

BISI Careers Fair 2018



The long-awaited biennial BISI Careers Fair took place on Friday 9 March. In the run-up to the day, the event was marketed by our Year 10 and 11 Business students via two videos as well as banners and posters designed by Year 11's Aral de Moor, featuring the Fair's theme 'Driving into the Future'. With full PTA participation in the organization of the Fair, an invitation to attend the event was extended to all parents.

The day kicked off at 8:30 with the Çoban family's Tesla - a real-life car of the future - pumping out music on The Green, displaying interesting facts on how the electric car is environmentally friendly. At the same time, Year 12 and 13 students greeted the invited speakers in the Reception and students poured into the Theatre, clutching their Careers Fair tote bags and programmes.



Ramon Klomp, a BISI alumnus (Class of 2015) was our entertaining host, guiding the students through a full day of events and challenges all focused on what life has in store after BISI.

After an introductory speech by Mr Richard Robinson and a welcome from Ramon, students and staff split up to listen to 19 invited speakers who presented the stories of their lives and careers to curious students from Years 7-13.



We heard life stories and work-tips from a wide range of fascinating speakers, from: a lawyer, a chef, the founder of a charity, an academic archaeologist, a psychologist, business entrepreneurs, a director of Save The Children's charity, a CEOs of a cyber security firm and one from a geotech company, a journalist, musician, graphic designer, banker, hotelier, photographer, an engineer working on the Third airport, and a head of marketing for a multinational corporation. Students and speakers were then given a chance to network over a cup of coffee

and tasty breakfast treats prepared by our kitchen staff in the Sports Hall, after which we said goodbye to our invited speakers and the Year 10-13 students returned to the Theatre to receive instructions on the team-work element of the day.

They spent the next couple of hours in teams designing and building models of the 'Car of the Future', and presenting their concepts in the Theatre. All 8 teams performed brilliantly, exhibiting completely different models and working hard to convince our panel of judges that theirs was the winning project. Each vehicle was road-tested using the clean energy source of compressed air, to much hilarity! Team A was judged the winner, with teams 'H' and 'G' as the runners-up. A special prize went to Team 'C' for excellent clearing up skills.



Another feature of the afternoon was a presentation by our hard-working host Ramon. A BISI alumnus, he gave a thought-provoking and inspiring talk on the personal journey that has taken him from school to studying Business at



Nyenrode University in the Netherlands. We heard what it is like to arrive at university to embark on studies in architecture, only to find that it was not, after all, what Ramon was interested in. How he set off on an adventure to the other side of the world in Australia, and how, through selling paintings door-to-door, he discovered a passion for photography and found new direction and interest in the world of business. We viewed his beautiful photos and listened to his valuable advice about the value of taking a gap year, aimed at our students worrying about making the 'right' post-school choices.

The day closed with a hilarious 'behind-the-scenes' video created by Aral de Moor to the tune of 'Thunder' by Imagine Dragons, which included snapshots of many of the students and staff who had worked hard to make the day a success, as well as many of the invited speakers.

A big Thanks to all who made the day a great success, especially the Committee (Susie Ateş, Judith Kuiper, Tracey Rich, Seef Marsden, Mariam Zara), our host Ramon, the panel of judges (Dr Ruth McLellan, Mr Kevin McLellan, Alexandra Sezen), the admin and auxiliary staff, as well as all the students who participated in the day with such enthusiasm.



Dr Kathleen Hawthorne
**University and Careers
Counselor**

