

PDF Schedule for those not using the computer/phone app.

Note that this information is subject to change.

Monday, October 31, 2016

11:00 AM – 5:15 PM

Registration Desk Open

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

WORKSHOPS

(WSF1B) F-1 Student Advising for Beginners

Zia A

A must-have training for the new designated school official (DSO) to jump-start their career. The workshop offers new advisers a key foundation for understanding the compliance role of the DSO. Participants will benefit from a solid combination of specific knowledge that can be applied to common scenarios as well as understanding how and where to find the regulations for further reading and research. The workshop materials serve as current resources for referral when the DSO is back in the office confronting the daily tasks of advising F-1 students.

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(WSF1I) F-1 Student Advising: Intermediate

Zia B

As a seasoned F-1 Adviser, you have learned that most student advising cases are not as straight forward as they initially seem. This workshop allows you to walk through nuanced situations and learn how to integrate federal regulations with your campus' own rules to build sound institutional policies that create accurate and consistent advising. Take a deeper dive into student advising through case studies and learn model practices so you can apply them to your own campus.

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(WSJI) J-1 Advising: Intermediate

Zia C

This workshop compliments and broadens your knowledge gained after completing the J-1 Advising for Beginners workshop since it goes more deeply into grey areas of J advising. This workshop is designed to help you think through the development of policies, procedures, and practices necessary to maintain a healthy J program for your institution. Ample time is provided to focus on model practices based on current scenarios as well as to reflect on how these practices could improve your own J program.

(WSJI) J-1 Advising: Intermediate

Zia C

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Tuesday, November 1, 2016

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

WORKSHOPS

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1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Workshop: ADVANCING AND EVALUATING YOUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

(STOR) Advancing and Evaluating Your International Student Orientation

DeVargas Room

An evaluation of International Student Orientation Learning Outcomes and Objectives will be presented from an Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences perspective using the ADDIE model of designing instruction. The workshop will also include best practices from an international immigration advisor and student services perspective and from two institutions

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Newcomer's Session

Zia A

Are you new to the field of international education and/or new to NAFSA? Attending your first regional conference or new to Region II? If any of these apply to you, please join us for this session. We will present some information about NAFSA and about Region II, and then provide an opportunity for you to network. The full Region II team will be present so that you can meet key contacts.

6:15 PM – 8:15 PM

OPENING RECEPTION AT PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS MUSEUM (LINCOLN AVE & W. PALACE AVE.)

(OPEN) Opening Reception at Palace of the Governors Museum (Lincoln Ave & W. Palace Ave.)

Attend the Opening Reception at the Palace of the Governors (Lincoln Avenue and W. Palace Avenue). Delight in some appetizers and drinks while networking with colleagues and taking in the museum's finest collections. Originally constructed in the early 17th century as Spain's seat of government for what is today the American Southwest, the Palace of the Governors chronicles the history of Santa Fe, as well as New Mexico and the region. This adobe structure, now the state's history museum, was designated a Registered National Historic Landmark in 1960 and an American Treasure in 1999.

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

SANTA FE MORNING WALKING TOUR (Registration required)

(TOUR) Santa Fe Morning Walking Tour

Enjoy a morning walking tour of Santa Fe. Know where to locate shops, restaurants, galleries, and other fun activities! Hear about the rich history Santa Fe offers to its visitors. Meet in the hotel lobby at 7:30am and be sure to wear some layers as it's likely to be chilly.

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

SESSIONS

Balancing Liability and Service Expectations in International Student & Scholar Advising

Anasazi Ballroom North

Practical advice for ISSS professionals who assist international students and scholars with complex immigration matters on avoiding personal and organizational liability and risk while responding effectively to individual and institutional needs. Session will 1) address specific issues that arise when non-lawyers are responsible for immigration matters; 2) raise awareness of the liabilities associated with discussing immigration strategies and assisting with certain applications and petitions; 3) present ways to mitigate risks when advising individuals who do not have a formal relationship with the institution including applicants, dependents, and job candidates. Participants will be able to differentiate between “specific advice” and “general guidance” and assess and minimize their own vulnerabilities.

