



THE VOICE

Monthly Newsletter for our Australian Alumni Community

ISSUE 9 | NOV 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members & Partners,

It had been an exciting month for both Australia and Singapore with VTL opening between both the countries, much-anticipated by both Australians and Singaporeans. It opened opportunities for families to reunite and Singaporean students to go back to their university campuses to continue their education.

This month I visited two of our key partners - Lendlease and James Cook University Singapore.

I met up with Ms. Ng Hsueh Ling, Managing Director of Lendlease Singapore and Chairman of Lendlease Global Commercial Trust Management at their office in PLQ together with AAS Chair of Council of Advisors Mr. Chris Cheah. Ms. Ng shared about the Paya Lebar Quarter mixed-use development project that Lendlease completed in 2019 which was part of URA's master plan to transform Paya Lebar into a bustling city precinct. The development consists of 3 office towers, a retail mall and three residential towers that are surrounded by beautiful green landscape and open spaces in a four-hectare site that spans across two adjacent land parcels. Ms. Ng also shared about how Lendlease is adopting sustainable practices in designing and building new living and working spaces and their commitment to absolute zero carbon by 2040. Lendlease is a great example of how a leading Australian business is leading the sustainable building practices, shaping cities of tomorrow, and enabling strong and connected communities.

James Cook University in Singapore has played a significant role in the economic relationship between Australia and Singapore. Since 2003 James Cook University has not only been providing high-quality Australian education across multiple disciplines in Singapore but also has contributed significantly towards Singapore's Sustainability goals. JCU Singapore was recently awarded the AustCham President's Medal 2021 which is a great testament to the work they have been doing over the years. AustCham President's Medal is awarded to individuals or organization that has made a significant contribution to the business community and contributed substantially to trade or investment between Australia and Singapore.

AAS is extremely proud of our collaboration and long-standing partnership with Lendlease and JCU Singapore. Our partners have enabled our growth and expansion and added more value to both Australian university alumni and students in Singapore. I am excited to share with you that your Management Committee is working on the next phase of our growth which will be announced in the upcoming months.

Please reach out to us if you have any suggestions or recommendations. We are here to support your goals and objectives.

Yours Sincerely,

Rajaneesh R Kurup
#forwardtogether



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AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION UPDATE

Nov 2021- November was an exciting month for reconnecting Australia and Singapore as quarantine-free travel arrangements between our countries took flight. Singapore's Vaccinated Travel Lane with Australia commenced and Australia welcomed Singaporeans back as part of the Singapore Travel Pilot.

There were heart-warming scenes at Sydney and Melbourne airports as Singaporean citizens reunited with family and loved ones in Australia and Singaporean international students returned to their home universities to continue their studies or start new courses. Singaporean citizens were just the second group – after New Zealanders – who can travel to participating cities in Australia as tourists. The Singapore Travel Pilot is part of Australia's plan to gradually reopen to international travellers so it can stay safely open.



Credit: Getty Images/Tourism Australia

Also in November, the Australian Government announced that Australia will open to a range of visa holder categories in December, including business, student and working holiday maker visas. From 1 December 2021, fully vaccinated eligible visa holders can come to Australia without needing to apply for a travel exemption. The list of eligible visas is at <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/vaccinated-travellers>.

Travellers to Australia must comply with the quarantine requirements in the state or territory of their arrival, and any other state or territory where they plan to travel. So please check the latest information on each State and Territory health department website before you book. For the latest information on travel between Australia and Singapore using the VTL and Singapore Travel Pilot, head to our website at <https://singapore.embassy.gov.au/sing/COVIDINFORMATION.html>.

AAS superstars, we want to hear from you!

Are you an Australian university alumni working in the food, agritech or food and beverage industries in Singapore? We'd love to hear about your work and experience studying in Australia. Please email the Australian High Commission, Singapore's Public Affairs team at public-affairs-sing@dfat.gov.au and say g'day!

COUNCIL OF ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT

DR. BILL FOO



Dr. Bill Foo retired from ANZ where he was GM/CEO of Singapore and Vice Chairman for South/South East Asia for about 16 years. Fortunately, his connectivity with Australia is still ongoing despite his retirement where he serves as Co-Chairman of James Cook University Singapore Advisory Board and Special Advisor to the Chancellor - which provides him an opportunity to connect with Australia, particularly Townsville and Cairns.

