4/4 International and Immigrant Roundtable Notes

Action items marked with ***

- Internships, CPT/OPT
  - CPT/OPT are for international undergrad and grad students for work authorization
    - OPT - optional practical training, used in the 12 months right after graduation to secure employment
    - CPT - cannot be used after graduation
  - Q: Do you need to be on the professional track to do CPT?
    - A: Yes, professional track helps people to do 2 internships as they are requirements for the program
    - Professional track for the Sc.B and the A.B.
    - *** Can the professional track be expanded to other departments?
  - Q: Can you take a semester off to do an internship?
    - A: Most likely yes, but time will be deducted from the OPT
  - OISSS is the best resource for questions about OPT/CPT
  - Canadian students may be applicable for the TN visa
  - Q: Are international students disadvantaged in terms of job prospects, especially at smaller companies? Was the bar higher?
    - A: Harder for really small companies that are backed by venture capitalists, some will offer contract work
    - *** Would like to see more information on contract work
  - Diversity Visa Green Card Lottery - if you are from a country that doesn't have many people trying to come to the US, your Visa process can be expedited
  - Next step after OPT is the H1B (filed by your employer), granted via a yearly lottery in April
    - Best to try and file as soon as possible, if you can finish degree requirements before Spring semester your company can file before you start working
- 5th Year Masters, PhD Programs
  - With advanced degrees, people can demonstrate scholarship and possibly get a greencard in 6 months
- Cultural Adjustment
  - *** What resources does the department offer? Potentially holding meet & greet or mixer events to help build community
    - Would like to see events focused on education, helping students to understand the process, would better support people
  - *** Helpful to have resources that are specific for CS internships and other work status related things on the CS website
  - *** Presence at the tech fair to answer questions
  - *** Add breakout session to internship panel on work status, 30 minutes before or after the rest of the event

- Resources
    - [OISSS](#) (Office of International Students and Scholars Services)
    - Dean Delalue (shontay_delalue@brown.edu)
    - [IMP](#) (International Mentoring Program)
    - Tom Doeppner (twd@cs.brown.edu)
    - Student Advocates (diversity.advocates@lists.cs.brown.edu)
    - Diversity Committee (diversity@lists.cs.brown.edu)