



NAFSA REGION I NEWS

July 2015

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Knowledge Community Updates

Education Abroad Knowledge Community Updates

NAFSA Strategic Retreat for Education Abroad Leaders, July 16-17, 2015, Washington, D.C.

"How does education abroad build the global learner?"



The NAFSA Strategic Retreat for

Education Abroad will inspire and energize you to build global learners through your institution's programs while connecting with fellow experienced professionals.

Designed for directors, deans, faculty, and professionals with extensive experience in education abroad, the NAFSA Strategic Retreat for Education Abroad allows attendees to set the agenda and inform

collaboration through an open format.

For more information, click here.

Risk Management in Education Abroad - From Plan to Action

Thursday, August 20, 2015, 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. (EST)



As students choose from a wide variety of education abroad models, concern grows that study abroad is an uncertain endeavor, especially in locations where internal support structures are lacking.

Risk management is a crucial aspect for education abroad (EA) professionals. What can you do to be more proactive, before a crisis starts? How can you collaborate with risk management professionals to analyze and address risk in your programs? Learn how to create an action plan for your institution. Address the operational, financial, and strategic aspects while keeping future trends in both study abroad and risk management in mind.

For more information, click here.

International Enrollment Management (IEM) Knowledge Community Updates

NAFSA has some great professional development opportunities for the IEM Knowledge Community coming up through the following webinars and online trainings:

Introduction to Armchair International Student Recruitment

This six-week, self-paced course provides an overview of international student recruitment strategies that can be implemented without travel. These include analyzing the market, creating a recruitment plan,

evaluating recruitment strategies, using marketing tools, understanding the international student recruitment process, evaluating third-party recruiting resources, and measuring and demonstrating marketing results.

Optimizing the Enrollment Cycle: Customer Relationship Management

As international student enrollment numbers continue to grow, institutions are looking for solutions to manage their data for the entire cycle—from inquiry to application to matriculation to alumni. Many campuses have turned to customer relationship management systems (CRMs). Is a CRM system right for your program? This webinar will feature insights from international recruitment and admissions staff who have experience with both commercially available CRMs and home-grown products. Join the conversation on Thursday, July 23, 2015.

IEM Spotlight: Vietnam - May's issue is focused on Vietnam, with great information on the educational system. Though the United States has a troubled history in this part of Southeast Asia, the relationship today is alive with economic, cultural, and educational exchange. Past issues are available through the archives.

The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals (TAICEP) and The Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials (CICIC) Conference in Toronto, Canada, October 1-3, 2015

Save-the-Date for this conference which is designed to provide a variety of opportunities for training and professional development on the following topics:

- Authenticity/fraudulent documents
- Grade/credit conversion
- Selected country modules
- Information resources - an interactive session with resources
- How to make a cost/benefit analysis when deciding on the

pros/cons of outsourcing credential evaluation versus doing it in-house

- Provide forums for networking to share interests and ideas to debate and to debate topics
- Create a sense of community and purpose by interacting colleagues from around the world
- Discuss TAICEP business, accomplishments, and how to become involved

[To learn more or register, click here.](#)

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) Knowledge Community Updates

Management Development Program Trainers

Are you a current NAFSA member with at least five years of management experience in international education? Have you had previous experience as a NAFSA trainer? Are you interested in helping your IE colleagues become more effective leader-managers? If so, consider applying to join the MDP Trainer Team! MDP is a 2.5-day program designed to increase participants' management skills within the context of international education. The curriculum is based on participants' self-assessment and application of seven management principles to current management challenges.

[Refer to the NAFSA website for application and complete position description.](#) Apply by August 1, 2015.

USCIS ELIS and Form I-539

Only ELIS customers who submitted or started and saved a draft a Form I-539 application before June 15, 2015, may still access their application in USCIS ELIS. All other customers who need to file a Form I-539

application will need to file a paper application.

Technical Issues With U.S. Consular Data System Causing Summer 2015 Visa and Passport Delays

The U.S. Department of State is experiencing technical difficulties with its "Consular Consolidated Database" (CCD) system, which is used to facilitate the issuance of U.S. passports and visas. The Department of State continues to make progress on fixing the issue, and has been regularly updating their website with status information. The DOS website updates are reproduced below. NAFSA is monitoring the situation, and has asked the Department of State to inform us of any developments.

Focus on STEM OPT

The F-1 STEM optional practical training (OPT) benefit has been the focus of recent interest that international educators should be aware of. The Department of Homeland Security will likely propose reformulating that benefit in response to several factors, including an Obama administration executive action proposal to "strengthen and extend" STEM OPT, a lawsuit pending in federal court that challenges STEM OPT, and some congressional opposition to OPT without added safeguards. [NAFSA provides updates on this topic on their website.](#)

Advisers Manual: Keeping Up To Date

Keep up to date with all the news posted on the Adviser's Manual home page, by doing one or both of the following:

- Subscribe to the Adviser's Manual RSS news feed
- Receive e-mail notices of updates to Adviser's Manual Chapters by clicking the My chapter updates link in the top menu bar of the Manual.

SEVIS Release 6.21

Hopefully we've all survived the biggest SEVIS release in the 12-year history of SEVIS. If you are experiencing technical difficulties in SEVIS RTI, contact the SEVIS help desk at (800-982-4829) and if the problem does not resolve report [please report it in NAFSA's "Report an Issue" through IssueNet.](#)

Advocacy Updates

Be an Advocate!

Become an advocate for International Education! Explore advocacy resources on NAFSA's website. Use the website to learn about the issues, explore upcoming events, and explore advocacy in your state.



[To learn more, click here.](#)

Conference Updates

**Region I Conference in Boise, Idaho
October 19-23, 2015**



EXPLORING THE HIDDEN GEMS
IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

SESSION PROPOSALS NOW OPEN
Deadline: July 10th

Our 2015 regional conference theme is *"Exploring the Hidden Gems in International Education"* and at the heart of this exploration is the sharing of new ideas and best practices. We encourage you to consider proposing conference sessions, poster sessions, and homegrown workshops that address innovative topics that will contribute to our professional development.



Please submit a proposal on the conference session proposal site: <http://tinyurl.com/RegionISessionSubmission>. The final deadline for session proposals is **July 10th**. Any questions regarding the session proposal process can be emailed to region1nafsa@gmail.com.

Job Postings in the Region

Visit the NAFSA Region I Job Board for the most up to date job postings in the region. [Click here!](#)



NAFSA Region I Team

Visit our website and connect with us on social media at the links below.



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