

STUDENT STORY



Jordan Root

Graduating 2022

University: University of Wollongong

Degree: Bachelor of Business

What's Next?

Jordan has been involved with her family business for the last ten years. She completed her degree not just for her own future endeavours but to assist in the longevity of her family business and to improve and strengthen it. Unsure of her long-term vision at this stage she plans to spend the next 12 months either doing her Masters or emersed in the business and use her studies to create steadfast strategies re-evaluate KPIs and focus on the business's operations, systems and procedures that ensure more efficiency with workflows and staff productivity. By having more of a systematic and informed operations model the daily management can shift from a micro to a macro level allowing time for business development and securing its financial stability against future economic challenges. Working alongside her father who has 50 years experience in business will no doubt retire at some stage so Jordan will inevitably take over the business at some stage or make sure it is running optimally for sale.

How did you utilise the CUC Southern Shoalhaven in your study journey?

The CUC has been a social tool for me. I am fortunate enough to have a great study space at home which when I really need to get things done is probably my go to. I love campus life, but it is an hour away and most of my friends there have finished so it got a bit lonely. The covid lock downs made me feel very isolated in my studies so the CUC has connected me with other students again which is an important part of my education journey. The accessibility and being a part of an active community of students has been the central role of the CUC for me. Being on a journey with like-minded others even if they have different goals.

What have been some highlights for you this year or times when the CUC have been central to your study journey?

Achieving a high distinction for an assignment I was expecting a low mark for. I also love the random late-night conversations with other students. It normalises the whole experience of hard work and study block and keeps you going, it's like having extended family. Also, being involved with BNI was a special experience for me as a business student. It was great to network with a room of business owners in a neutral space with so many present. Normally it's just me in my shop but to feel peer support and connection was a buzz. Also, the Wednesday Wellness Walks have been central to my week. An important opportunity to relax and have a proper break from my study. I would leave the phone and step out with whoever was coming with us and have a random conversation, allow myself some fresh air and new perspective. Connecting to the environment and the salt air helps me to feel refreshed and ready for a productive afternoon.

What words of wisdom would you like to impart on your fellow students?

An important thing to remind yourself is that deadlines and assignments are not the end of the world. Well, there is a fine line of course, but if you have things going on in your life that need your attention, you have to give yourself that space. Ask yourself, what is it that you truly value and honour that. Friends, family, whatever it is at the end of the day it's those things that actually motivate you to be your best so you can't turn your back on them.