

Successful International Internships



Partnerships and Performance



Cynthia Banks, MS (Cert)

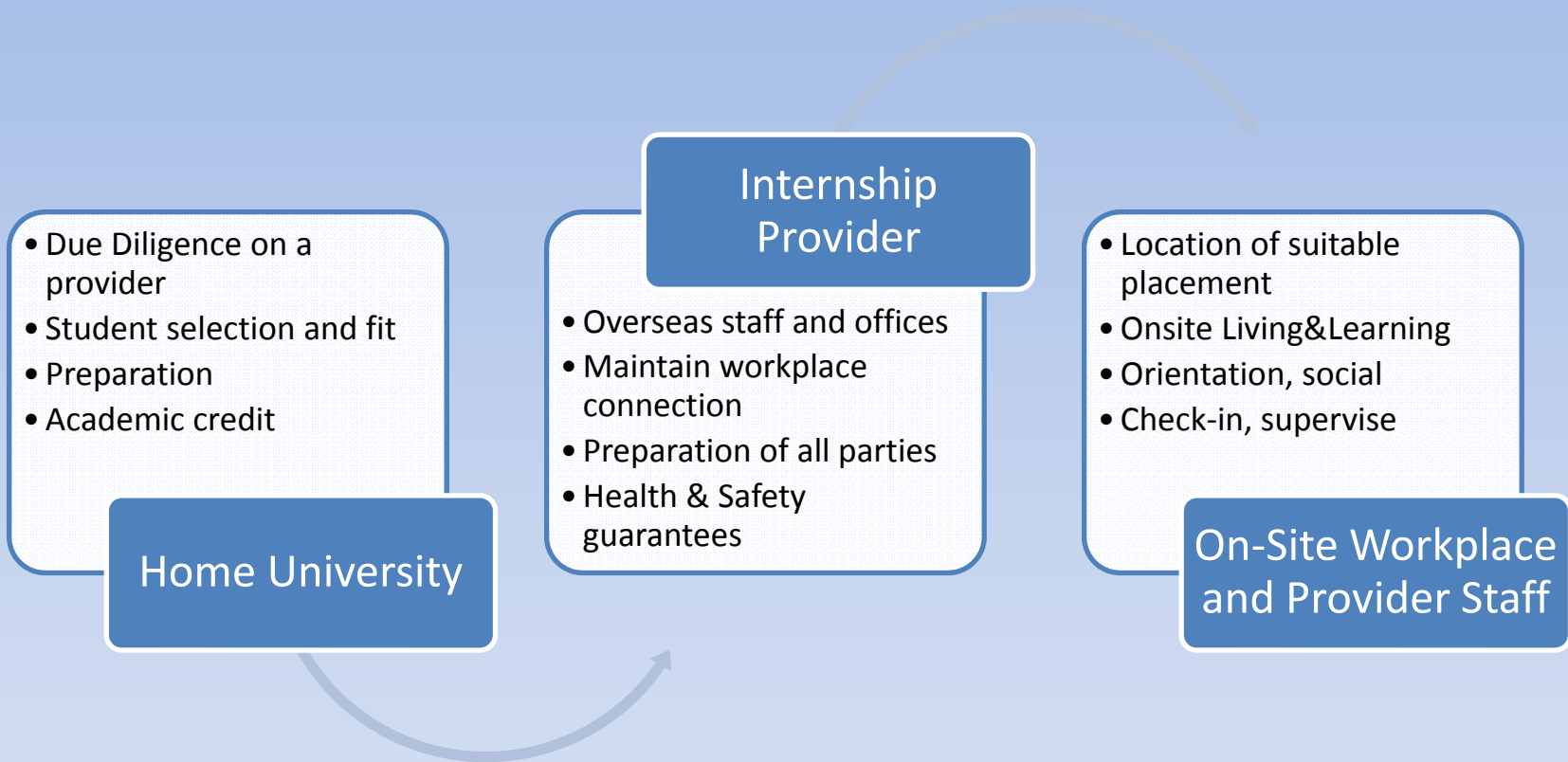
Founder/President Foundation for Global Scholars

