Thursday Session Schedule

8:30 – 9:45 am

(ALL) Intercultural Communication:
Enhance intercultural communication skills with a fun and interactive workshop. Participants will learn experiential activities that foster communication and understanding of different cultures. These activities can be used throughout the year: from orientation to trainings, workshops, and social events. The workshop will help participants understand their own cultural values and ways to relate to others with different values. Participants will be made aware of intercultural communication pitfalls and ways to avoid them.

**Presenters:** Love Anderson, Trinity International University

**Room:** Lasalle A

(EA) Maximizing Potential: Tips & Tricks for Working with Student Employees:
Have you ever wondered about the best way to utilize student workers in your office? Are you concerned about training, time, or budget? Then this session is for you! Learn the best tips and tricks for maximizing the potential of returned students in your office. We’ll discuss the various roles students can take on (volunteers, ambassadors, peer advisors) and challenges associated with each. Walk away with ideas about how student workers can improve your workload and increase productivity.

**Presenters:** Jessa Boche, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair), Beth M. Laux, Michigan State University, Michael Nelson, CET Academic Programs

**Room:** Lasalle B

(EA) Using Technology to Engage Students Abroad:
Are you looking for ways to connect with your students who are currently abroad? Then this session is for you! Presenters at this workshop will first discuss the Cross-Cultural Classroom Connections program that connects K-12 area classes with UW Madison students studying abroad. Next the presenters will discuss student bloggers, including the selection process, the agreement that each blogger signs, and the overall logistics of the site. Participants will have a chance to share their own experiences of engaging students through the use of technology. And will leave with examples of how to engage with students currently studying abroad.

**Presenters:** Kate Hamoonga, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair), Erin Polnaszek

**Room:** Joliet B

(ISSS) J-1 Advanced Issues: Panel Discussion and Q&A:
J visa regulations leave plenty of room for interpretation. Panelists will explain their institutions’ policies on critical J visa issues such as adjusting to changes in Subpart A, the health insurance requirement, working with the two-year home residence requirement and the 24-month bar, transfers, and Academic Training. Time at the end will be available for audience Q & A.

**Presenters:** Brooke Stokdyk, Michigan State University (Chair), Heesun Majcher, Northern Illinois University, David Muusz, University of Chicago, Kara Johnson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Room:** Marquette A
**RAP Around the Campfire**
An opportunity for RAP, new members and old timers to discuss challenges to recruitment and admissions in the current economic climate. What is working and what is not. What are some of the creative and new things schools are doing the the RAP world. It will also be an opportunity to learn about the latest initiatives of the Recruitment, Admissions, and Preparation Knowledge Community and how to get more involved.

**Presenters:** Smriti Panda, Wayne State University (Chair), Julie Sinclair, Michigan State University
**Room:** Joliet A

**Wearing Many Hats: Using Student Engagement to Implement Programs and Services for International Students!**
International educational professionals are often required to wear many hats, report to many stakeholders, and respond to competing needs. This is especially challenging in a time of economic downturn, when educational institutions ask their employees to take on more responsibilities with fewer resources. This session will discuss creative problem solving and collaboration in the international office, focusing specifically on utilizing student engagement and campus networking, identifying and advocating for office needs, and practicing self-care. The presenters represent large and small offices working with both international and study abroad students, so a wide range of issues will be covered.

**Presenters:** Jennifer Pope, North Park University (IL) (Chair), Alecia Duncan, Wayne State University, Erik Kulke, Carthage College
**Room:** Duluth B

**Moan Town: Prevailing Wage & PERM Issues:**
Old habits and assumptions are changing under the new prevailing wage system and treatment of special handling and standard PERM applications. A panel discussion on new strategies and realities for higher ed and research institutions in working with the US Department of Labor.

**Presenters:** Scott F. Cooper, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, PLLC (Chair), Christine Bargerstock, Michigan State University, Tracy Schauff, Esq., Faculty & Staff Immigration Services.
**Room:** Marquette B

**10:15 – 11:30 am**

**Study Abroad & Students with Disabilities: Success Stories**
The session will present success stories of supporting students with disabilities on study abroad programs. Presenters from both a study abroad office and a disabilities services office will share successful examples of supporting students on a variety of study abroad experiences. Particular emphasis will be paid to supporting Deaf/hard of hearing students who require sign language interpreter services in order to have meaningful access to the program. Through these case examples, presenters will discuss the specific factors that must be considered when supporting students and planning for the experience. Topics that will be highlighted within each case study will include: student advising; pre-trip planning; involvement of faculty, administrative issues including budgeting, employment contracts, sign language interpreter recruitment and selection, on-site personnel support; office collaboration and timelines to achieve participation by students with disabilities.

