

Tips for Those Who Want to Intern/Work Abroad on How to Get Started

Adapted from an article by Cheryl Matherly and William Nolting published in AbroadMagazine.com

A. Build a network

- Ask other American ex-pats you meet how they found their jobs, and if they know of any opportunities in your desired field.
- Use Career Connections (available on www.careers.wustl.edu) to create a list of Wash. U. alums living in the country. Ask how they got started.
- Brainstorm lists of people who might know of opportunities: your host parents, the head of your academic program, friends' parents who live in the country, etc. Don't hesitate to tell them all what you're interested in and that you're looking.
- Remember to keep a notebook of contacts' names, addresses, and emails. Stay in touch, and don't let your network die.

B. Research

- Talk to your home-stay family about the local economy. Ask what industries are growing, and who might be interested in potentially hiring.
- Read job listings in the local paper. Get a feel for what industries are on the rise.
- Obtain grad school applications while in the country. Program representatives might be willing to meet with you, and researching grad schools is a smart idea if you're considering applying for post-graduate scholarships such as the Fulbright.

C. Stay in touch with your home base, The Career Center!

- Email your Career Advisor, and let them know what you are thinking.
- If you get on their radar now, they will keep you in mind as deadlines come up.
- Ask them if they have any suggestions in terms of next steps in your search process.
- They can further help you market the study abroad experience on an updated resume or cover letter.