A solid 47 minutes. Well thank you for joining us again today. We have Orion and myself, Jake, were hosting and we have Kate Jarvis visiting us today. Stay tuned and we will be releasing more

Kate Thanks so much for having me guys, it's been a pleasure.