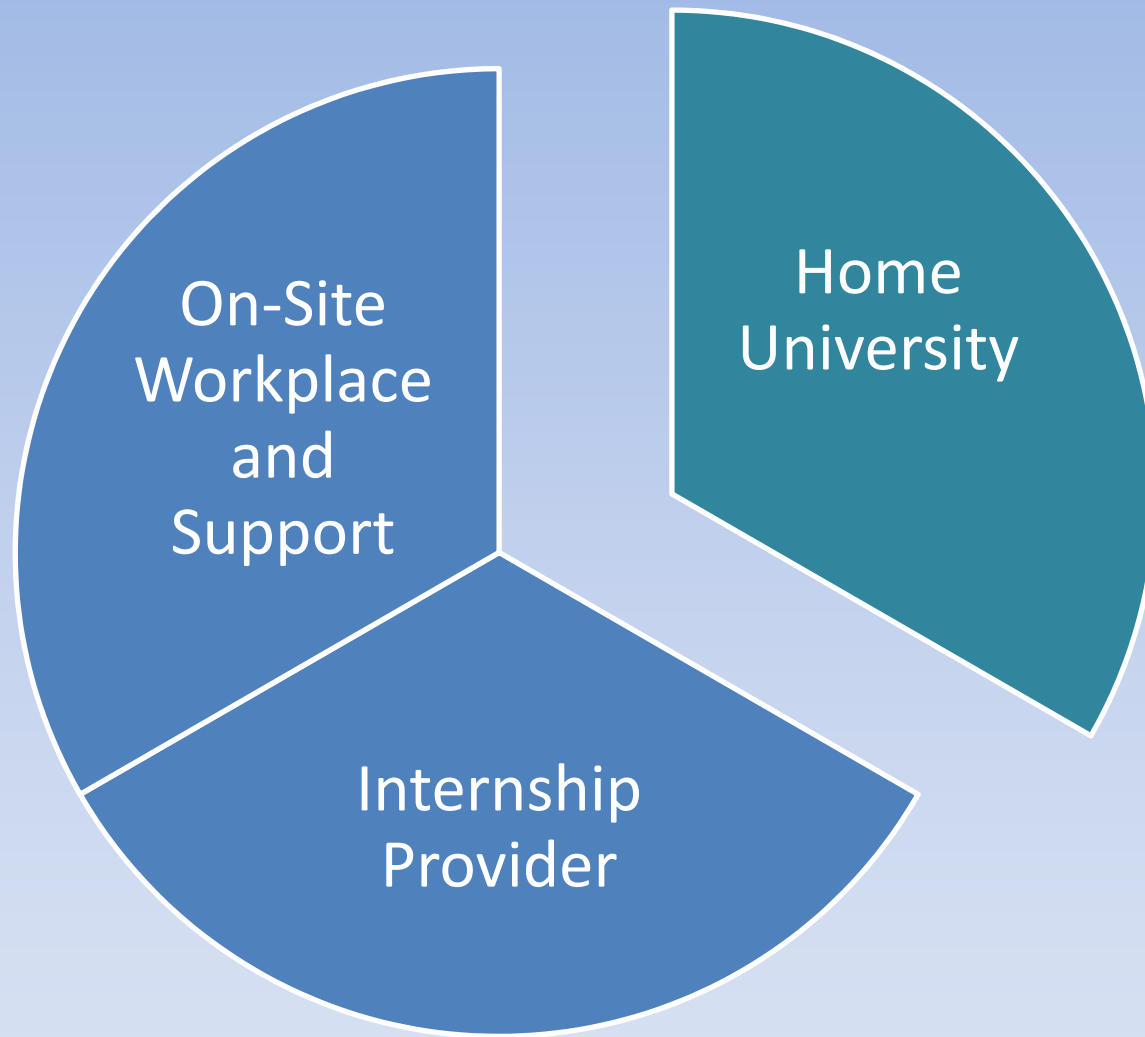
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 **CAREER INTEGRATION
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International Internships – 3 parties