Chair: Amanda Anna Thompson, LLB, Purdue University-Main Campus

Co-Presenter: Michelle Larson-Krieg, M.A., J.D., University of Colorado Denver

Federal Government Resources for Health and Safety Abroad

Zia A

Learn about the assistance the U.S. Department of State can provide to U.S. students, faculty, and administrators while traveling, studying, or living overseas. Resources include travel warnings, passports, and emergency assistance. Representatives from the U.S. Department of State have been invited to present. Participants will learn how to use federal government resources to prepare their students for travel abroad, how to resolve passport issues, and how to find assistance in an emergency.

Chair: Mariel Goble, Northern Arizona University

Co-Presenter: Zachary Tobin, M.A. , Northern Arizona University

Hiring "The Right Stuff"

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

Theater productions take months of rehearsal, specialized coaching, and precise coordination among many specifically trained technicians, yet a wise director once said, "Casting is 90% of the work." The same is true for the stage of your international office. Would you hire John Wayne to play the part of Michael Jackson? Or Pamela Anderson to play the part of Maria Von Trapp? Talented in their own ways, they wouldn't be the right fit. In this session, learn specific techniques and general insights to interview and select the right person for the type of job and type of office you have. Co-presenters have 13 years of combined experience in Human Resources and backgrounds ranging from the hiring of student workers to the search for top-level senior management positions.

Chair: Linda Maria Alvarado, M.A. in Anthropology, Northern Arizona University Center for International Education

Co-Presenter: Sheila Anders, M. Administration, Northern Arizona University Center for International Education

Meeting the Needs and Wants of International Students with Low English Proficiency in Their U.S. Educational Journey

DeVargas Room

International students contribute in many important ways to their U.S. schools and universities. They increase diversity, provide alternative perspectives, and if they have a positive experience, are likely to promote their schools both locally and in their home countries. Lacking English proficiency may prevent equal access to the resources that are available to other students. Presenters surveyed international students in secondary schools and in intensive English programs as well as their program administrators on perceived challenges related to cultural, academic, and social adjustments. The survey results will be shared and include an exchange of ideas on how institutions can differentiate programs and services to meet the particular needs of limited English proficiency students and increase student overall satisfaction, success, and institutional retention.

Chair: Sandra Reno, M.A. TESOL, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs Office of International Education

Co-Presenters: Ruby Cheng, MBA, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs; Cecilia Costelow, B.A. , Colorado School of English

Non-resident Tax - What You Need to Know

Zia B

The objective of the session is to inform the audience of the basic tax information and rules for international students and scholars in the US.

The topics to be covered include:

1. Filing requirements
2. Forms required

3. Federal requirements
4. State requirements
5. Implications of non-filing
6. Advice after mis-filing or not filing in previous years
7. Giving advice and liability issues for the ISSO
8. Profile of students who currently file taxes
9. Information support resources (IRS, VITA, online software)
10. Thoughts on gaining institutional support to fund tax programs
11. Ideas for presenting information to students to get them to comply

The information delivered will be very practical advice, leaving the audience confident with the overview of their students/scholars filing obligations.

The workshop will also provide details on the tax behaviour of 56,000 international students in 2015.

Chair: Enda Kelleher, BBL.S. MSC (MP), Sprintax

Co-Presenter: Deborah A. Parris, MS Leadership, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Outreach and Engagement Strategies for Long-term International Experiences

Zia C

While short term, faculty-led programs are trending across institutions, we must find ways to continue to provide outreach and engagement for longer term international experiences. Semester/year academic exchange type programs require students to be informed, prepared, and enthralled. This session will provide the tools necessary for advisors to successfully engage students and increase interest in full-immersion and long-term academic international experiences.

Chair: Riley Sklar, Knowledge Exchange Institute

Co-Presenters: Kari Rankin, M.S, New Mexico State University; Belkis Jacquez, New Mexico State University; Taylor Uselman, New Mexico State University

Where Is This All STEM-ing from Anyway?