Bill is a Director of several companies including City Development Hospitality with 2 hotels in Australia, Mewah International(Agri) with an office in Brisbane and Chairman of the Singapore Business Circle, in partnership with Trans Tasman Business Circle in Sydney and Auckland providing senior executive engagement.

Bill also has a passion for developing younger executives and is a mentor to various organizations including retired senior military officers in their career transition and development.

Bill is particularly very keen to promote business and people ties between Singapore and Australia and counts himself very fortunate to have visited Australia about 50 times over the last 25 years.

As Bill prepares for this article, he is boarding a flight to Sydney to meet friends and associates whom he has not seen for 19 months. Post-pandemic and recovery, Bill is actively working on various initiatives on the Singapore-Australia corridor, particularly on education and business engagements.

PARTNER UPDATES

The Study Melbourne Online Teacher Training Showcase is LIVE.



To help accelerate the learning process, Study Melbourne in partnership with FutureLearn.com, is bringing a curated selection of 10 online modules to local and expatriate teachers, principals, and school counselors in Southeast Asia.

The courses are designed to directly impact students' learning experience and are taught by highly respected Victorian institutions and academics from Deakin University, Federation University, Melbourne Polytechnic, Holmesglen TAFE, Australian Catholic University, The Australian Council for Educational Research, Deakin University English Language Institute (DUELI), as well as StoryBox Library - an educational tool that supports children's learning of concepts.

Each module takes approximately 1.5 hours to complete. A certificate from Study Melbourne and Futurelearn will be provided upon completion of the showcase.

The Study Melbourne Teacher Training Showcase course can be accessed via the FutureLearn platform here: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/study-melbourne/1> and the Study Melbourne collection can be accessed here: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/collections/online-teacher-training>

James Cook University in Singapore awarded the AustCham President's Medal 2021



James Cook University in Singapore was recognised for its significant contribution to the economic relationship between Australia and Singapore.

The annual Australian Chamber of Commerce Singapore (AustCham) President's Awards ceremony for 2021 took place on 23 November. The ceremony brings together Australian business community leaders to celebrate excellence and business success in Singapore and the region and honours the significant contributions made by businesses and individuals alike.

At the ceremony, James Cook University (JCU) in Singapore was presented with the AustCham President's Medal. The AustCham President's Medal is awarded to an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to either the Australian and Singaporean business community, the relationship between Australia and Singapore, or who has otherwise substantially facilitated investment or trade between the two countries.

With the [Tropical Futures Institute \(TFI\)](#), JCU has established a unique connection between Northern Australia, Singapore and the Tropics. The institute was set up to leverage the University's research capabilities and deliver significant contributions and connections to Singapore and the region.

In addition, JCU — through its [Inter-campus Mobility Program](#) — provides students the opportunity to study in both Singapore and Australia, while remaining Singapore-based students and paying their fees in Singaporean currency. This allows students to explore rich and diverse cultures and experiences, and also ensures that students obtain the best possible outcomes from their years of study with the University whilst further strengthening the ties between Singapore and Australia.

Chris Coburn, AustCham President, said, "JCU's commitment to Singapore is shown through its deep ties in research, education, and meaningful, well-established, strong relationships. JCU is an exemplary leader in the Australian business community in Singapore. On behalf of the Chamber, I recognize the valuable contribution from James Cook University, Singapore in their support of building the bilateral ties between our two countries. I congratulate the organization, Professor Chris Rudd OBE as Deputy Vice Chancellor and Head of Campus, and his team as the recipients of the President's Medal 2021."

Professor Chris Rudd OBE, Deputy Vice Chancellor and Head of Campus, Singapore at JCU, said, "It is an incredible honour to be recognized by the award of the AustCham President's Medal. On behalf of the JCU team I would like to thank all of our staff and students for helping to make our university such a special place for both Australia and Singapore. As we continue to innovate and grow, I hope that we can continue to push boundaries and contribute further to signify our commitment towards the two countries."

Find out more about the [Singapore campus of James Cook University](#).

Contacts

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Establishment of James Cook Academy and its acquisition of Eagle Infotech for Continuing Professional Development



James Cook University in Singapore has established James Cook Academy and the Academy has acquired Eagle Infotech for Continuing Professional Development.

James Cook University (JCU) in Singapore has established a new academy designed to support access to Continuing Professional Development — named **James Cook Academy**. In addition, James Cook Academy has acquired **Eagle Infotech** — which offers a wide range of courses in information technology, digital marketing, communication, and more — to support its mission of providing Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Singapore's workforce. A signing session between JCU in Singapore and Eagle Infotech was held on 29 November 2021 with the completion of the acquisition on 30 November 2021.

