

Expand Your Options and Move Beyond Limits

Eric Zhang Business Development & Global Partnership TalentLink S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) 2015

September 2020

GAPORE S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Stories about me

- Double master degree in International Relations (NTU, SCU)
- 2-Year Assurance in Foo Kon Tan
- 5-Month Compliance (Anti-Money Laundering)
- Head of Business Development & Partnership at TalentLink
- 20+ Countries Traveler and Amateur Photographer
- LinkedIn & FutureLab.my Certified Career Mentor









- Be serious about every opportunity matching your career goal
- Accumulate experience during the break period
- Take internship and try to convert to fulltime
- Improve resume and be accustomed to video interviews

Define a Clear Career Goal

Step 1. Conduct self-assessment

- Personal Vision
- Unique Contribution
- Career Motivation

Step 2. Define Career Goals

- Short-/Medium-/Long-Term

Step 3. Comparison Analysis

- Identify gaps
- Propose possible solutions

Step 4. Decide Action Plan

- Activities
- Milestones
- Target Date





- 1. Explore options outside your comfort zone
- 2. Educate Yourself and Grow Your Skills
- 3. Flexibility is strength
- 4. Look For Growth Industries
- 5. Help other people

Online Learning





- 2. LinkedIn Learning Ex Lynda
- 3. MasterClass
- 4. Udemy
- 5. Edx.org
- 6. Codecademy
- 7. Coursera.org
- 8. Futurelearn.com









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Virtual Internship



No need to relocate. Virtual interns can work for any company in the world as long as they have an Internet connection. This provides the opportunity to gain international experience without even having a passport. Many students cannot afford to study abroad, pay to commute to work or rent an apartment in order to be near their internship. Virtual internships effectively break down these barriers and open the door to a wider variety of students.

Flexibility. It is often difficult for students to fit an internship into their busy class schedules, especially when they are also involved in extracurricular activities and work part-time jobs. Virtual internships allow students to set their own schedule and work when they can.

Gain valuable skills for today's global workplace. International experience is a quality that more employers are looking for in potential employees. An international virtual internship is a great way to improve telecommunication and time management skills. Further, a virtual internship requires self-discipline, independence and the ability to take initiative.

Expand your network. Working across national borders gives virtual interns the opportunity to greatly expand their global professional network. This is particularly valuable for students earning their degree abroad, who ultimately wish to return to their home country and seek employment.

Project-based Experience





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Virtual Volunteer

- 1. United Nations Volunteers
- 2. Catchafire
- 3. Smithsonian Digital Volunteers
- 4. Amnesty Decoders
- 5. Translators Without Borders
- 6. Crisis Text Line
- 7. Zooniverse
- 8. Project Gutenberg
- 9. DoSomething.org





Find Job Positions Effectively



Traditional Online Job Portal

JobsDB, JobStreet, Jobs Central, STJobs, Moster

• Job Search Engines

Indeed, Career Jet, Jobs.com.sg

• Vertical Job Portal

eFinancialCareers, StartUpJobs, MyTechLogy

HeadHunters

Kelly, Hudson, Michael Page, People Search, Hays, etc.

Social Media

LinkedIn, Glassdoor

• Government Job Portal

JobsBank, Career@Gov, Contact Singapore

Expend LinkedIn Connections



1. Connect on LinkedIn

Three types: friends, acquaintances, high quality connections, Add personalized note

2. Create value

Share and like connection's posts or comments, Create engaging contents relating to personal stories

3. Ask for favor

Engage offline, Ask for introductions

Eric Zhang https://www.linkedin.com/in/chentao-zhang/

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