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

This session will discuss the new 24-month OPT STEM Extension rule in detail. The presenters will briefly discuss the impetus for the new rule and the transition from viewing OPT as employment authorization to looking at OPT more as an extension of an academic program/ training. The presenters will discuss the OPT Training Plan and the new burdens for schools and employers, as well as other OPT STEM Extension related issues.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

Co-Presenters: Samuel Brown, EdD, Brigham Young University International Services; Stacey Bailey, Kansas State University Office of International Programs

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 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Coffee Break – Expo Hallway

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

SESSIONS

Increasing Study Abroad Enrollments Through Traditional Sales and Marketing Practices

Zia C

The words “sales” and “marketing” often have bad connotations within the field of higher education. Regardless, we use sales and marketing techniques every day (with varying degrees of success) when working with potential education abroad students. This session will first introduce traditional and cutting-edge sales and marketing practices that are commonly used within the business world outside of higher education. Following will be the chance for participants to assess their own outreach and retention practices and compare them with what successful sales and marketing professionals use on a daily basis. Finally, we will open it up to a discussion for all participants to share how they have been successful in increasing retention through individual interactions and large marketing efforts.

Chair: Zachary Tobin, M.A. , Northern Arizona University

Co-Presenter: Samantha Martin, Via TRM

Personal Branding, Practical Experience, and Launching Careers in International Education

Zia A

Breaking into the professional arena of international education grows more challenging every year. To stand out in a crowded market place, you can't play by the same old rules. We'll share what you can do differently (and better) to finally land a job you can be proud of in IE? Seasoned professionals will dive into the key knowledge, experience, and skills necessary to get your foot in the door and outline the unique strategies and tactics for building a successful career that stands the test of time.

Attendees will:

- Understand the career landscape in international education (beyond education abroad)
- Learn what employers value most in entry-level and emerging job candidates
- How to gain strategic experience in international education
- How to optimize your job search to get more interviews and job offers
- Develop their professional relationships (network) in meaningful ways

Chair: Brooke Roberts, Inside Study Abroad

Co-Presenter: Christopher Churma, Institute for Shipboard Education/Semester At Sea

Sexual Assault, Title IX and Conduct Abroad

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

This session will define and discuss sexual assault and Title IX responsibilities in relation to Education Abroad students. The discussion will begin with an overview of the Student Code of Conduct and move into the current legal climate of sexual assault and consent for college students within the realm of Title IX regulations. We will focus on how to prevent sexual assault incidents by training faculty and students going abroad, and review incident management and support for Education Abroad advisors and related campus staff. As Education Abroad advisors we will share our experiences and insight into these matters, and conclude with an open discussion with the audience on particular incidents and case studies.

Chair: Mikaela Terry, Northern Arizona University

Co-Presenter: Amanda Williamson, Northern Arizona University

Staying Safe in a Fractious World: a Primer for International Students

Zia B

Most of us prepare our outgoing students with safety information relative to the culture they will be visiting. We tell them to let someone know where they are going.. They are cautioned about public drinking and advised to be on the lookout for pickpockets. We tell them to be wary of large crowds and demonstrations and make friends with members of the international community so they will blend in a bit. But what are our strategies to help visiting students deal with anti-Muslim sentiment or understand equal rights and the LGBTQ community or opportunities for women? What should they about know about the police? What are the rules for drinking and driving? Are there likely to be guns on campus? in town? And in Colorado - what do they know about marijuana? This open forum is to help us develop strategies that will contribute to the safety and cultural integration of our international students.

Strategically Aligned Global Experiences: A Model for Teacher Education Programs

DeVargas Room

This presentation will introduce an innovative model for infusing global and intercultural experiences in teacher education programs as a pathway for candidates to grow as globally and interculturally proficient professionals. Our immersive experiences target the specific linguistic and cultural demographic of the community we serve. We believe that strong cultural competence is a pedagogical imperative and provide experiences for our teacher candidates to respond actively to the cultural disconnects their students experience. Our session will advance the discussions on strategic approaches to preparing teachers to serve all learners.

Chair: Parker Fawson, Utah Valley University

Co-Presenters: Vessela Ilieva, Utah Valley University; Raquel Cook, Utah Valley University

U.S. Department of States Exchange Visitor Program (EVP): Office of Program Administration (OPA)

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

Renee Francis with the U.S. Department of States' Exchange Visitor Program (EVP) Office of Program Administration (OPA) will provide an OPA update. OPA is tasked by EVP to oversee the J-1 visitor program and the welfare of its participants. Ms. Francis will help J-1 program sponsors understand their reporting obligations and the reporting process. She will have several case studies to help J-1 program sponsors understand the different reporting scenarios they may encounter.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

12:00 PM – 1:45 PM

AWARDS LUNCHEON

(AWLUN) Award Luncheon

Anasazi Ballroom

Join fellow conference attendees for lunch and presentation of special leadership and service awards within the region.

