Helping Students Find & Maximize Internships

November 2018



Meet your facilitator

Basics:

Briana Randall Director – Internship Project Career & Internship Center



Details:

14 years in center
3 years in this role
Goal – ensuring UW students
have access to high-quality
internships

Factoid:

Did an internship at the Indiana Women's Prison

Contact:

brianakr@uw.edu (206) 685-4139

Agenda

- > Definition & benefits
- > Facts & logistics
- Notes for international students
- > How to find (or create!) internships
- Resources for maximizing an internship





Definition & Benefits



What is an internship?

- > A form of experiential learning that allows a student to do one or more of the following:
 - Integrate academic learning with "hands-on" experience
 - Develop or refine specific skills that are transferable to other settings
 - Explore an industry, career,
 company, work environment





How do internships differ from jobs?

Internships:

Have an intentional focus on student learning

Have a **defined beginning and end**

Often center around defined projects



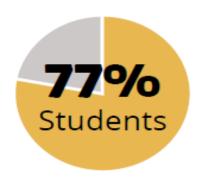


Reasons/benefits

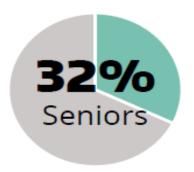
Watch 2 minute video here – https://youtu.be/Ppzp89uUh_U



Short-term benefits



Said internships helped them gain better understanding of future career interests

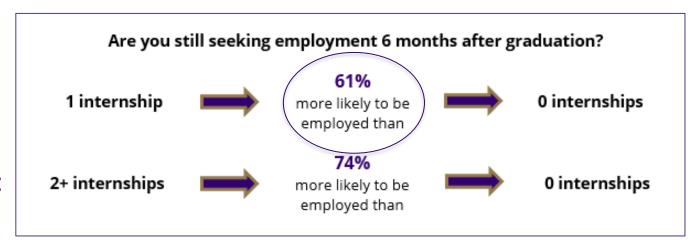


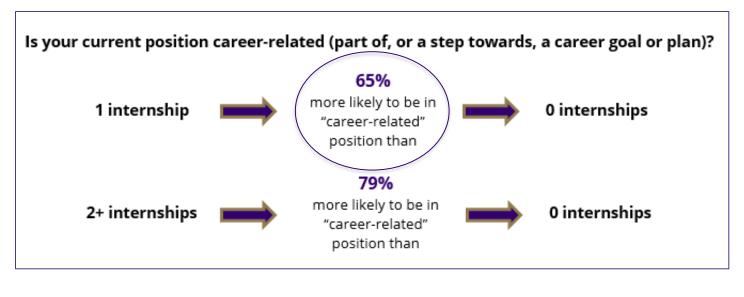
Said internships significantly changed what they wanted to do with their careers



Longer-range benefits

Responses from 2,071 2016-2017 UW graduates:







Employers really do like internships...

Often, employers will narrow down their hiring decision to two (or more) equally qualified candidates. Knowing what makes them choose one over another is key insight in the job-search process. Internship experience appears to be the answer. (See Figure 41.)

Attribute	2019 Average Influence Rating*
Has completed an internship with your organization	4.6
Has internship experience in your industry	4.5
Major	4.0
Has held leadership position	3.8
Has general work experience	3.7
Has been involved in extracurricular activities (clubs, sports, student government, etc.)	3.5



Facts & Logistics

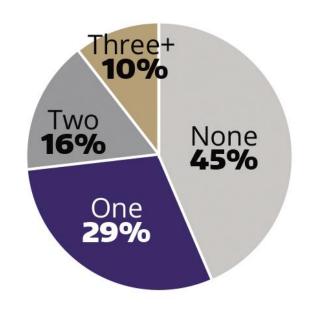


UW student participation

Approximately what % of UW graduates participate in at least one internship before graduation?

- 1. 15%
- 2. 35%
- 3. 55%
- 4. 75%

Number of internships completed





Are more internships better than 1?