**Presenters:** Matthew Geisler, University of Madison-Wisconsin (Chair), Cathy Trueba, University of Wisconsin-Madison
**Room:** Duluth B
The Global Perspectives Inventory: Research to Practice:
The Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI) is an instrument that takes a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding and measuring students' global perspectives. The GPI considers factors/activities, such as study abroad or campus discussions, that may help students develop a global perspective. There is now a significant amount of data available in the GPI about different student populations. In this session, presenters will discuss their research and GPI data on two different student populations: international students and non-traditionally aged students. Presenters will then facilitate a discussion with participants about how such research and data can help inform practice for those working in education abroad, international student services, and other campus areas.

Presenters: Julie Sinclair, Michigan State University (Chair), Chris Glass, Michigan State University
Room: Joliet A

“Fool me Once...?”
Have you observed situations where it appears someone is “trying to beat the system” in an effort to study in the U.S.? If so, come and join us for this session where we will examine the challenges in verifying documents (academic, financial and others) for authenticity and detecting fraudulence. Come and learn how to review and verify secondary school documents from a number of countries around the world. You will also have an opportunity to review cases of fraudulent bank statements and affidavits. We will also focus on on-line banking and how a paperless system complicates confirming document authenticity. How is your school dealing with these situations? Come and join in discussion as we all learn from one another.

Presenters: Nancy K. Nicholson, Oakland Community College (Chair), Nancy Katz, Evaluation Service Inc., Smriti Panda, Wayne State University
Room: Marquette B

Going Paperless on a Dime: The Myths and Realities
Making the transition from paper files to a paperless office does not have to cost or fortune or wait for the next budget year. This workshop will examine the myths and realities of moving from paper to electronic files for international students. We will provide information on where to begin, how to implement a paperless policy, and what challenges and benefits to expect. The workshop will provide you with an example of how one office is riding the paperless wave and did it without breaking the bank. Topics covered include: Costs/Benefits, New versus Current Student Files, Navigating IT, File Back-Up, and Security of Information.

Presenters: Colleen Seaton, Northwestern University (Chair), Nick Seamons, Northwestern University
Room: LaSalle B

Creating a Virtual Community for Connecting with our Students
We are in a technological era where information technology and the way we do business are inextricably interwoven. Computer use is second nature for this generation, and social networking and visual aids such as videos are bigger than ever. We have been intentional at exploring virtual communities to communicate with people as well as providing a channel where our students can respond and share feedback. With more and more Facebook groups appearing, the idea to create a Facebook for our International Offices and Embassy that alters how we communicate with our students was born; before creating the page we carefully analyzed and surveyed to see if this would benefit our International students. In this workshop you will learn the results of our analysis and surveys, and the process by which we evaluated the effectiveness of the social network, and how we weighed the potential positives and
negatives of using Facebook. Ultimately we concluded that the use of social media seems to be a preferred channel of communication because of its informal style of allowing people to connect, engage, and share information. We used our students as a resource to help create our very own Facebook. You will learn, as we did, that our students have a wealth of knowledge about social networks and new technology. We can learn and benefit from their technological knowledge.

**Presenters:** David Archbold, Oakland University (Chair), Aysha Murad, Embassy of Bahrain in the USA, Ravi Ammigan, Michigan State University

**Room:** Lasalle B

**(ISSS) Maybe It's Not Culture Shock:**
With the increase of students arriving in our universities who come from countries with on-going wars, advisors may encounter students who exhibit adjustment difficulties that do not fit into the "culture shock" paradigm. Students may be child soldiers, children of war, or suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder much like our returning veterans. Dealing with these issues requires the ability to identify the differences between these and culture shock, and the knowledge of what resources on our campuses can be utilized. Learn what characterizes these groups and how to best assist them.