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

SESSIONS

Data Driving Decisions: Identifying Trends & Opportunities in Diversification Markets

DeVargas Room

As the international student market becomes increasingly competitive, understanding key diversification markets is crucial to broaden the base for recruitment. Sharing trends and patterns of behavior from 23 million future students, this presentation helps identify the resilience of new markets and demonstrates how student preferences are shifting in different markets.

With pressure to tighten international marketing budgets, a data driven approach helps to inform strategy and lead to improved marketing efficiency. A case study in International Digital Recruitment from a Region II university (presenter TBD) will share how the data presented can inform a recruitment plan that targets online research behaviors and preferences.

Chair: Chris Markey, Hotcourses Inc.

Making the Case for Innovative Returnee Programming: From Theory to Practice

Zia A

Current research and dialogue in the field of international education affirm that a critical learning period begins upon a student's return from a study abroad program. International education organizations and institutions across the US work against limited resources to create innovative programming that meets the developmental and learning needs of returned students. In this session, we will present theoretical models of returned student engagement alongside practical applications of programming integration using a variety of organization and campus models. Attend the session to learn not only why returnee programming is essential to campus internationalization, student development, and civic engagement, but also how to implement this important programming by aligning student learning needs with the strategic goals of your office or institution.

Chair: Chelsea Kindred, Academic Programs International

Co-Presenter: Beth M. Laux, MPA, University of Utah

Partners or Competitors: Collaborative Marketing with Study Abroad Organizations

Zia B

There is often tension between education abroad offices and Study Abroad Organizations. Many offices view these organizations as competition. The University of Arizona and CEA have developed a collaborative, and complementary, marketing program that ensures the success of both organizations, and most importantly places emphasis on the best experience for our collective students. This session will discuss specific initiatives and strategic plans that include unique program models, combined usage of student ambassadors, joint-branded marketing materials, sharing of resources, support of events, and open communication as the keys to a productive and positive relationship.

Chair: Frank Camp, University of Arizona

Co-Presenters: Sara Troy, M.S., CEA Study Abroad; Donella Ly, University of Arizona

The Wheel in My Hand Keeps on Turning: Tools and Strategies for Guiding a Student on OPT Dates and Processing Timelines

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

International student advisors have developed various means to deal with the challenges of how to best provide information to students about their options when it comes to application submission time frames and various guidelines when filing for Optional Practical Training (OPT) benefits.

In light of the possibility of SEVP instituting SEVIS terminations based on the accumulation of 90 days of unemployment, the importance of communicating options and information in a highly effective manner takes on even greater importance.

This session will provide a robust opportunity to review strategies for OPT advisement related to filing timelines and scheduling of OPT dates. This session will also showcase an innovative and useful tool that can be used during advisement which provides a visual and tactile approach to timeline comprehension.

Chair: Shane Prosser, BA Communications, Arizona State University

Co-Presenters: Deborah A. Parris, MS Leadership, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; Kathleen Lueppker, Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies, Arizona State University, Mesa Community College

Turning Global Students into Global Leaders

Zia C

International students and study abroad alumni are a key resource for creating a internationally focused campus and community. This session focuses on building upon the skills of internationally-minded students in order to help them become leaders on campus and in their future careers. The University of Arizona's Global Ambassador program seeks to turn global students into global leaders. Join us in discussing how to bring a similar model home to your institution.