Incorporated in 1988, Eagle Infotech is a Registered Training Provider (RTP) accredited by SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG).

Offering a suite of technology and soft skill courses, Eagle Infotech has helped to equip over 50,000 learners from many different industries with the capability to navigate a rapidly-evolving workplace.

As a wholly-owned subsidiary of JCU in Singapore, James Cook Academy will support Eagle Infotech to further diversify its course offerings and delivery modes to deliver flexible and personalized programs and will work with industry partners to develop tailored CPD courses. This ensures that more people in Singapore will have the opportunity to upgrade their skills and remain relevant and employable in today's ever-changing world.

Indeed, the global economy is facing great uncertainty and change, but the Singapore Government recognizes the opportunity to innovate and strengthen our capabilities amidst this disruption. The report of the Committee on the Future Economy (CFE) highlighted the need for workers to continuously deepen and refresh their skills in order to stay relevant as a critical priority for the Singapore Government. In line with this, James Cook Academy also supports the United Nation's **Sustainable Development Goal** of Quality Education, which seeks to “**ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**”.

Professor Chris Rudd OBE, Chairman of James Cook Academy, and Deputy Vice Chancellor and Head of Campus, Singapore at JCU said, “I am pleased to have Mr Andrew Chew take the reins as CEO of James Cook Academy in addition to his current role as Chief Commercial Officer of James Cook University, Singapore. The ambition of the University to enter the CPD space has been realized with Andrew's leadership of the set-up of James Cook Academy and its acquisition of Eagle Infotech. I am also proud to welcome the staff, students and partners of Eagle Infotech — important stakeholders in the CPD community — to the broader James Cook University family.”

“Establishing a strong presence in CPD is the next step for James Cook University to contribute to Singapore by helping to upskill the local workforce through short courses and training programs in Industry 4.0 and areas that fit the needs of the Singapore workforce and community. It is very exciting to see all of this come to fruition and I look forward to working with Eagle Infotech's Managing Director, Mrs Liana Tang and her staff to enable the business to soar to new heights,” says Mr Andrew Chew, Chief Executive Officer of James Cook Academy and Chief Commercial Officer of JCU in Singapore.

Eagle Infotech Managing Director, Mrs Liana Tang acknowledged JCU's reputation in Singapore as an institution, known not only for its quality but also for its outreach and support for its students through their educational journey, saying, “The dedicated team at Eagle Infotech are delighted to be joining an institution that shares its values and its commitment to supporting all Singaporeans to achieve their career goals through lifelong learning. We look forward to working with James Cook Academy to enable more people to innovate and adapt to the fast-changing needs of the global workplace.”

Find out more about the [Singapore campus of James Cook University](#).

Contacts

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Media: Pinky Sibal pinky.sibal@jcu.edu.au

KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBER

NOEL NG, LAWYER



Having been born in America, raised in Singapore, and studied in Australia, Noel mixes socially well with people in general. Noel enjoys meeting people from all walks of life and loves immersing himself in different cultures. His undergraduate time in University of Tasmania stands out as one of the most memorable periods of his life.

Noel is currently a lawyer with Goodwins Law Corporation, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. Prior to being a lawyer, Noel was working in the Ministry of Home Affairs and was attached to the Singapore Police Force. Due to his work with the Singapore Police Force, Noel has a keen interest in criminal litigation.

Noel is a volunteer with the Singapore Law Society Pro Bono Services' Criminal Legal Aid Scheme which provides criminal legal assistance to the poor and needy who are unable to afford a lawyer and are facing charges in a Singapore court for non-death penalty offences under certain statutes. Noel also does civil litigation in Goodwins Law Corporation, as well as assists in corporate legal matters such as cross-border mergers and acquisitions involving MNCs from US/UK/Australia. He also advises the insurance and financial advisory industry on compliance issues.

Noel also has a deep interest in community work and mentoring initiatives.

During his undergraduate days, he was a law mentor to his younger peers. Presently, he sits as a Board Member of the D.S. Lee Foundation which provides aid to the nursing and medical care sectors in and around Southeast Asia. Noel is also in charge of the legal mentorship programme in Goodwins Law Corporation.

