**Virtual Town Hall:**
Impact of Coronavirus/COVID-19

**Focus on Employment Issues**
Wednesday, March 25, 2020 • 11:00 am Eastern

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**Panelists**

- Jane Gatewood
  - Vice Provost, Global Engagement
- Ravi Shankar
  - Assistant Vice Provost & Director, ISO
- Stephanie Krause
  - Associate Director, ISO Student Services

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**Today’s Agenda**

**Updates on ISO Operations**

**Employment & F-1 Work Authorizations**
- On-campus permissions
- Current CPT/OPT/STEM
- OPT Applications
- Monitoring job market

*Please submit questions to the Q&A tool!*

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**ISO Business Operations**

- Accessing ISO Staff & Services
  - Inquiries via email: questions@iso.rochester.edu
  - Temporary Phone Number: +1 (585) 371-8736
  - Advising appointments available via Zoom
- Additional Services coming soon …
  - Student Walk-In Hours via Zoom (M, T, Th, F)
  - Revised practices for document distribution
  - Secure document submission via URcompass

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**Work Permissions**

- ISO continues to support CPT & OPT
  - Existing eligibility rules and processing reqs.
  - Academic approval; Contact your department
  - UR review of liability & travel considerations
- Coordinate with ISO remotely!
  - Submit documents online; Email approvals
  - Advising & application review via Zoom
  - Option to receive scanned doc marked “COPY”

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**CORONAVIRUS IMPACT & GUIDANCE**

Will ISO still be able to approve/recommend F-1 work authorizations?
**CORONAVIRUS IMPACT & GUIDANCE**

Can I still work on-campus during UR office closures?

- F-1 & J-1 work permissions are unchanged
  - 20 hours per week during academic term
  - Otherwise maintaining status (i.e. FT enrolled)
- Contact UR office to determine work options
  - Social distancing, non-essential functions limited
  - Form: Continuation of Campus Work (SEO)
  - Remote work may be limited outside of NY state

**CORONAVIRUS IMPACT & GUIDANCE**

Can I work remotely during my CPT/OPT? What about STEM?

- Arrangements to engage in work remotely
  - SEVP: “flexible with temporary adaptations”
  - Document work plans; Training objectives met
  - Focus on assessment of student’s work/training
- Report significant modifications to ISO
  - **Remote Work**: Remark in SEVIS, no new I-20
  - **End Work**: Shorten CPT (via email w/ dept.); Reporting OPT (via web form or SEVP Portal)

**Other Considerations**

- “Alternative ways to maintain employment”
  - OPT: 20+ hours per week in field of study
  - Unemployment Limits – Be creative!
  - Problematic? Reduced hours, Furlough, Layoff
  - Seek guidance on employment relationship
- STEM & I-983 Training Plan
  - Update details, as needed; Copy on file in ISO
  - Special attention to supervision & evaluation

**CORONAVIRUS IMPACT & GUIDANCE**

What should I do to apply for OPT?
Applying for OPT
- Apply while maintaining status in the US
- Departure after application is filed & received
- Guidance possible on applying from abroad?
- USCIS will accept copies of original docs
  - I-20 w/ OPT recommendation; Scan as “Copy”
  - Print, Sign, & Copy; Obtain original via mail
- Apply early; Processing times may increase

CORONAVIRUS IMPACT & GUIDANCE
Will my employer still be able to hire me?

US & Global Job Markets
- Uncertain, variable, & evolving situation!
  - Social Distancing: Interviews, Hiring, Interns?
  - Stay connected with your intended employer
  - Remote work abroad: CPT/OPT may be viable
- Monitoring trends and opportunities
  - Review & consult with UR career resources
- Join us for another Town Hall in April!

Resources on Coronavirus
- UR’s Coronavirus Update website
  - [www.rochester.edu/coronavirus-update/](http://www.rochester.edu/coronavirus-update/)
  - Updates on policy, operations, guidance, etc.
- Stay Connected!
  - Verify connectivity & test your technologies
  - Take advantage of academic advising resources
  - Community support, even during distancing
  - ISO here to help; We appreciate your patience!

Virtual Town Hall: Coronavirus Impact & Updates
Q & A
Submit questions via the Q&A tool!

Thank You!
If your question was not addressed, please email questions@iso.rochester.edu
Look for additional Town Halls!