



NAFSA Region I News

November 2018

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Region I Team Election and Transitions

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you again for another fantastic conference this year! We can't wait to see you next year in **Tacoma, WA** from **November 4 - 8, 2019**. Stay tuned for more information in the new year.

As the last of the leaves fall and the calendar year slowly comes to a close many of the members of our leadership team will be rotating off. I would like to thank the follow leaders for their support in their various roles over the past one to eight years!

- Mabelle Allman (Outgoing Chair)
- Gwen Sandford (Secretary)
- Sarah Reed (Conference Co-Chair)
- Alex Pia (Development Representative)
- Catherine Creason (Regulatory Ombudsman)
- Maya Zwang (Local Arrangements Chair)



Please remember to [cast your vote](#) for our next chair. The **poll is open through November 16, 2018**. Thanks everyone!

Best,
EJ Brin
Chair, Region I

A Note from Mabelle Allman, Past Chair

As I prepare to finish up my time in the Region 1 Chair stream, I've been reflecting a lot on how thankful I am for having had this opportunity. I've learned so much from well-established mentors as well as newcomers with fresh ideas. We have lots of challenges to face in international education, but when we come together, we can make things happen! I'm also grateful for the recognition at the conference-I'm truly honored. See you in Tacoma in 2019!

Your Past Chair,
Mabelle

NAFSA Academy 2019 is recruiting!

Are you interested in the broad breadth of the International Education field? Are you interested in building a network of other IE professionals who share similar goals and interests, and might be good sounding boards for your own work? If you have professional development goals and self-motivation, then consider spending the year working with a coach and small cohort of colleagues to boost your expertise in the field. NAFSA's Academy coaching program has been successfully boosting the skills and confidence of IE professionals for 15 years. The Academy is a yearlong program starting January 2019 and includes multiple live events as well as individual and cohort virtual sessions.

Applications are open now with a deadline of November 12. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Contact Academy coach [Kristen Kalbrener](#) to talk about whether the program is a good fit for you!

Advocacy Day Approaches

Advocacy is a way of life! One of my goals as Advocacy Representative for Region I is to gather folks interested in advocacy to build a community of advocates. Pockets of advocacy already exist in small networks and states. However, I'm encouraging all advocates to connect to us via the [Facebook Advocacy Group](#) and the Advocacy Thread on [Network.NAFSA](#) so that we can learn more about what's happening around the region AND share resources and tips for success! Join me! If you have questions, feel free to contact me via email at sharece@uoregon.edu!

Also, please consider joining us for [NAFSA's Advocacy Day](#) in Washington D.C. this March 18-19. [Travel grants](#) are available until January 13th so apply today and plan to attend this amazing opportunity!

Cheers,
Sharece Bunn
Advocacy Representative



Full Circle and MacFarland Scholarship at Northeastern University

Northeastern University
Seattle



\$10,000 scholarship for educators and 25% tuition discount to graduate applicants who embody Northeastern University's values of experiential and global learning. [Learn more.](#)

Region I Conference Highlights



6 amazing poster presentations shared cutting-edge research! >>



<< This year's first ever Case Competition at the Regional Conference was outstanding!

The 10 participants were paired into 5 teams. They received an in depth case to examine, contemplate and present a 5 year plan to grow a University's international program in just over 24 hours. The judges were stunned with the quality of ideas and presentations of these participants, who have been in the field for less than 3 years. Jenna Thomas and Ariel Bloomer are this year's winners! Congratulations on a job well done to all 5 teams! And a big thank you to our 5 mentors and 3 judges!

Doughnut Wall at the Gala Auction! >>

Attendees raised big bucks for future travel grants to regional conferences and Advocacy Day while enjoying a chocolate fountain and doughnut wall. Thanks to our donors and bidders for supporting the event and travel grant funds!

Need the session slides?

Attendees can download session slides from the [conference website](#).



Knowledge Community Updates

Community College Member Interest Group

At the Community College MIG meeting at the NAFSA Region I Conference in Vancouver, BC, members suggested creating a directory of community colleges and contacts so that we may best turn to each other for advice, especially in these times of political uncertainty. It is most often useful to speak with DSOs/staff at a program of a comparable size or features to your program, so members suggested also gathering a rough program size and any specialties (e.g. aviation, culinary arts, etc.) in this directory.

As your **Community College Rep**, I have created a [spreadsheet](#) for us to gather this information. If you, or someone in your office, would be willing to be a contact person, please do enter your information. If you have questions, please contact me, [Jackie Li](#), Green River Community College. (This list was passed onto me by the previous CC Rep; if it is missing your school, please do add it to the spreadsheet!)

International Student and Scholar Services Knowledge Community

Greetings from David, Catherine, and Josh! As a follow-up to the Region I conference, we wanted to highlight a few resources, both specific to dealing with issues involving government agencies and more generally for seeking assistance with regulatory issues.

Dealing with messy USCIS cases (I-765, I-539, “kitchen sink” RFEs, etc.)

1. Review the NAFSA Adviser Manual (AM)
2. Contact your KC ISSS Regional Liaison for “how to” information/best practices not addressed in the AM
3. Student may contact the National Customer Service Center (NCSC) 1-800-375-5283
4. DSO may contact the Service Center (Potomac: p.sc.studentead@uscis.dhs.gov; California: csc.schools@uscis.dhs.gov)
5. NAFSA members may use IssueNet’s “Get Liaison Help” to request assistance from a NAFSA RegBud (anyone may, and should, use IssueNet’s “Report an Issue” to help NAFSA identify and track trends in processing delays, RFE issues, and unusual decisions)
6. Contact the USCIS Ombudsman’s office (depending on the nature of the case): cisombudsman@hq.dhs.gov
7. As a last resort, contact local Congressional Representative or Senator’s office

For additional resources, including resources regarding inquiries with other agencies within DHS or other Departments, please see [NAFSA's contact resources](#).

Other helpful NAFSA Resources

- [Immigration News and Regulatory Updates](#)
- [NAFSA Advisor Manual](#): For more information [about the manual and subscribing](#).
- Connect with your colleagues through [NetworkNAFSA](#):
 - International Student Advising Network (ISTA)
 - International Scholar Advising Network (ISCA)
 - Region I Network (the best one!)
- [Find your KC ISSS Regional Liaison](#)
- [KC ISSS Resources](#)
- [NAFSA IssueNet](#)

Region I ISSS Team:

David Brandt, Regulatory Ombudsman: Scholar Issues

Catherine Creason, Regulatory Ombudsman: Student Issues

Josh Davis, ISSS Representative

[Connect with colleagues in NAFSA's Knowledge Communities](#)

Discover new ideas, resources, relevant training and events, as well as the latest news about your particular professional area. Search past postings and subscribe to daily or weekly digests to stay up-to-date on topics related to your work.

[Reach out to local colleagues within the New Region I Network](#)

Job Postings in the Region

Region I Job Board

Visit the NAFSA Region I Job Board for the most up to date job postings in the region.



Join our mailing list here!

[NAFSA Region I Team](#)





CONNECT. COMMUNICATE. COLLABORATE.

REGION I NETWORK