- > Maybe, maybe not
 - If each internship helps students develop new, relevant skills or knowledge, yes
- > But, we encourage students:
 - Don't do internships just for the sake of it
 - Don't keep doing more internships if they prohibit you from doing other equally beneficial activities



Money & credit

> Pay

- Many internships are paid!
- Varies by industry



> Academic Credit

- Optional, unless an international student
- Granted for extra work to demonstrate learning
- Offered by many departments and through General Studies
- Internship Course Manager Learning Community



Timing

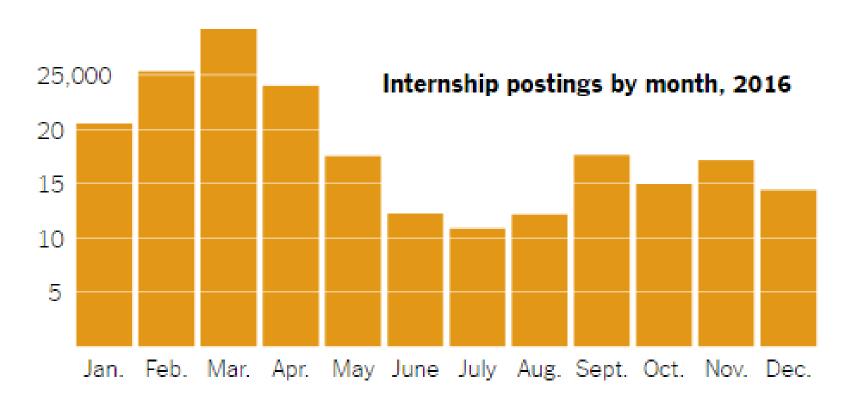
- > Happen at any time of the year
 - MyUW poll showed summer is the most common time
- > Typically last 1-2 quarters
- > Usually 10-15 hours a week during the year







Timing of postings

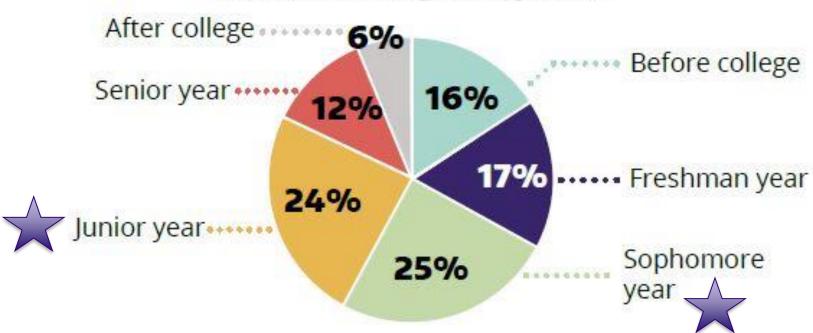


Note – most summer internship recruiting in accounting, finance, consulting, & some tech/engr happens in fall quarter



When do most students do first one?







Increasing interest among freshmen

Attendance at internship workshop has doubled since 1st offering in 2016

460!

But...we generally encourage freshmen to hold off & spend time building up their marketability for great internships later on





Preparatory steps



- Draft & refine resume
- Create LinkedIn profile



Build Your Network • Join clubs

- Connect w/ UW community centers
- Go to faculty office hours
- Do informational interviews



• Service learning

- Undergrad research
- Pipeline, Jumpstart, **Dream Project**
- Campus jobs

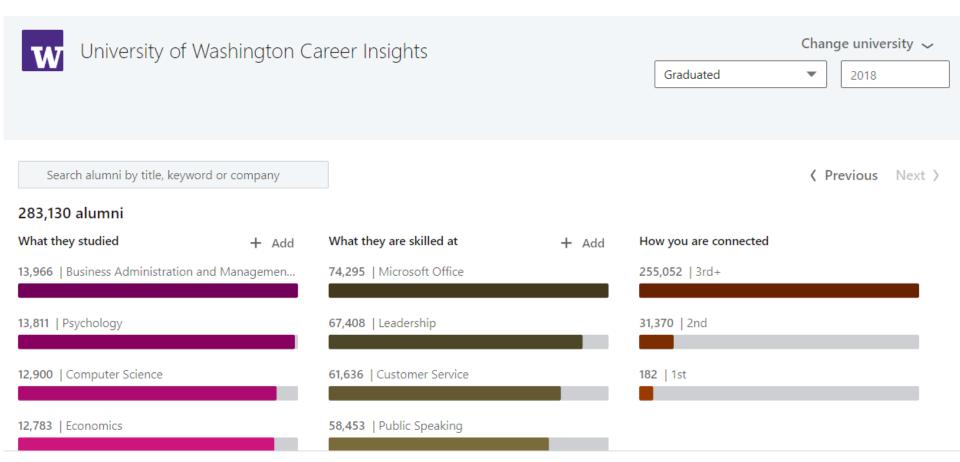






To find where students have interned...

linked.com/alumni



Notes for International Students



Are there special rules for int'l students?

