



# *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





# 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



Center for  
Career Services



International Services Office



# 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



Center for  
Career Services



International Services Office



# 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](#)**



Center for  
Career Services



International Services Office

# 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/ccsprogrammeval](http://go.gwu.edu/ccsprogrammeval)
- Should take approximately 2 minutes
  - Professional Development
  - Marketing
  - About You
- Comments & Ideas

