Finding BC Alumni Using LinkedIn

On your LinkedIn home page, set the Search to “People,” type in “Boston College” (include the quotation marks) and hit return.

This will bring up a large search yield, approximately 71,000. It will also bring up the advanced search features on the left-hand side.

To make sure everyone you brought up went to BC, start by opening the “School” filter on the left hand side and check off any Boston College schools listed.

You can then refine your search further by any of the search filters on your left: keyword, industry, geography, company, etc. Your search results will filter as you click those boxes.

Once you find an alumna or alumnus you are interested in speaking with, email them a specific request (see boxes on right). Be sure to indicate in the subject line that you are a BC student or alumnus/alumna seeking advice.

To learn more about this “informational interviewing” process, visit http://www.bc.edu/offices/careers/careers/networking.html

HOW TO ACCESS ALUMNI EMAIL ADDRESSES
To send an “InMail” to an alumnus or alumna, you can pay for an upgraded membership OR try these strategies:

1. If you have a level 2 connection (a shared connection) to that person, you can use the “get introduced through a connection” feature.
2. Email them directly at their company (figuring out company emails is pretty simple).
3. Use BC’s Alumni Directory to find email addresses alumni have access to the Directory – students, ask an alumni friend for help.

SAMPLE MESSAGE
Dear Ms. Johnson:
I am a senior at Boston College and found you on LinkedIn.com. I am very interested in learning more about your experience working in the educational consulting industry. Would you be willing to chat with me? Any advice you can provide is greatly appreciated. Please let me know how to proceed if you are willing. Thank you for your consideration.