Yes

Int'l students must get a temporary work authorization to do an internship

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)





Can any int'l student do an internship?

No

Only F1 students who:

Have completed

3 full-time quarters

and

Are declared in a **major**

Are enrolled **full-time***





Can they do any type of internship?

No

Internship <u>must</u> be **directly** related to their major

They must provide their major adviser with a description of internship & how it relates to their major





Do they need to earn academic credit?

Usually

They must earn 1 credit
(through their department)
for each quarter of
internship

unless

An internship is a **graduation requirement** in their department





What's the process? Students...

- 1. Apply for internships that are **directly related** to their major
- 2. Get an offer! Yay!
- 3. Talk to their **dept. adviser**
 - A. Confirm internship relates to major
 - B. Enroll in internship course
- 4. Fill out online CPT application

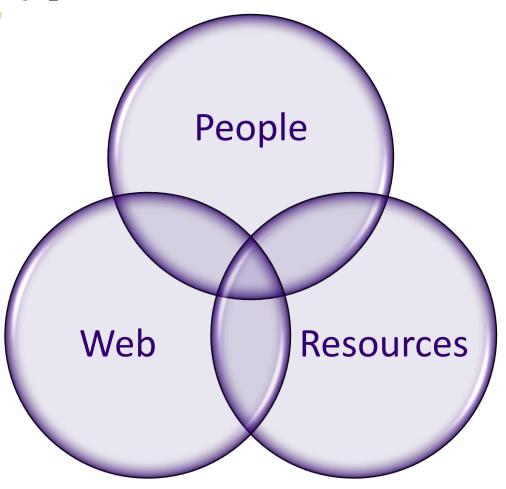




How to Find (or Create!) an Internship



So many possibilities....



Check out our Finding Internships handout!



Talk to people

Contacts

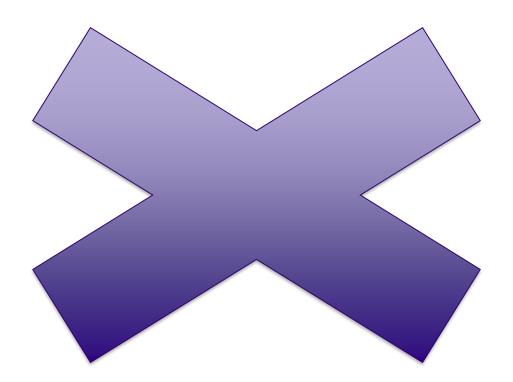
- 48% of Husky grads say contacts helped them get jobs
- Don't be shy; tell friends/family what you're looking for!

Fairs & Events

- 83% of employers extend offers after fairs
- **75+** employer events & career fairs each year

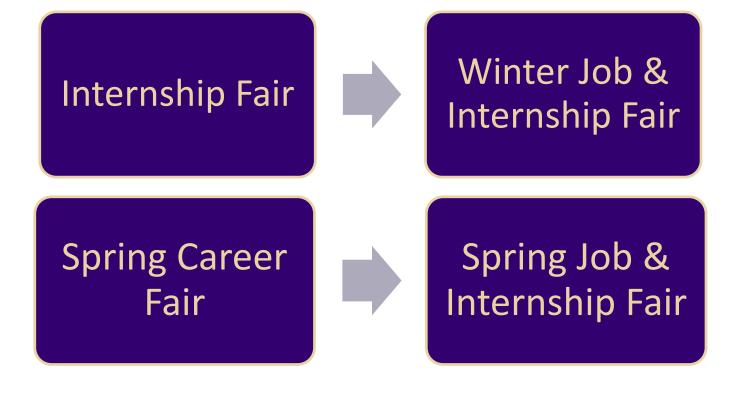


Internship Fair





Instead...