**Presenters:** Patti Jones, Western Illinois University (Chair), Dr. Jessica White, Western Illinois University

**Room:** Joliet B

**(EA) Aiming for Quality Study Abroad Advising**
Recent changes on college and university campuses, as well as in the world, have created challenges to having the opportunity for quality study abroad student advising. The prevalence of technology in students' lives has led many students to bypass a study abroad advisor throughout the program selection process. Technology has shrunk the world yet students still overwhelmingly, and often without critical consideration, gravitate toward London and Florence as destinations. The proliferation of programs has lead to an overwhelming and sometimes debilitating amount of choices for students. Working with program providers has also meant that advising does not solely happen on the home school campus, sometimes confusing messages and processes. The current economic crisis leads many students to choose programs based solely on cost without knowledge of on-campus structures for funding and aid. These and other challenges are impeding the ability of study abroad offices to provide quality advising. Quality advising can inform and support a students’ decision-making process so that they can choose the program that works best for them personally, economically, and academically regardless of the challenges listed above. This session will discuss what quality advising means to different campuses as well as provide solutions to the current challenges mentioned above. Beginning with a strong definition and goals for advising, every campus can improve their services and support to students within the study abroad process.

**Presenters:** Susan Lochner, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair), Amy Greeley, North Central Arcadia University

**Room:** Duluth B

11:45 AM – 1:45 PM - Business Lunch & Meeting
2:00 – 3:15 pm

(ISSS) International Student Income Taxes: Sharing Information, resources and institutional approaches:
“Do I have to file?” “What forms do I have to file?” Every spring, international student support offices are overwhelmed by questions like these. This session aims to give the people who regularly field these and other important tax questions at small- to medium-sized institutions the information and resources they need to provide their students with appropriate and accurate responses. In addition, audience members will be asked to share information about the services they provide at their institutions. By learning about the different institutional approaches, it is hoped that session participants will be able to improve the information and services they provide while making better use of their resources.
Presenter: Kevin Timlin, Western Illinois University (Chair)
Room: Lasalle B

(ISSS) Recertification: Beta Testing and Beyond:
SEVIS recertification has arrived. This session will explore actual experiences with the SEVIS recertification process including perspectives from Northwestern University and University of Illinois at Chicago.
Presenters: Elizabeth Matthews, Illinois Institute of Technology (Chair), James Hammerschmidt, University of Illinois at Chicago, Ravi Shankar, Northwestern University
Room: Marquette B

(ISSS) How to deal effectively and with sensitivity to international student/scholar situations on campus:
Our institutions desire a safe and positive environment for our students. International offices are often called upon to assist in responding to a variety of crisis situations involving international students and scholars and respond in a sensitive and appropriate manner. This session will look at different crisis situations such as unexpected tragedy, health related emergencies, suicide, divorce, death, arrest, robbery and sexual assault. We will present and discuss a crisis management process and provide guidelines on how to handle these sensitive situations in an orderly, effective, and caring manner.
Presenters: Sofia Malynowskyj, Wayne State University (Co-Chair), Chamu Gowrishankar, Wayne State University (Co-Chair), Consuelo R. Clemens, PhD., University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Susan Blust, University of Wisconsin-Parkside
Room: Marquette B

(ISSS, RAP) The “Art of Researching” in a Rapidly Changing Educational Scene
Authors of ECE's new book, Education in the Commonwealth Caribbean, share a lively slide show and discussion of the process of preparing a large collaborative publication, from initial research, to in-country investigation, final draft preparation, and follow-up research. Since Stephen Fisher's 1979 book on the Commonwealth Caribbean the face of education has changed dramatically: over 150 new colleges have been established in the region, associate degrees are awarded in most countries, the Caribbean Examination Council now administers four types of examinations, several national accreditation bodies have been established, and the CARICOM Single Market and Economy has provided for the free movement of skills and labor among Caribbean Community (CARICOM) nationals. Join us for this presentation for an overview of the major changes and new developments in the Commonwealth Caribbean.
Presenters: Lindsay Soerens, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc (Chair), Kelly Conrad, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
Room: Marquette A

(OPO) One Person Office: Reduce, Recycle, Share and Compare
This will be a roundtable discussion to discuss ways to help small and one-person offices develop and sustain their own international programs. This session will provide participants with an actual policy and procedural manual in digital format that they can take back to their offices and tailor to their needs. The OPO SIG will serve as a clearinghouse of ideas and offer materials that can specifically be implemented and utilized by small offices with little financial investment or human capital.

