

## **SPEED MENTORING EXERCISE FOR TRI-MENTORING VIRTUAL KICKOFF**

At the virtual kick off there are two speed mentoring sessions, where small groups of mentors interact with student small groups. At the end of the first session each group of mentors will be rotated to a new student group Zoom breakout room. Students remain in the same breakout room throughout the whole activity.

Here are the discussion topics and affiliated questions. Students, please take turns asking the questions and feel free to ask the ask the mentors other related questions.

**Session 1:** *The variety of career paths available to CS graduates; dealing with the unexpected and building resilience.*

- What do mentors like about their present jobs, and what are some of their challenges?
- How has the COVID-19 outbreak changed the nature of their jobs and the way they do them?
- What other unexpected challenges or opportunities have mentors experienced during their careers, and how did they deal with these?
- Beyond software development, what are other careers or career paths that Computer Science grads can do?

**Session 2:** *Student career preparation in a changing employment landscape; labour market trends.*

- What from the mentors' time at university (e.g. specific courses, work experience, extracurricular activities, specific people they met) proved to be pivotal to their careers going forward?
- Beyond technical skills, what makes a student or new grad a great hire or work colleague?
- What is mentors' advice to students about what they should be doing now to keep the greatest number of options available when they graduate?
- What are important emerging trends in Computer Science-related work? Are there industries mentors see fading in importance, particularly given COVID-19? Are there new opportunities?