Use campus resources

Academic departmental list serves, websites, FB pages, etc.



Career Center @ Engineering





Handshake

Last year, with HuskyJobs:

About <u>300</u> internships posted at one time

This year, with Handshake:

Over <u>1,200</u> internships posted at one time!

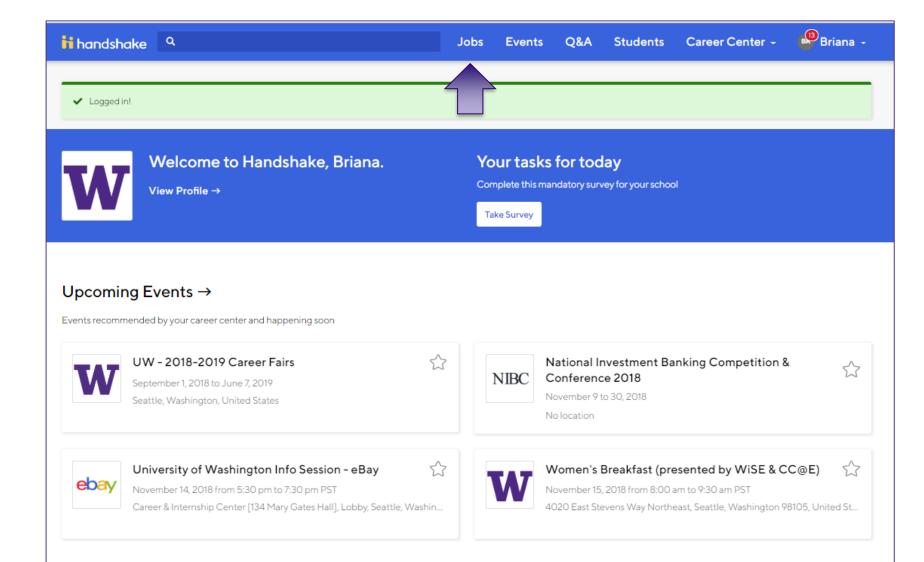


3,665

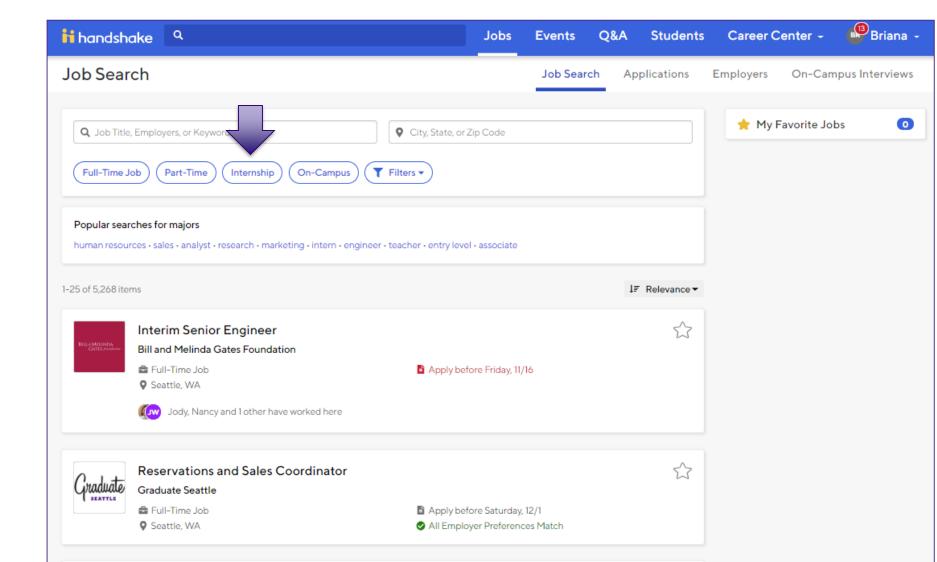
unique undergrads used HuskyJobs to search for **internships** in one quarter!