Presenters: Michelle Cade, Mary Grove College (Co-Chair), Katie Lopez, University of Michigan (Co-Chair), Jennifer Dickey, College for Creative Studies
Room: Joliet A

(EA) Addressing Mental Health Issues within Education Abroad
As the need to address mental health issues is increasing in Higher Education across the United States, this session will discuss how to tackle these issues and streamline the administration procedures with different offices on campus and abroad to accommodate students.

Presenters: Farhan Aziz, Eastern Illinois University (Chair), Melissa Galvagni, AustraLearn, Julie Lindsey, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Room: Joliet B

(EA) Education Abroad Hot Topic: Visa Updates for France, Italy, Spain and UK
Do you advise students needing a visa for their study abroad program? This session will begin by exploring best practices for education abroad offices. Additionally, we will share up to the minute information for France, Italy, Spain and the UK.

Presenters: Dianne De Salvo, Central Michigan University (Chair), Colleen Marchwick, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Rosemary Sands, St. Norbert College
Room: Duluth B

3:45 – 5:00 pm

(EA) Power up your Program Evaluations: Marketing, Development & Assessment:
Evaluations are a part of any well-planned study abroad operation; conversely, they are difficult to manage and underutilized. Learn how to streamline your student evaluation process, and serve multiple interests, all at the same time. Discover how student evaluations can (a) dramatically increase the number of students who go abroad, (b) steer quality assurance in operations and programming, and (c) provide data necessary for reporting, lobbying, and overall advancement. Assure that your study abroad office, upper administration, academic departments, faculty leaders, program providers, partner institutions, and students get the most from this valuable process.

Presenters: Wendy Williamson, Eastern Illinois University (Chair), Emily Gorlewski, Western Illinois University
Room: LaSalle B

(EA) Parents Orientation 101: Getting the Parents Ready for Study Abroad:
As our students prepare to study abroad, it is often their parents who ask more of the questions -- especially when it comes to safety, security, money and banking, health issues and insurance,
and communication while abroad. See how one institution educates parents, by hosting a Pre-Departure Study Abroad Information Session ONLY for Parents, and how it saves time, energy, and lot of phone calls in the long run!

**Presenters:** Kimberly Larsson, North Central College (Chair), Sandy Lohrens, Property Ella

**Room:** Lasalle A

(ISSS) **An integrative service model to address mental health issues of international students: Collaborative efforts between MSU's Office for International Students and Scholars and the Counseling Center**

This presentation is a collaborative effort between the Office for International Students and Scholars (OISS) and the Counseling Center, to reach out to the international community at Michigan State University (MSU).

In the 2008-09 academic year, 7.2% of all clients seeking services at the MSU Counseling Center were international students, which is a 20% increase from the previous year. Statistics from fall 2009 show that there was a 45% increase of office visits compared with fall 2008. This shows a consistent increase in demand for services in this area, and with an anticipated rise in international enrollment over the next few years, MSU needs to be prepared to address new challenges to better support international students.

Historically, OISS and the Counseling Center have worked in separate capacities to provide a wide range of services to the international community, ranging from immigration advising and programming to psychological evaluations and interventions. However, with the recent surge of international students on campus, the call for a more collaborative service model that not only focuses on crisis intervention and treatment but also on education, prevention and promotion of student well-being becomes inevitable.

The purpose and goals of this workshop are to:
- Increase awareness of the changing trend and new challenges faced by international students on campus.
- Review major mental health issues presented by international students in the Counseling Center and share tips on how to recognize symptoms and make referrals.
- Share statistics and survey results; review efforts and current practices both from OISS and the Counseling Center at MSU.
- Discuss various collaborative ideas and best practices on how to provide resources and multi-facet services to enhance the mental health of international students.

**Presenters:** Ravi Ammigan, Michigan State University (Chair), Shuangmei (Christine) Zhou, PhD, Michigan State University

**Room:** Lasalle A

(ISSS, RAP) **fsaATLAS Region Users Group Meeting**

This will be a forum for fsaATLAS users to gather, meet each other, get new product information and discuss how we can all work together.

**Presenters:** Susan Sohn, Eastern Michigan University (Chair)

**Room:** Joliet A

(ALL) **Getting Involved in NAFSA: A Great Opportunity**
This session examines the benefits of volunteering in NAFSA, the areas where newcomers, mid-level managers and seasoned professionals can share their talents within the organization, the expectations of the leadership positions and the use of the the Profile of Interest, Experience and Expertise (PIEE). Presenters will share their respective personal experiences of NAFSA involvement with participants. There will be time for participants to ask questions.