Chair: Noelle Sallaz, MA Higher Education, University of Arizona

Co-Presenter: Katie Van Wyk, University of Arizona

Updates from the U.S. Department of State - ECA (Exchange Visitor Program)

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

Ami Frey will provide updates from the U.S. Department of State - ECA (Exchange Visitor Program). Ami has been a Program Analyst in the Office of Designation, Academic and Government Programs since June 2014, and supports NAFSA Regions I-IV, Research Institutions, and Government programs. She previously worked in the Europe and Eurasia Fulbright Office, also within the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Prior to joining the Department, she worked on State Department programs as an ARO at both Georgetown University and the Academy for Educational Development.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM

SESSIONS

Creating Global Citizenship: 45 Years of Harlaxton

DeVargas Room

Harlaxton College has been educating US students for 45 years. Our base in the UK allows us to work with students at a very personal level and create global citizens. Over our 45 years we have collected different information and data to determine Global Citizenship. We have changed this data collection to a pre test/ post test survey and targeted interventions to move the mark on Global Citizenship for our students. This session will review our history of creating global citizens and specifically look at our current data and the significance we are finding in our students on the measures of Global Citizenship.

Chair: Holly Carter, PhD, University of Evansville

Curricular Practical Training, and How to Navigate the New SEVP Guidance

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

Curricular Practical Training is seen differently by many schools at colleges around the U.S., with the new SEVP guidance that will be 'coming soon' from SEVP many schools are concerned. We will discuss the nuances and strategies that can be used to combat some of the possible new guidance from SEVP and how you can better serve your students in their pursuits from internships and practical training. We'll discuss the current regulations, guidance and what your school may be already be doing. Come join the discussion!

Chair: Nathaniel Lynch, M.S., University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Co-Presenter: Amy Bello, M.A., University of Colorado-Denver

Data Visualization for Education Abroad: How to Tell Your Story with Tableau

Zia B

Data visualization is everywhere and is an increasingly powerful force which can shape the many facets of Education Abroad (EA).

For EA professionals, this presents a number of unique challenges and opportunities. This session will arm attendees with a practical, ready-to-go toolbox of tips and techniques for using interactive data visualization to communicate EA data. We will bring together interactive dashboards using data exports from Abroad101, Terra Dotta, and other databases to show how data visualization can assist us in interpreting data and supporting strategic EA goals.

Attendees will leave with a better understanding of how to tell stories through interactive visual dashboards.

This session will also show how EA professionals can take advantage of storytelling opportunities afforded by Tableau Public and the interactive data visualization revolution.

Chair: David Wright, PhD, University of New Mexico-Main Campus

Co-Presenters: Charla Henley, University of New Mexico-Main Campus; Laura Thornes, M.Ed., Colorado State University Office of International Programs; Annette Mares-Duran, University of New Mexico-Main Campus

Graduation and Beyond! Advising for International Students on Immigration Issues as They Launch Their Careers

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

This session focuses on the unique challenges F-1 students face with respect to US immigration system and its requirements and restrictions as they launch their careers. We will engage in guided discussions on best practices and institutional trends to ensure as smooth a pathway possible from OPT, to H1B, to employment-based Permanent Residency. We will also address how to best assist students in planning a career path that takes immigration issues into account and talking to employers about employment-based visa sponsorship. Participants will be able to anticipate the questions that graduating students are asking, or should be asking; understand the impact that immigration-related concerns have on long-term career planning in the current job market; and guide students in understanding their own priorities, developing a career plan (and a backup plan) that takes into account the limitations of the US immigration system, and successfully launching their US careers.

New Models for Pre-departure Orientation for Today's Students

Anasazi Ballroom North

For too long, pre-departure orientation in education abroad has been something that many institutions and organizations modeled after the traditional lecture method of teaching known to academia. Our students today are savvy consumers of media who expect personalized experiences that engage them. Since most of us now work with students from diverse backgrounds going to diverse regions of the world, it has become increasingly challenging to deliver engaging pre-departure content. This session will share the lessons learned from two universities as they overhauled their pre-departure orientations. One institution will discuss transforming its orientations into large conferences that empower students to seek the information most relevant to them while another will share how it created workshops, activities, and resources that truly engage students.

Chair: Kyle Rausch, M.S., Arizona State University

Co-Presenter: Alyson Roberts, MPA, Montana State University

The Internet Can Be Your Friend: Online Tools in International Credential Evaluation

Zia C

Not everyone has access to a vast library of credential evaluation publications. In this session, professional credential evaluators from Foreign Credits, Inc. and Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) share their favorite resources for advanced research in comparative education systems, grade conversion and GPA calculation, document verification, authentication and translation, among others, all available at your fingertips. The presenters will discuss how to vet and utilize English- and foreign language evaluation tools and online research methods for accurate and efficient credential evaluation, emphasizing free and public resources, and share best practices from the industry.