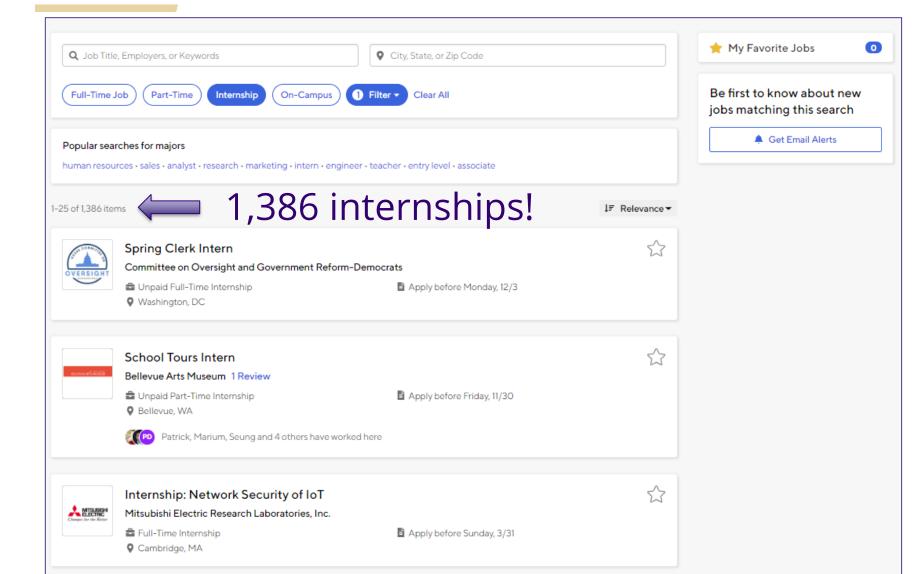
Handshake front screen



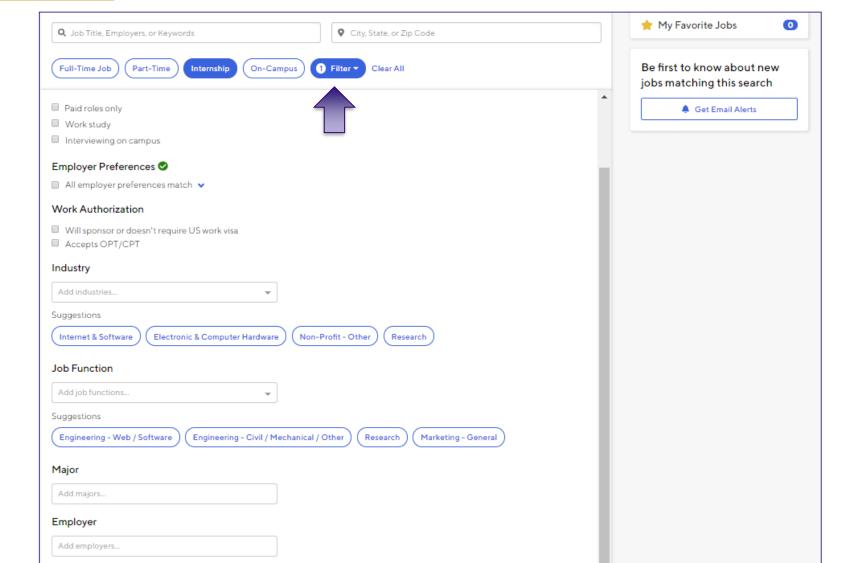
Handshake "jobs" section



Handshake "internship" filter



Handshake filters



Use the web













Also, check the websites of interesting employers



What if students say...

I can't find an internship posting that interests me.

The employer that interests me doesn't have an internship program.

I don't have the exact skills and background employers want interns to have.



