International Students Get Ready for the Job Fair!

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International Place  Laserfiche
What we’ll cover

- General Job Fair Preparation
  - Personal and professional goals
  - Reasons for attending job fair
  - Research on organizations attending the job fair
  - Recruiter expectations
  - At the fair

- Issues specific to the international student
  - Culture and language
  - Discussing immigration status with recruiters
  - Immigration regulations
Think about your specific reasons for attending the job fair

- Gather information on a variety of organizations
- Learn about application criteria and process
- Make connections with organization representatives (network)
- Determine who is hiring and for which positions
Do your research!

- Get a list of companies attending the fair
  - ClaremontConnect
  - Career Center
- Find out who will represent each company you are interested in, if possible
- Check for alumni connections
  - LinkedIn
  - Career Center
  - Alumni Office
What do recruiters look for

- Passion/Energy
- Problem-solving skills
- Resourcefulness
- Intellectual Curiosity
- Professionalism
- Leadership skills
At the fair

- Dress to impress
- Conversation starters
- Research the company
- Follow up
- Be fully engaged
- Hygiene
Culture and communication

- Recognize that differences exist
- Group-oriented cultures
- Individual-oriented cultures
- Direct vs Indirect communication styles
Language

- Confidence
- Foreign accent?
- Even native English speakers speak differently from one another
Discussing your status

- Research the organization’s history of working with international students
- Be honest and up front
- Know your immigration benefits and options!
Immigration benefits and options

• Focus on what you can do!
• F-1 CPT
  ◦ internships before graduating
• F-1 OPT
  ◦ 12 (+ 17 for STEM majors) months after graduating
• J-1 Academic Training
  ◦ 18 (up to 36) months