International placements are an investment to a student's future

Self Discovery

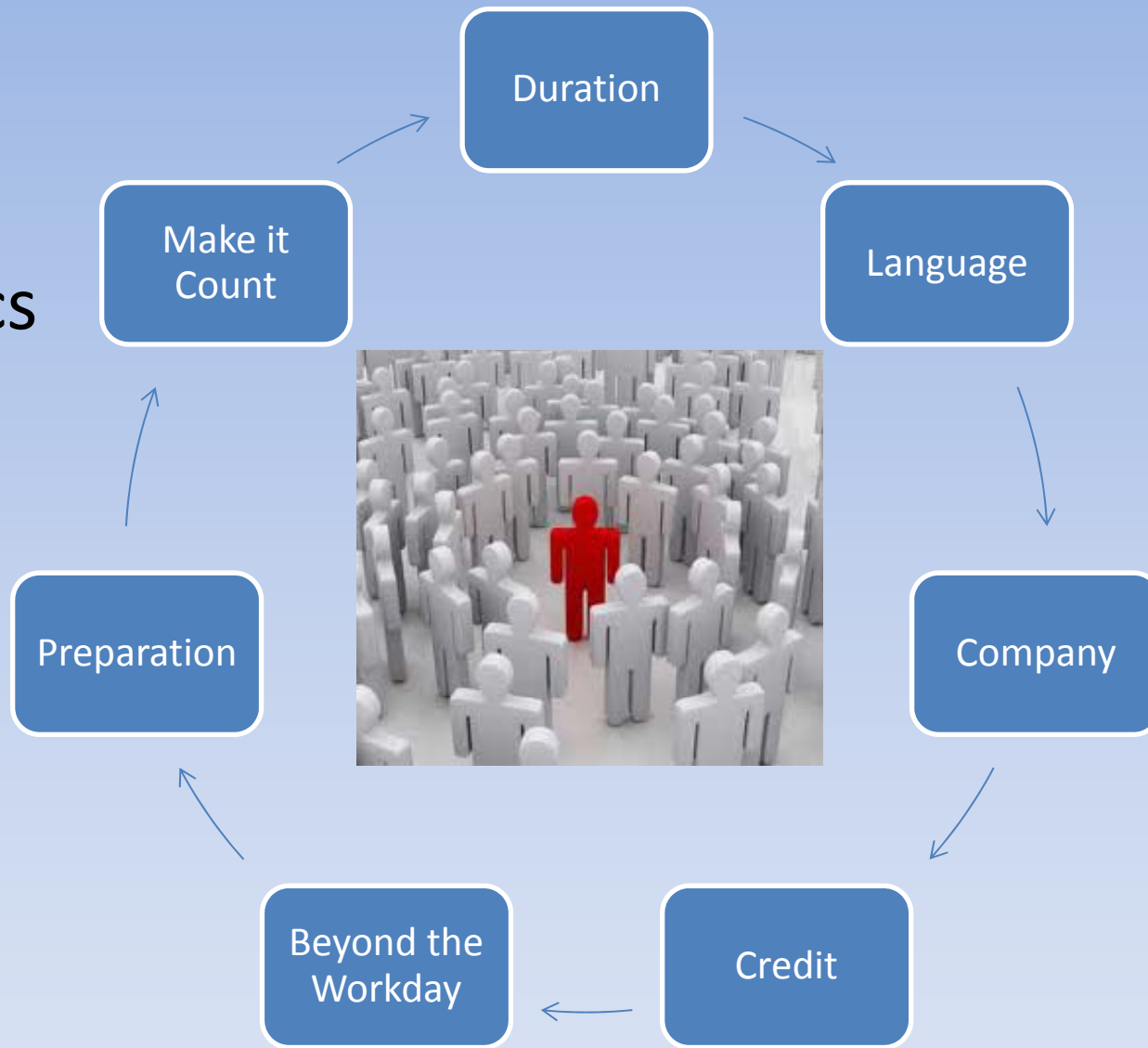
Career Path clarification

A Unique and Interesting Story

Self-Confidence

Expanded Global Network

The Basics



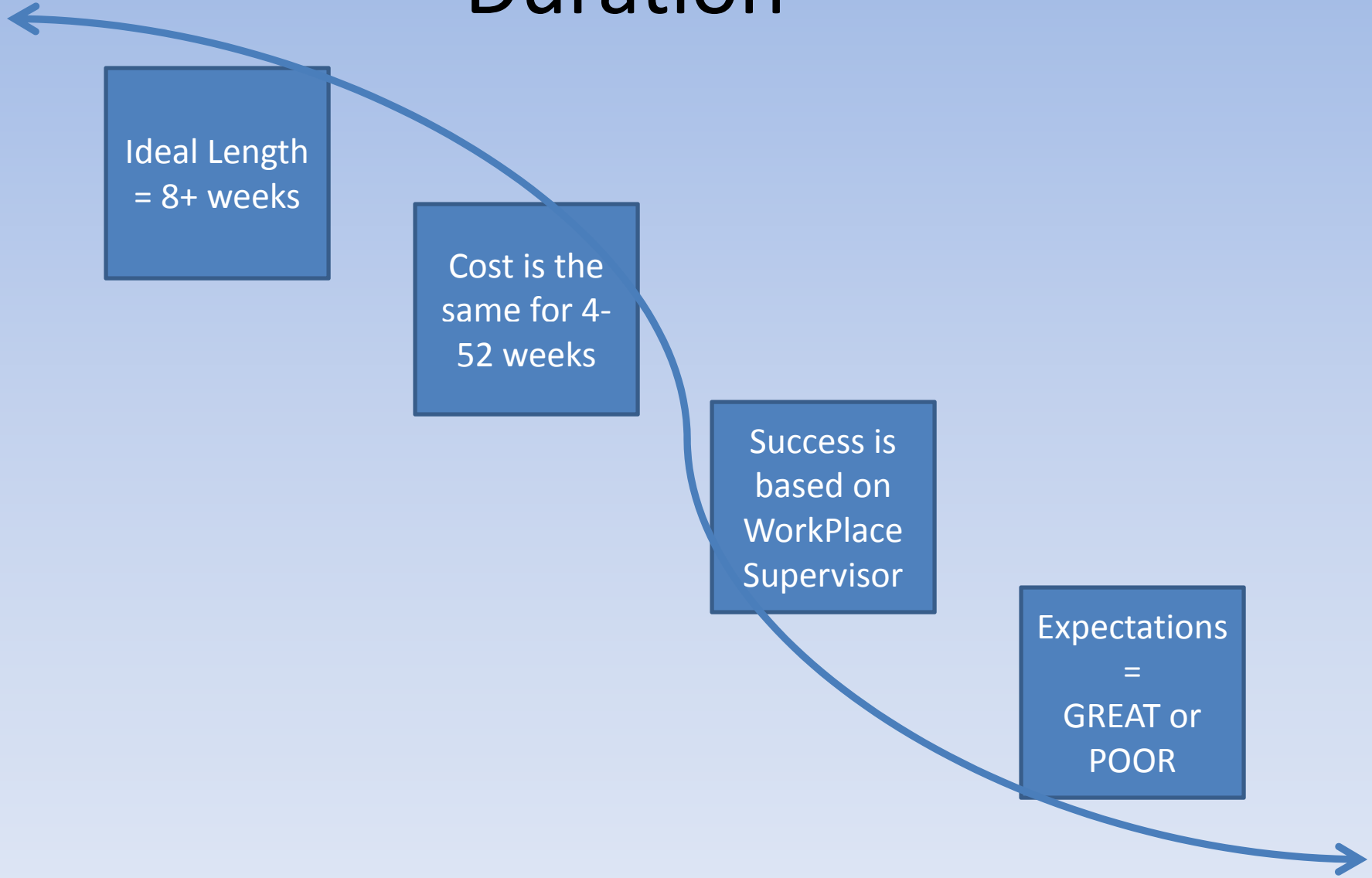
Duration

Ideal Length
= 8+ weeks

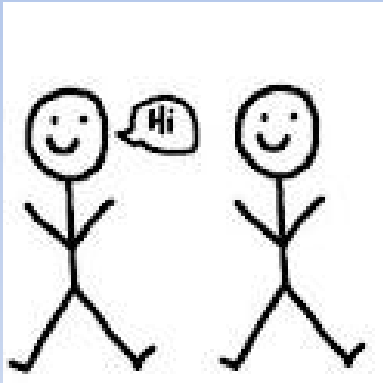
Cost is the
same for 4-
52 weeks

Success is
based on
WorkPlace
Supervisor

Expectations
=
GREAT or
POOR



Language Barriers



- English speaking is easiest in shorter duration
- Language barriers are both internal and external to companies – consider both
- Group conversation vs. individual
- Isolation and frustration
- Supplement with language classes – social+