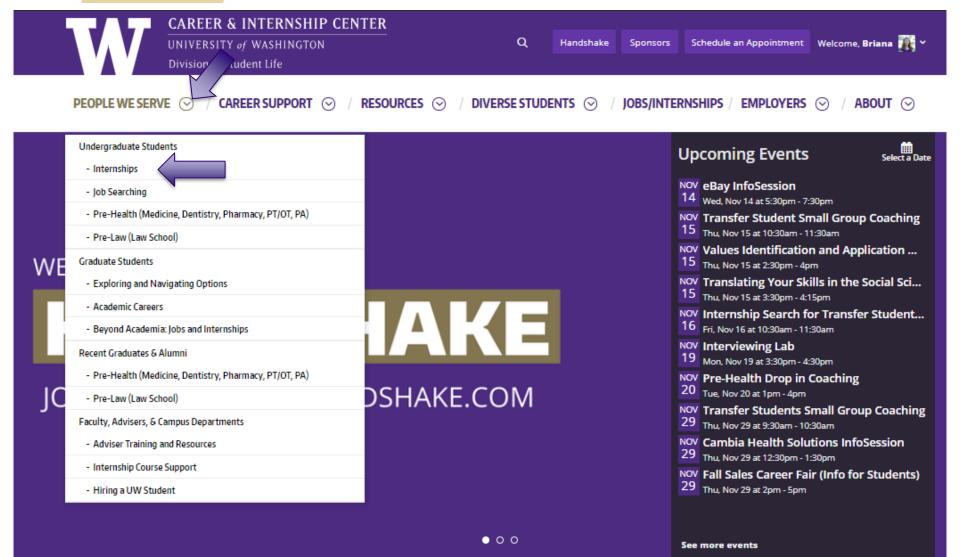
... tell them to create an internship!



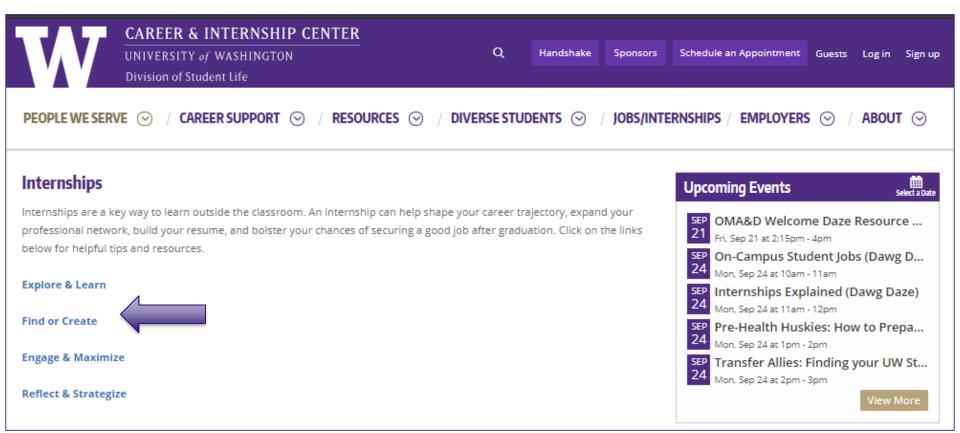
- > Find an employer you're passionate about
- > Think about how you could learn and contribute
- > Reach out



careers.uw.edu



careers.uw.edu/internships





Let's check it out:

https://careers.uw.edu/internships/find-or-create/



Workshops/webinars

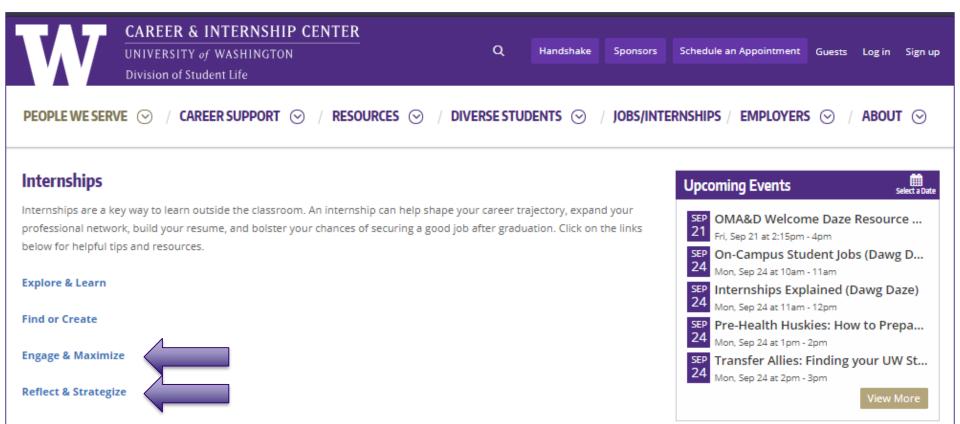
- > Gaining Experience Employers Want
 - 27 attendees in fall (across 2 offerings)
- > Finding Internships
 - 113 attendees in fall (across 3 offerings)
- > Internships for International Students
 - 34 attendees in fall (across 2 offerings)
- > Internships for Transfer Students (virtual)
 - 11 attendees in fall (1 offering)



