Optional Practical Training (OPT) for International Students
Career Services for GW International Students

• **Graduate School Career Centers & Staff**
  – GWSB, ESIA, GSEHD, SEAS, LAW, MISPH, CPS, GSPM, Trachtenberg School
  – Many collaborative program

• **Center for Career Services**
  – All undergraduates (except GWSB)
  – Graduate students in CCAS, SMHS, SoN
  – Career Workshops, Employer and Networking Events
  – Student Employment (on-campus jobs)
  – Professional Praxis for CPT

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Center for Career Services

International Services Office
Career Services
for International Students

• **Career Coaching & Advising**
  – One-to-one Appointments on Career Topics
  – Daily Drop Ins

• **International Student Career Ambassadors (ISCAs)**
  – Monday - Wednesday: 10am - 4:30pm
  – Thursday: 10am - 6pm
  – Friday: 10am - 3pm
  – Science-Engineering Hall, 1230/1240
Career Services for International Students

- Intl Students’ Career Skills Workshop Series
  - Interviewing in the US - Thursday, February 22, 2:00-3:30 pm, MC 302
  - All About Networking - Tuesday, February 27, 2:00-3:30 pm, MC 307
  - International Student-Alumni Network Night - Thursday, March 1, 6:30-8:30 pm, MC Grand Ballroom
Career Services for International Students

• Handshake
  – Online Job & Internship Listings/Resources
  – Mock Interviews
  – Interview Stream
  – Resume/Letter Critiques
  – Workshops
  – Employer Information Sessions/ Site Visits

International Student Assistance
Networking

• 80% : #1 job search strategy in U.S.
  – Not career fairs, not online job listings

• Build relationships
  – Join on campus groups and network on campus
  – Informational Interviews

• Marketing
  – Resumes, Cover Letters
  – Networking
  – Interview, Presentation, Attire
Top 10 Skills need in 2020
by World Economic Forum

- Complex problem-solving
- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- People management
- Coordinating with others
- Emotional intelligence
- Judgment and decision-making
- Service orientation
- Negotiation skills
- Cognitive flexibility
Research/Target/Meet Employers

• Identify employers who hire OPT/sponsor H1B
• Identify employers “who may consider” IS
  – Say “no” officially, but have hired for “right person”
• Research employers needing your skills
• Network & Network
  – GW international alumni (Linked In)
  – Student organizations
  – Intl student with jobs in U.S.
• Consider international organizations
• Avoid U.S. federal, state or local government
Program Evaluation

• Check email for a link to evaluation or go.gwu.edu/ccsprogrameval

• Should take approximately 2 minutes
  – Professional Development
  – Marketing
  – About You

• Comments & Ideas