Outside of his professional career, Noel enjoys playing various types of musical instruments. With a glass of whiskey (preferably a Tasmanian brand) in hand and listening to classic jazz records is an ideal chill night for him.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - STANLEY EU



Stanley Eu graduated from Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia with a double Major in Computer Science and Communication Studies in 1992. He started working in GE Information Services and made his way from the Technical team to Sales Manager in EC1/SCS and then to Progress Software. In 2003, he enrolled for the MBA (International Management) course at SIM-RMIT while working at EC1/SCS. After graduation in 2005, he was headhunted to lead the startup subsidiary of Parasoft Singapore. He has since been the Regional Director for Parasoft South East Asia where the business grew for the last 16 years. He continues to spearhead the growth in South East Asia; working with distributors in the region while speaking and presenting at various events on Cybersecurity, Compliance and Automated Testing.

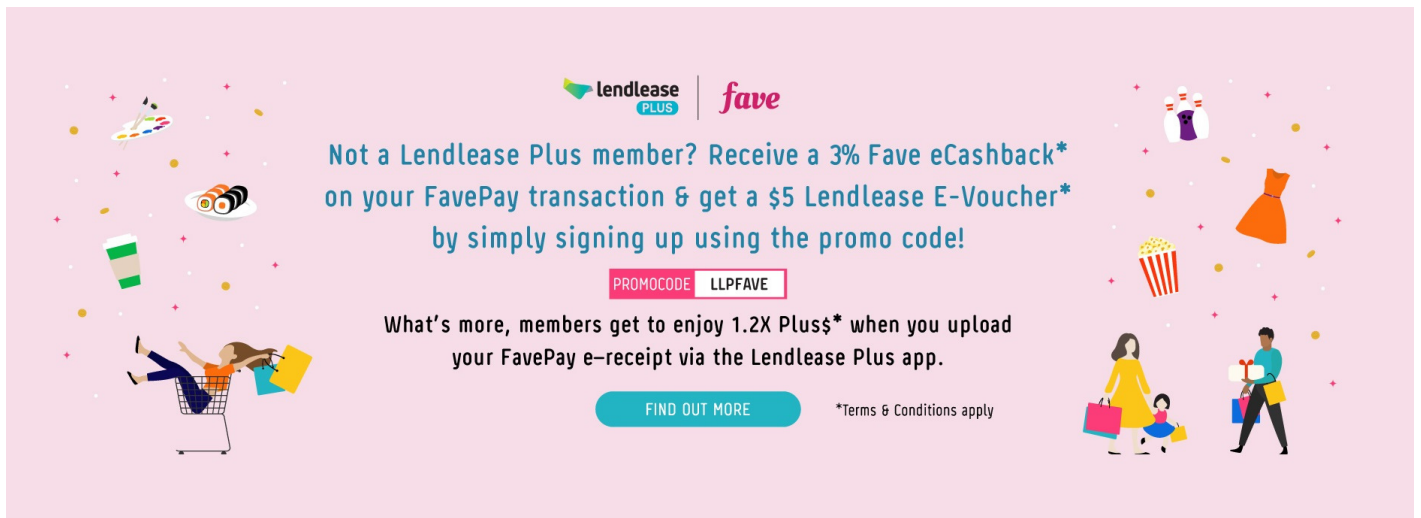
Since his days in Murdoch University, he has been active in Student Organisations such as the Association of Overseas Students (AOS) and Overseas Students Association of Western Australia (OSAWA). In 2017, he was roped in by Chun Hoy Yuen to help with the planning and organising of events to celebrate and commemorate the 130th Anniversary of RMIT & the 30th Anniversary of SIM-RMIT in Singapore. Together with a group of alumni volunteers, he was able to find a way to pay it forward and enjoyed the camaraderie and teamwork in organising events to celebrate the anniversaries.

Subsequently, when Hoy Yuen stepped down as President of RMITAS in 2018, Stanley then took the helm and has since been leading RMITAS to build on the good work by previous committees to have better engagements with the Alumni. He continues to represent RMIT alumni in Singapore to RMIT in Australia and Vietnam; and works to have more interesting events and activities to enable more graduates to be connected. The 5 pillars he tries to espouse to the community in RMITAS are Career Development, Personal Development, Networking, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility.

In 2021, RMITAS is celebrating its 20th Anniversary since its registration as an association with Registry of Societies (ROS) in Singapore. While COVID-19 has disrupted many face-to-face activities, we were nonetheless able to organise some activities such as the Logo Design competition, Photography competition; and online activities such as Celebrate Australia Day, Virtual Wine Tasting and Talks on Human Resource management and Industry Networking on a new platform called Gather Town. We are hoping that we can end of this year with a small dinner celebration in Dec 2021 to mark a milestone in RMITAS' young history.

