

#### International Student Job Search

Workshop 3: Networking



# **Quick Introduction**



#### **Coaching Experience**

Founder & Principal at Careerly -> coach at Georgetown MSB, SFS, College; Johns Hopkins, UVA Darden, CUA



#### **International Experience**

Swiss + Sri Lankan national, several U.S. visa status: F-1, H1-B, G-4, E-2



#### **Industry Experience**

World Bank, World Resources Institute, Merrill Lynch, Citigroup, Lehman Brothers, AMR Research, Gartner



#### Education

MBA, University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), 2004 London School of Economics, B.Sc. and L.LM, 1996



#### Ms. Hira Fernando

## Agenda for Today

1. Context: Sessions, 1, 2, and 3

**2.** International students: what to highlight

3. In-person networking: different scenarios & networking opportunities for international students

4. "Tell Me About Yourself" overview

**5. TMAY in different contexts** 

## What's the Big Deal About Networking?

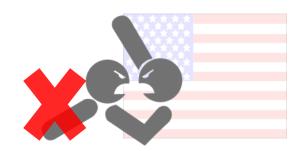


**80%** of jobs in the U.S. are landed through networking.

### Networking in the American Context







It is an essential part of finding a job in the US

"Selling Yourself" is considered a good thing

It's not about being aggressive or "salesy"

Networking is about being able to articulate your value in a way that helps the other person

# Int'l Students: What to Highlight

- Because you require sponsorship you have to be TWICE as competitive as those who don't. You can play your best hand with the cards you have
- Highlight your key skills and competencies: if they are technical (very valuable!) be specific -> what can you do better than others?
- Highlight global mindset: languages, international experience, working and living in different countries, ability to work cross-culturally
- Don't highlight international status but if the employer/contact asks clarify process of hiring international students
- Work with your coaches! Ensure that you deliver a crisp, clear message. Keep it short but on target. We will talk about the TMAY shortly..

## Think of all opportunities & Avenues

- Fall (and spring) OCR is important
  - Main way for firms to recruit at JHU from a known pool
  - Schools typically have strong relationships with major firms
  - Access to employers through alumni events, panels etc
- But think beyond; look at ALL the opportunities available to students:
  - Many major companies DO recruit but not on campus
  - Many companies that DON'T do any formal recruiting still seek good undergraduate talent
  - Small businesses, <u>start-ups</u>, non-profits high demand for technical / operational/ data/ analytics skills

# **Networking Opportunities**

Coffee Chat/Informational Interview

Networking Event (Conference, Happy Hour)



On-campus Employer Presentation/Alumni Pa



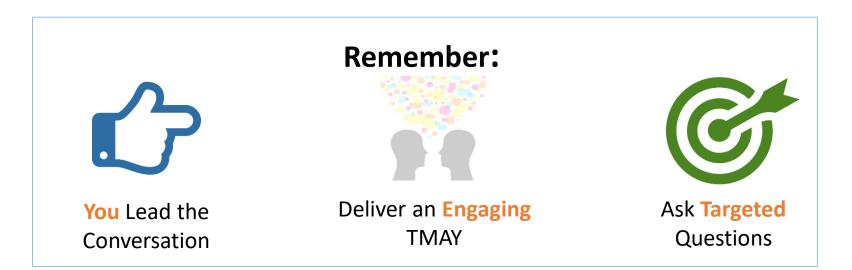




## **Coffee Chats/Informational Interviews**

A short conversation between professionals with shared interests

While an Informational Interview is *not* a job interview, it does serve as an **informal way to get in front of hiring managers and decision makers**.



## **Networking Events**

Events that have the **specific objective of connecting** people with a common interest

Networking events are a good way for students to start building a network of professional contacts in their career interest area.



## OCR: Employer Presentations/ Alumni Panels

Part of JHU OCR efforts: allows you to connect with specific employers and alumni

Employer presentations and alumni panels give you an insider edge and should be leveraged to setup informal interviews.



## Career Fair/Job Search Fair

Are events in which employers and recruiters (and third parties) can give information to many students

This is the best way to meet a wide variety of employers face-to-face and make an initial contact with organizations of interest.



## "Tell Me About Yourself"



#### It is an introductory question at the beginning of a formal or informal conversation.



This question will be the "start" in almost any networking conversation/ scenario

## The Importance of the TMAY

#### It is the single most common question in a networking conversation.







Establishes the 1<sup>st</sup> Impression Sets the Tone

Allows You To Position Yourself

### **TMAY Versions Overview**

#### **Two Versions**



### **TMAY Version Breakdown**



- Top line introduction
- X years of experience in Y industry(s)
- What you want why you are there



- Top line introduction
- Briefly summarize X years of experience in Y industry(s)
- Focus on 3 areas of skill / competencies -> match to job
- End with ".. And this is why am so grateful for this opportunity to interview. I think it's a good fit and I will be able to <u>contribute</u> to your team.

### 30 Second TMAY Example

**Seconds** 

Hi, I'm Daniel Wong - nice to meet you. I'm currently a student at JHU getting an advanced degree in Economics. Prior to this I worked at Deloitte for 2 years in their strategy division. I'm at this conference today to learn and meet new people.. Am fascinated by this industry.. hope to work fulltime in this area once I graduate.

## 2 Minute TMAY Example

#### Minutes

Hi, I'm Priya Sandeep. I'm currently a financial analyst with Citigroup and a recent MBA graduate from the McDonough School of Business. Before graduate school I worked in the finance industry for Bank of America for 7 years. I went straight into BofA after I received my undergraduate degree in International Finance from the University of Maryland. All this means I have strong finance skills, as well as a broader set of strong analytical and data skills. Clients have generally liked my creative approach, international experience, and the willingness to solve any problem. I'm really looking forward to our discussion today, and hoping I can bring my skills and finance industry experience to help advance the goals of your team.

We firmly believe that international students have unique attributes (languages, global mindset, cultural understanding) that are highly valued by not just U.S. employers but by employers all over the world who are truly committed to a bright & talented 21<sup>st</sup>C work force.

International Students: #YouGotThis!



You have to learn the rules ob the game. And then you have to play better than any one else.

-Albert Einstein

## Thank you.. and follow-up

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•Our FB page: latest info (everything pertinent to U.S. job search) including changing immigration landscape, and especially H1-B process.



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