**Presenters:** Kate Zheng, University of Michigan (Chair), Ravi Shankar, Northwestern University

**Room:** Duluth B

**ISSS** ABCs & 123s of Making Immigration Employment Options a Breeze

J-1, F-1 OPT, or maybe P-3 or E-3 or H-1B or H1B1?........ Many university departments and colleges that sponsor non-immigrants may not always know the best category for their prospective employee. Because of so many options and so many nuances within each category, we developed a guide to assist principal investigators, chairs, and deans in making the right status selection for their hiring decision. This tool has been very useful in educating departments on various options and proactively submitting the proper paperwork for the sponsorship.

**Presenters:** Chamu Gowrishankar, Wayne State University (Chair), Sofia Malynowskyj, Wayne State University

**Room:** Marquette A

**ISSS** Reprise: When ICE Comes Knocking

Advisors and other university employees often panic when ICE comes knocking at the door. Learn more about ICE, ICE investigations, the connection between SEVIS and ICE, FERPA implications, how to handle an ICE investigation as a DSO and how to advise students.

**Presenters:** Diana Schack, Oakland Community College (Chair), Brian Slonac, ICE: Office of Investigations, David Archibold, Oakland University, Scott F. Cooper, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernes & Loewy

**Room:** Marquette B

**Friday Session Schedule**

**8:30 – 9:45 am**

**(ALL)** All the things about technology & international education you were afraid to ask, but we’ll answer anyway!

We welcome you to join us for a lively discussion of how technology can effectively be used in your international admissions and international students & scholar offices. Topics will include on-line appointment scheduling, having an office "WIKI," utilizing your school LMS, instant messaging and the use of social media, why should you use it and what has worked for other offices. All examples are relatively inexpensive and do not require an IT specialist to implement - users, we can do it ourselves!

**Presenters:** Susan Sohn, Eastern Michigan University (Chair), Tanya DePass, Region V Information Tech. & Communications Rep.

**Room:** Lasalle B
Advocating for Peers: International Students Providing Support and Promoting Awareness

At Western Michigan University, several recent international student-driven initiatives have aimed to increase awareness and support of the international student experience; the International Classroom and the International Student Handbook are two valuable resources for students, faculty and staff.

The International Classroom is a short film designed to educate the campus community regarding cultural and ethnic sensitivity in higher education classroom settings. In a series of six scenarios, the film dramatizes the reactions, feelings, and thoughts of international students as they encounter tension interacting with instructors and fellow students. The project was a joint initiative by the International Student Coalition and the Diether H. Haenicke Institute for Global Education.

The International Student Handbook serves as a resource guide for international students at WMU to help them become acquainted with the campus, its surroundings and American life. The 156-page volume covers individual rights in the United States, immigration regulations, tax laws, etc. The handbook was compiled by a former WMU international student in collaboration with the Haenicke Institute. Surveys show that the handbook has been well received by incoming students, as well as by visiting faculty and administrators from WMU’s overseas partner institutions and organizations.

Presenters: Kimberly Ritter, Western Michigan University (Chair), Lygia Mueller, Western Michigan University
Room: Lasalle A

“…Wanna die?!…”: Cultural Differences in Expressing Emotional Intensity

Intense emotions can be expressed quite differently from culture to culture. Some expressions common in one culture may well be easily misunderstood in another culture and create very challenging situations. The presenters will discuss concrete examples of such expressions of different cultures. As increasing number of int’l or study abroad students are experiencing mental and emotional difficulties, the discussion of this nature will contribute to better understanding and assistance for our students in need.

Presenters: Heesun Majcher, Northern Illinois University (Chair), Shiraz P. Tata, Ph.D., Northern Illinois University, (Additional presenters TBA)
Room: Duluth B

Facilitating Faculty-led Short term Study Abroad Programs at a Large University and a Small College:

The effectiveness of a faculty-led short-term study abroad program depends not only on the faculty leader but also on the office staff members charged with establishing guidelines to allow the process to unfold smoothly. This session will report on how one large university and one small liberal arts college have established policies and procedures to support such programs from start to finish: from initial marketing and student enrollment through pre-departure preparations and re-entry activities. For the larger institution, study abroad coordinators will review a step-by-step procedure through each phase of support and will provide sample forms and documents. For the small college, an international programs director and a provider will engage in a dialogue that covers four basic areas: developing a process, engaging participants, writing a budget, and managing risk. Case studies will be shared.