Resources for Maximizing an Internship



careers.uw.edu/internships





careers.uw.edu/internships/engage-maximize

Internships »

Engage & Maximize

In order to reap maximum benefits from your internship, you need to be thoughtful about how you engage with colleagues, approach your work, and view yourself within the larger organizational context.



















Handout

- Creating Learning Goals
- · Maximizing Internships (quotes from employers)

Making the Most of Your Internship

Watch 2-minute video here – https://youtu.be/SxaKeRGFYOs



After an internship:

After INTERNSHIP: Strategic Analysis

MUCH LIKE SPORTS TEAMS ANALYZE GAME TAPES to pinpoint what worked and didn't work so they can develop a plan to enhance future play, interns should set aside time to look back and critically reflect on their internship. Below are some prompts to help you figure out what you liked and disliked about your internship, what you want to replicate in future experiences, and what changes you need to make to find a career, job, or workplace that's right for you. Select at least 2 questions from each category, write down your reflections, and consider talking to a career counselor, adviser, or mentor about your responses.

- > How would you describe your internship using 3 adjectives?
- > Was the internship what you expected? If not, why? What didn't meet your expectations?
- > What aspect of your internship did you most enjoy?
- > What most surprised you about your internship site and role?
- > What's a take-away you didn't expect...an unanticipated insight you gained?

- > What responsibilities did you feel really enthused about?
- > What tasks do you feel you did really well there?
- > What specific accomplishments do you feel most proud of?
- > What tasks or activities do you want to do in future jobs?

STRENGTHS & SKILLS:

- > What skills did you develop or enhance at your internship?
- > Which ones did you feel most excited to learn or use?
- > What feedback did you get from your internship site about your strengths?
- > What strengths do you have that didn't have a chance to be demonstrated there?
- > What's a skill deficit you realized you need to fill to be successful in that field?

VALUES:

- > What non-task-related thing about your internship did you most enjoy?
- > What values did you share with the organization? With coworkers?
- > Which of your personal or work values, if any, seemed at odds with your internship site?
- > I would have had a much better internship experience if only

- > What did you learn about what you need from a supervisor in order to do your best work?
- > How would you describe the culture at your internship site?
- > What about the culture do you want to replicate in future work settings?
- > If the culture at your internship site did not fully meet your expectations or goals, what can you learn from that? What needs to be different for you at a future place of employment?

- > In what ways did your internship confirm your intended career direction?
- > What changes might you make to your career trajectory as a result of this internship?
- > What action step could you take to continue refining your career path? (see After Internship: Next Steps sheet for ideas)

After INTERNSHIP: Next Steps

KEY RESOURCES:

careers.uw.edu

linkedin.com

COMPLETING AN INTERNSHIP is an important milestone in your career development journey. Hopefully your internship helped you build experience, knowledge, skills, and contacts that will prove valuable personally and professionally. A critical next step is...deciding on your next step! Where do you want to go from here in terms of building your career pathway? Check at least one possible next step from the lists below.

CONTINUE CONNECTING WITH YOUR INTERNSHIP SITE:

- Send a handwritten thank you note to those with whom you worked closely ☐ Ask supervisor (or someone else) to join you for coffee once a quarter
- ☐ Connect with employees on LinkedIn
- ☐ Conduct an informational interview with somebody in an interesting role
- ☐ Meet up with them at UW info sessions, career fairs, etc. (or volunteer to help!)
- ☐ Apply for another internship there, or a full-time role if you're graduating soon

LEARN ABOUT OTHER EMPLOYERS:

