Sample Questions To Ask Alumni Advisors

Entry Level Career Professionals (0-2 years of post-undergraduate work experience):
* How do I determine the work culture of an organization?
* I have a lot of internships from college, how much experience does that give me?
* Which classes were best for building basic research skills?
* Which classes would you recommend for building technical skills required at your workplace?
* Do you think I should do an internship to enter your field?
* Do you look at student organization experience as “real experience”?
* Which student organizations can provide me with opportunities to take a leadership role?
* I have an idea for an organization I want to start; where should I begin?

Early Career Professionals (2-10 years of post-undergraduate work experience):
* I am making a career pivot to this sector; how do you see my experience contributing to your organization?
* What class will give me the best information about entering this sector?
* How can I build a professional network in this field?
* I’m looking for autonomy in my work; what does that look like in your organization?
* I am focused in CA, what organizations in your sector are located there?
* What are the opportunities for growth and development at your organization?
* I have an idea for an organization I want to start; what resources would you recommend?
* Looking ahead at development trends within your sector, what skills do you think are becoming increasingly valuable?

Mid-Career Professionals (10-20 years of post-undergraduate work experience):
* How do the benefits compare between this sector and the sector that I am leaving?
* An internship doesn’t seem like a good opportunity for someone with my level of experience. How can I approach an organization in your sector for project work?
* I have 10 years of teaching experience; how can I talk about my transferrable skills in your sector?
* I have not worked in education before but have strong management skills. Which classes will help me talk about your sector in a more meaningful way?
* As someone with a lot of experience, what campus experiences would be best for me?
* Can you describe work-life balance amongst employees within your organization/sector?
* What are some typical roles for which a person with 10-20 years of experience may be considered?
* I have an idea for an organization I want to start; what resources would you recommend?

Senior-Career Professionals (20 + years of post-undergraduate work experience):
* How collaborative do you find the staff/faculty?
* What entrepreneurial resources are available?
* Where can I connect with more experienced students and alumni?
* How do I sell my previous experience to this sector?
* How do I leverage my extensive experience into a new role and industry?
* Would you recommend cross-registration for courses? (e.g. MIT, HBS, etc)