Company & Supervisor

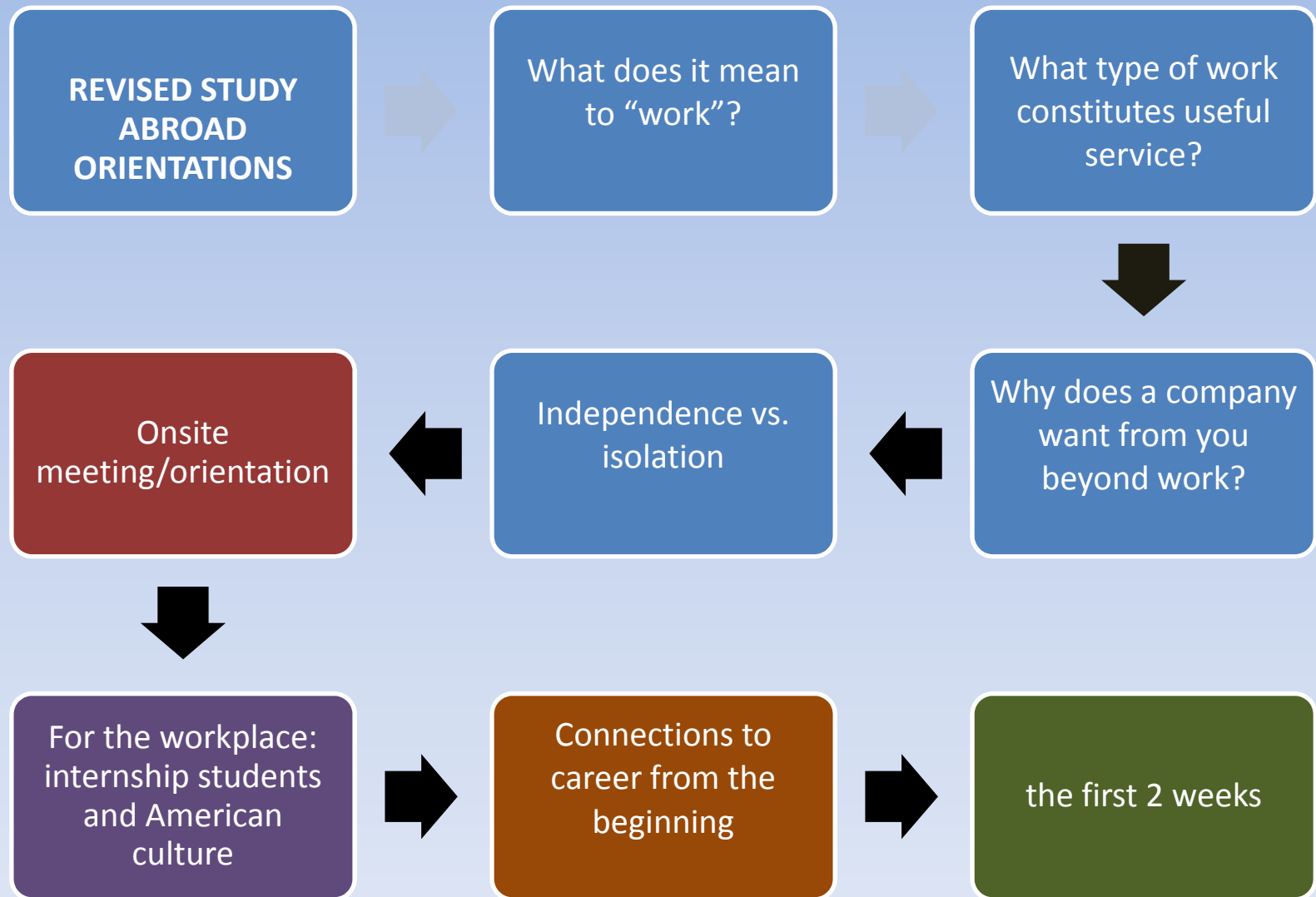


*"My intern has worked out wonderfully.
You really should consider getting one."*

Finding the Right Company

- What does it mean to “fit the academic major?”
- Local connection is key – face to face
- Medium size companies are best fit
- Where is accountability?
 - Obtain commitment of company leaders
 - Obtain commitment for 100% engaged supervisor for the duration
 - Obtain written job/project outline for the student
- Visit to see where student will work – safety and preparation
- Ensure the workplace will perform part of the academic credit reporting requirement
- **Be willing to cancel** site if signs point to disengagement

Preparation (both parties)



Beyond the Workday



Pay attention to housing
“comforts”

Introduce students in
the same city

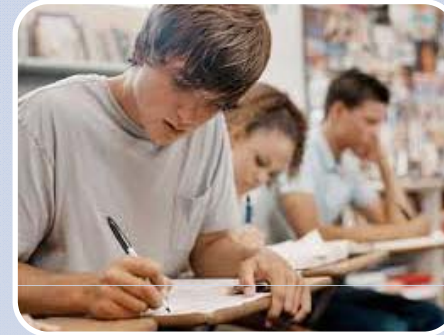
Access to key resources
(market, pharmacy,
doctor, laundry, church,
gym, etc)



Language classes

Local university and
company activities

Travel comes after, not
during, the internship



Set goals for non-work
time – report on
progress

Journal the experience
to mine the riches

Regular program check-
in

Innovations

- Counsel toward **personal brand building**, not just resume writing. Incorporate social media training
- Teach students **how to network** (card exchange, thank you notes, touch base)
- Have students **apply and be interviewed** for their placement – video spots, cover letter & resume, Skype interview
- Upon return home, focus on **leveraging the experience to career** (work with Career Services office)
- **Foster workplace sites** as you do your university partnerships – do not use/abuse
- Be willing to **hold students accountable** onsite or you risk losing the workplace site

"My internship experience helped shape my character and open doors for my future career path. I gained insight into how business works in different cultures, which has given me confidence in my ability to work well with people from different backgrounds and life experiences."

- K. Arntz, Public Relations Intern with GlobalLinks Learning Abroad (website testimonial)

"The amount I have gained from this placement, in terms of technical skills and perspective towards the actual progression of scientific research, has been invaluable. This has been probably the most significant contributor to my education since I began my degree."

- L. Sherrard, University of Ottawa, Intern with GlobalLinks Learning Abroad (website testimonial)

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION



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