Presenters: Jack Schindler, North Central College (Chair), Susan Drinan, Seminars International, Inc, Asinda Gadzama, UM-Flint, Patrice Campbell, UM-Flint
**Room:** Joliet B

**(SEVP) SEVP** – Description TBA

**Presenters:**

**Room:**

**(RAP) Teaching and Learning from our Saudi Students: A Five-Year Retrospective**

In January 2005, the ELI at Wayne State University received its first wave of Saudi Scholarship students. This infusion of ELLs from the same country has provided the ELI with many unique pedagogical opportunities and administrative challenges. Panelists from the ELI will share their experiences.

**Presenters:** Dean Lynn, Wayne State University (Chair), Marta Dmytrenko-Ahrabian, Wayne State University, Janet Scott, Wayne State University

**Room:** Marquette A

**(EA) Cultural Competence as a Central Goal for Study Abroad**

The session would explore the various ways in which cultural competence can be incorporated as a central learning outcome for study abroad programs.

**Presenters:** Dr. Ingle Steglitz, Michigan State University (Chair), Dr. Isaac Kalumbu, Michigan State University

**Room:** Joliet B

**10:15 – 11:30 am**

**(ISSS) Local Government Q & A**

The Government Q & A will have a broad panel of experts and will be designed to answer a variety of topics not directly related to SEVIS. Panel members will be from the USCIS, NSC, Social Security Administration and the Canadian Consulate.

**Presenters:** David Archbold, Oakland University (Chair), Inspector Abels, Customs and Border Patrol, Moira Escott, Canadian Consulate General, Gregg Gellert, USCIS, Mike Gould, Social Security Administration, Kelly Johnson, Nebraska Service Center, Margarita Valdez, Immigration Specialist, Senator Mike Rogers Office

**Room:** Marquette B

**(ISSS) From a Student Perspective: a 280% Increase in Student Participation Through Multicultural Programing:**

Come learn how the Office of International Students at EMU increased participation in multicultural events by 280% in just 8 months! We will showcase innovative marketing strategies, event performance, minimal budget requirements, full time staff buy-in and future goals for international student engagement success. We will discuss how you can make this work at your institution!

**Presenters:** Julia Wells, Eastern Michigan University (Chair), Miren Shehu, Eastern Michigan University, Shawn Wettlaufer, Eastern Michigan University, Xingbei (Eva) Ye, Eastern Michigan University

**Room:** Joliet B

**(ISSS) Making Sense of the Prevailing Process – How to Create Your Own**

In January 2010, the Prevailing Wage Determination (PWD) process was nationalized, which has resulted in longer processing times. Whereas previously PWDs were routinely delivered within several days by the individuals state workforce agencies, the process has slowed down significantly. The National Prevailing Wage and Helpdesk Center’s stated goal (!) is to deliver PWDs within 60 days. Considering typical hiring practices at many institutions, this delay is
untenable and has had a significantly negative impact on them. In many cases, it has lead to unnecessary complications that can be avoided. In this session, we will review the true impact of the safe harbor provision on your daily practice and you will learn how to create your own PWDs without the involvement of the US Department of Labor.

**Presenters:** Kara Johnson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Chair), David Muusz, University of Chicago, Bob White, Masuda, Funai, Eifert & Mitchell, Ltd.

**Room:** Lasalle B

(RAP) Hong Kong New Academic Structure

Hong Kong is eliminating the Ah’s and Oh’s from its secondary school system. The process started with the 2009-10 academic year. This session will describe the new structure, curriculum, and impact on university admissions.

**Presenters:** David Horner, Retired Michigan State University

**Room:** Duluth B

(ISSS) Policy Guidance for OPT

In February 2010, the USCIS began accepting the form I-765 at the Dallas and Phoenix Lockbox facilities. Then, in April 2010, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program issued an important update to their optional practical training (OPT) guidance. With these changes comes a need for advisors to update instructions given to students who are applying for and working on OPT. This session will explore the new guidance and Lockbox filing issues and provide advisors with an opportunity to update their advising repertoire. We will invite USCIS and/or SEVP officials to co-present.

**Presenters:** Elizabeth Matthews, Illinois Institute of Technology (Chair), Rick Lane, University of Illinois, Springfield.

**Room:** Marquette A