- ☐ Conduct an informational interview with somebody at an employer of interest
- ☐ Attend any of the Career & Internship Center events at which employers are present career fairs, employer information sessions, Careers In panels, or Employer-Led workshops
- ☐ See if you know anybody with connections to employers of interest through LinkedIn
- ☐ Use LinkedIn's alumni tool to see where other Huskies are working
- ☐ Subscribe to a Talent Community to learn about events and employers relevant to your interests

SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- ☐ Reflect on and dissect your internship using the After Internship: Strategic Analysis sheet
- ☐ Complete the values, interests, and strengths exercises in the Career Guide
- ☐ Make an appointment with a career counselor at the Career & Internship Center to further clarify your skills, strengths, values, and interests
- ☐ Take courses or engage in co-curricular experiences (clubs, leadership roles, volunteer positions, internships, etc.) that will help you develop skills necessary for success in careers that interest you

GET READY FOR YOUR NEXT APPLICATION:

- ☐ Attend workshops or labs on resumes, cover letters, interviews, LinkedIn, job search, etc.
- □ Add a well-written description of your internship to your resume
- ☐ Update your LinkedIn profile to include your internship
- ☐ Ask somebody from your internship site to write a recommendation for your LinkedIn profile
- ☐ Write down a few significant stories from your internship that you might want to include in a cover letter or discuss in a job interview
- ☐ Meet with a career counselor to refine your materials, interview answers, and job search plan
- ☐ Apply for other internships or jobs using HuskyJobs or other strategies

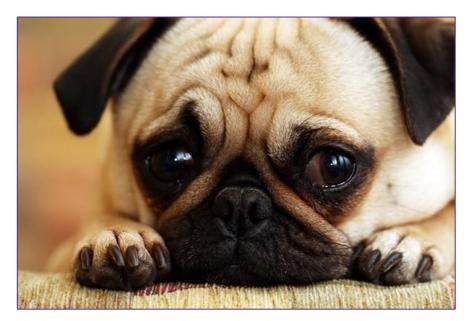
OTHER IDEAS:

BUILDING MOMENTUM:

What's something small you can do this week to work towards your identified next step(s)?

Reality

- > It is hard to get students to engage with any of the resources in this section
- > Please push them out to students



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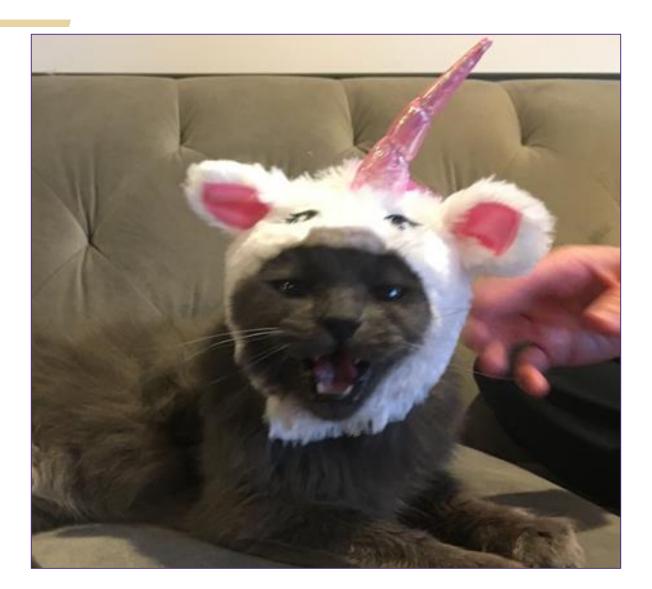


Wrap-up





Cats in real life...



Helping students

- > Share reasons/stats re: importance of internships
- > Share examples of internships your students have done in the past
- > Develop a departmental culture re: internships:
 - Website
 - Videos
 - Handouts
 - Emails
- > Show them our internship resources



If employers reach out to you...

- > Yay!
- > Direct them to careers.uw.edu/employers/ create-an-internship/
- > Let them know I am happy to provide consultation

Employers »

Creating an Internship

Opportunities to learn outside the mechanism for students to learn win-win! The links below provide

Explore & Develop

Recruit & Advertise

Manage & Support



Next steps



What's a next step you can take to become even more of an internship advocate?



Contact

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