AAS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

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The banner features a pink background with illustrations of shopping bags, a shopping cart, and food items like sushi and a coffee cup. At the top center, the Lendlease Plus and Fave logos are displayed. The main text reads: "Not a Lendlease Plus member? Receive a 3% Fave eCashback* on your FavePay transaction & get a \$5 Lendlease E-Voucher* by simply signing up using the promo code!". Below this, a pink box contains the text "PROMOCODE LLPFAVE". Further down, it says: "What's more, members get to enjoy 1.2X Plus\$* when you upload your FavePay e-receipt via the Lendlease Plus app." A teal button labeled "FIND OUT MORE" is positioned below the text. To the right of the button, it states "*Terms & Conditions apply".

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So what are you waiting for? Sign up for Lendlease Plus and Fave today!

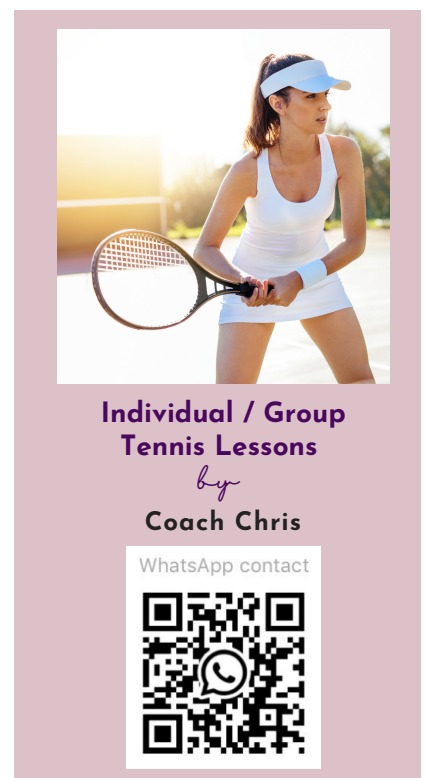
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The advertisement features a background image of the Sydney Harbour Bridge at sunset. The Ashton Legal logo is prominently displayed at the top. At the bottom, the text reads: "AAS Members who engages Ashton Legal for professional immigration services will enjoy Exclusive Discounts."

AshtonLegal


AAS Members who engages Ashton Legal for professional immigration services will enjoy Exclusive Discounts.



The advertisement features a background image of a woman in a white tennis outfit holding a racket. The text reads: "Individual / Group Tennis Lessons by Coach Chris". Below this, it says "WhatsApp contact" and displays a QR code.

Individual / Group Tennis Lessons
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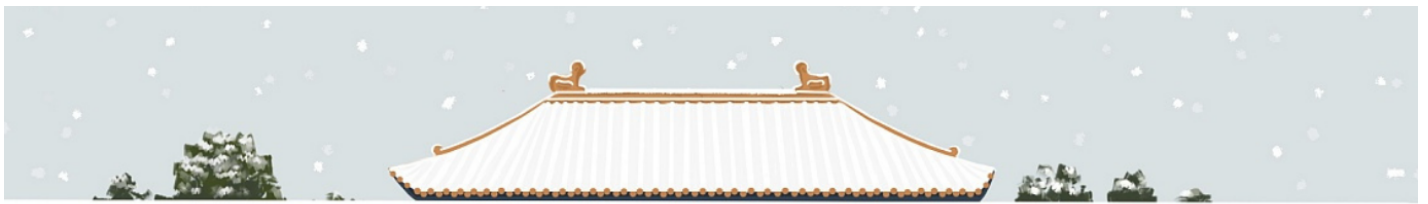


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2018

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To sign up for membership, please click on this [LINK](#)



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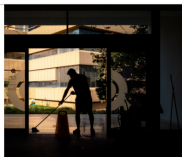


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Thomas Ang
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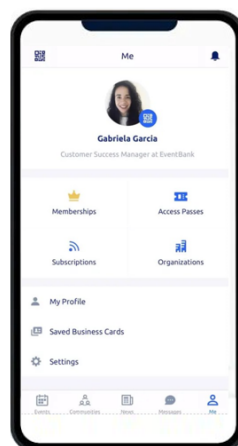


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Talent Transformation Advisor - Vice President

Job Description

This position is part of the Accountability, Culture and Talent (ACT) work-stream formed to lead Citi's transformation efforts, which aim to respond to the Consent Order and other regulatory initiatives as well as define the go-forward state and sustainably embed solutions. This change requires a high degree of focus and change management across various businesses and functions, and this position will play an important role in partnering with HR teams and business leaders in driving the change, to support the transformation efforts in line with the target state.

