The Business Connections Learning Community (BCLC) at the University of Connecticut was formed to create competitive candidates for the professional world. To do so, throughout their time in the program, members are introduced to a series of opportunities that challenge their interests, further their skillset and allow them to form valuable relationships with not only their peers and UConn faculty but also current professionals in the business world. Furthermore, while it provides several opportunities to pursue one’s interests – the BCLC, more importantly, instills within its members the importance of networking. Throughout one’s time in the program, they can prepare for a series of events to network with professionals in the business world. The BCLC illustrates the art behind something as simple as introducing oneself to or conversing with a professional.
business professional so early on gave me the perspective I needed to solidify my goals for the future. While some conversations reinforced my interests in a certain field, others challenged them – forcing me to think hard about my options. However, having these conversations so early in my college career allowed me to pursue opportunities from the very beginning that would further my interests and allow me to reach my goals. Throughout my conversations with these highly qualified professionals, I found it most important to listen to what each alum had to say about their profession and their experience which prepared them for their current roles. In each conversation, I found myself learning more about the profession through their perspective. Many of my conversations with Alum were eye-opening to what the reality of working in the professional world is like and the patience it often requires. At the same time, it gave me a better understanding of what companies look for when hiring for vacant positions. As a result, it allowed me to cater my college career in a way that makes me a competitive applicant in the future. Due to my participation in the BCLC Alumni in Residence, I now approach college with a much different mindset than I had when initially coming in. I’ve learned to keep an open mind as to what opportunities lie ahead, to continue to further my skills in all directions and to keep networking with not only current professionals but also my peers and UConn faculty. Overall, this event was an incredible opportunity that taught me a lot about myself, my interests and my goals for the future.

I would highly recommend using this as a way to network with current business professionals.

-- Ish Panwar