Chair: Aleksander Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc.

Co-Presenter: Martha Van Devender, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE)

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM

STATE UPDATE MEETINGS

State Update Meeting: Arizona

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

Chair: Katie Van Wyk, University of Arizona

State Update Meeting: Colorado

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

Chair: Nathaniel Lynch, M.S., University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

State Update Meeting: Kansas

Zia C

Chair: Michael L. Ediger, University of Kansas

State Update Meeting: Montana

Anasazi Ballroom North

Chair: Mary Nellis, MT State Rep, NAFSA Region II, University of Montana-Missoula

State Update Meeting: Nebraska

Zia B

Chair: Stephen Mattos, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

State Update Meeting: Utah

Zia A

Chair: David Settle, Brigham Young University International Services

State Update Meeting: Wyoming

The Chapel

Chair: Sara Robinson, MA, University of Wyoming International Programs

State Update Meetings: New Mexico

DeVargas Room

Chair: Pablo Torres, University of New Mexico-Main Campus

Thursday, November 3, 2016

6:45 AM – 9:15 AM

MORNING HIKE ON ATALAYA TRAIL (Registration required)

(HIKE) Morning Hike on Atalaya Trail hosted by St. Johns College

Connect with your colleagues and watch the sunrise while you hike the Atalaya trail near the campus of St. Johns College...complete with a breakfast burrito and coffee! Participation is limited due to transportation needs.

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

SESSIONS

100K Strong in the Americas Grant Report: Three Community Colleges Partnering with SENA Colombia to Increase Study Abroad

Zia A

Of the students who study abroad from the US about 3% come from community colleges. Snow College, Flathead Valley Community College, and Central New Mexico Community College (all in NAFSA Region II) were winners of the 100K Strong in the Americas grant to partner with SENA Colombia in 2016. The grants involved reciprocal student/teacher exchange. Each will discuss their projects for the grant, benefits, and lessons learned from setting up student exchange projects in a community college.

Chair: Alexander Peterson, MAT, Snow College

Co-Presenter: Diane E. Burke, MBA, Central New Mexico Community College

Education Abroad Visa Updates

Anasazi Ballroom North

Obtaining visas for students at US institutions wishing to study abroad is an ongoing challenge. This session will give a brief overview of the visa process and an update on the changes in international visa regulations with special attention paid to the UK, Spain, Italy, France and other Schengen Countries. Session participants with concerns about the process of getting visas to study abroad you in any other country are also welcome to bring these questions to this session where they can be discussed during the question and answer period.

Chair: Timothy Lynn Elliott, PhD, Brigham Young University International Study Programs

Co-Presenter: Hannah Farrar, University of Colorado-Boulder

H-1B Yourself! A Fun and Practical Approach to Understanding the Role of the H-1B in the ISSS Context

Zia B

With an interactive approach, this session provides international student advisors with a framework for understanding the role of the H-1B employment visa and how it relates to international education.

Beginning with an overview of the primary purpose of the H-1B, we proceed to key eligibility requirements and employer obligations. Specifically, using audience participation and feedback, we explore the definition of a “specialty occupation” and prevailing wage requirements. Using role play and discussion, we conclude by briefly exploring the alternatives often considered in lieu of an H-1B, examining the basic advantages and disadvantages of H-1B alternatives, including the J-1, O-1, TN, and F-1.

Chair: Julie Wilbers, MA, University of Colorado-Denver Office of International Affairs

Co-Presenter: Steven G. Williams, JD, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

Overcoming Stigma: Mental Health Awareness for International Students and Scholars

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

This session will discuss mental health awareness for students from around the world, including a case study on Chinese international students. Topics of interest include: common mental health concerns, obstacles that prevent international students from seeking mental health treatment, and how to overcome these barriers through effective resource use and on-campus programming.