The Talent Model Program's objective is to strengthen the risk and control capability across the organization and refine Citi's Employee Value Proposition (EVP) for risk, control, and other roles in order to develop, motivate, and retain the best talent. The program also aims to refresh Citi's talent development strategy, processes and programs, in line with the strategic business objectives and regulatory requirements.

The Talent Transformation Advisor will be a key liaison between regional HR and business stakeholders and the central Talent Model team. They will partner in the design, development, regional execution and management of various initiatives geared towards enhancing or modifying existing processes or creating net-new initiatives to meet identified needs. Some of these initiatives would be for risk and control groups, while the others may have broad organization-wide impact.

Responsibilities:

- Serves as a "subject matter expert" on talent management practices, and business priorities
- Provides connectivity on Talent Transformation initiatives with the regional stakeholders
- Partners with regional HR Advisors and business stakeholder to understand the needs, current state and pain points
- Partners with central Talent Transformation Team to provide input into the design process
- Drives shared understanding and ownership of the revamped talent agenda across regional stakeholders
- Helps to create and implement regional action plans to drive the efforts; partner closely with regional HR teams and the business as needed to develop and execute short and long-term talent development initiatives
- Acts as a change management champion in the region to drive activities related to the talent transformation
- Procures relevant data from the region for use in various talent initiative design and success measure reporting
- Partners with regional HRAs/talent teams to identify program target populations, set up Talent Councils, build success profiles, facilitate assessments, and oversee regional road shows, training, governance, etc.
- Understands the business, market /country and HR needs and priorities; and integrates these insights into the talent transformation strategy globally
- Leverages data to provide insights and influence business decisions in line with the overall strategy.
- Initiates, designs, implements and communicates key processes related to talent transformation mandate, including talent review/succession planning, talent development, succession, performance management etc.
- Ensures that Talent outcomes are effectively analyzed, reported and actioned, in line with the objectives set out on various talent transformation initiatives.
- Participates in ongoing communication across the global business to engage all global employees in initiatives, processes and updates

Qualifications:

- 6-10 years of experience
- Ability to build relationships as a trusted partner with colleagues across regions, business lines and levels
- Developed communication and diplomacy skills in order to guide, influence and convince others, in particular colleagues in other areas
- Analytical and strategic thinking skills – systems thinker
- Flexible and highly adaptable – ability to pivot quickly
- Operate with curiosity- challenge traditional approaches, incorporates diverse perspectives
- Ability to manage ambiguity and push through business challenges
- Strong execution capability. Ability to drive results and demonstrate a strong sense of accountability and follow through
- Ability to energize others around a task/idea and maintain optimism
- Ability to deliver in a fast-paced environment with tight deadlines
- Strong organizational skills
- Consistently demonstrates clear and concise written and verbal communication skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Office with an emphasis on MS Excel
- Self-motivated and detail oriented
- Bachelor's/University degree, Master's degree preferred

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Java / J2EE Developer (Information Security)

Citi is looking for a Java Developer, who will be responsible for Designing, developing and/or re-engineering authentication/authorization application modules.

The individual will work on authentication/authorization services partnering with Citi's business teams and operations.

The candidate will have the opportunity to participate in all phases of the authentication/authorization service engineering efforts, including but not limited to requirements, review architecture and service offering, design, implementation, management of security testing and documentation.

- Candidate should have 8+ years experience in designing, building and deploying of Identity & Access Management services in a large Enterprise,
- Experience with Java/J2EE and Debugging skills.
- Ability to design, develop and test applications in agile environment.
- Experience working with CI/CD tools like GIT, Maven and Jenkins.
- Developing SOAP and Restful web services in Java
- Working experience of RDBMS databases (Oracle, MySQL, etc).
- Experience with operating system(s): RHEL, Windows.
- Middleware & Web Server experience.
- Experience with SSL
- Shell scripting experience.
- Experience in web technologies, HTML, CSS, JavaScript.
- Strong interpersonal communication skills to maintain good relationship among different teams is required

Nice to Have:

- Ping Federate and Ping Access experience.
- Knowledge of Mobile application development.
- Agile methodologies (Scrum or Kanban).

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Eugene Seah

The University of Western Australia

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