Chair: Jennifer D. Frankel, International Student Insurance

Co-Presenters: Deborah A. Parris, MS Leadership, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; Boshi Wang, M.Ed. Candidate, Northern Arizona University; Andrew M. Janusz, Northern Arizona University Center for International Education

Recognition of Refugee and Other Non-Verifiable Credentials

DeVargas Room

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], worldwide displacement is at a record high. Wars, civil strife, religious persecution, economic migrations, and natural disasters: all of these are struggles facing humankind today. So how do they impact international education? Without proper documentation of studies, displaced persons and refugees are at a serious disadvantage if they wish to pursue further education. Admitting these students to your institution can be a challenge. We will define the problem and the relevant populations, discuss what crucial student data is needed, and offer best practices for the development of a university admission process for persons with unofficial or non-verifiable credentials. The current practices regarding these populations at a major public research institution will also be discussed.

Chair: Martha Van Devender, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE)

Co-Presenter: Nathaniel Lynch, M.S., University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Study Abroad for Non-Traditional Students

Zia C

The session will focus on presenting and discussing study abroad education geared specifically for non-traditional students. In our experience with our own study abroad courses we have found that all students have benefited greatly from the study abroad experience but the non-traditional students may find the experience even more enriching. The potential relationship between life experiences of non-traditional students and the value of study abroad experiences will be discussed in this session. Subsequently, an exploration of how to better reach all students to connect with these life experiences will also be presented.

Chair: Jennifer Bradford, PhD , Metropolitan State University of Denver

Co-Presenters: Jennifer E. Capps, PhD, Metropolitan State University of Denver; Jennifer Provizer, Metropolitan State University of Denver Institute for International Education

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

Nancy McCarthy (U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs) will speak about currently trending issues in the world of Consular Affairs and how these trends may impact international student and scholars. Best practices and current visa acquisition concerns will also be addressed. Nancy is a Foreign Service officer. She has served in Mali, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Haiti, and Washington, DC and has been doing consular work for over 20 years. She holds primary and secondary teaching certificates and has a Masters in Counselling Psychology. Her husband is a retired USAID Foreign Service officer. Her younger daughter is married to an FSO and lives in Tokyo where she manages an exchange program for Japanese university women. Her older daughter is married to a Romanian opera coach who came to the U.S. on an F-1 visa to study at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

Co-Presenter: Jeff Hashman, Pittsburg State University

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Coffee Break – Expo Hallway

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

SESSIONS

Breaking the Silence: Addressing Sexual Assault and Consent

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

This session will define sexual assault and consent and how we communicate these important concepts to international students. We'll discuss prevention, Title IX, staff training and best practices and requirements for educating our students and in dealing with occurrences. Our panel of educators will share their experiences on these issues to provide further insight on the topic. We will conclude with case studies and engage the audience in an open discussion.

Chair: Jennifer D. Frankel, International Student Insurance

Co-Presenter: Linda L. Melville, MIA, MA, University of New Mexico-Main Campus

Dual Degree Programs with International Partners

Zia C

Dual degree agreements with international partners are a great way to recruit top-notch students and for graduates to give themselves a competitive edge in the job market. However, these agreements present risks to both the partners and the students participating. With preparation and a careful consideration of all parties involved in making the agreement work, dual degree agreements may be the competitive edge your school and students need.

Chair: Carrie Hesco, J.D., University of Wyoming

Co-Presenter: Sara Robinson, MA, University of Wyoming International Programs

International Education Leadership Roundtable

Pinon Boardroom

The Region II team has not previously included a Knowledge Community Representative from the IEL community. Our region has an array of institution types with novice and veteran senior international officers alike. Join this roundtable discussion as we explore interest in and development of our regional IELKC. We have common institutional goals and challenges, which could benefit from a collective discussion of best practices and solution based strategies. We seek to strengthen our regional network and develop stronger relationships with fellow SIO's, pursue joint professional development opportunities, and build a resource base that enables SIO's to propel their initiatives and institutions forward.

Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) Update

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

The local SEVP field representative will present on recent SEVP news and updates, addressing hot topics and upcoming SEVP guidance.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

Co-Presenter: Jeff Hashman, Pittsburg State University

Teaching Our Chinese Students

DeVargas Room

Our Chinese student population is changing, and the students coming into our programs bring a host of new challenges for instructors. The Chinese student of today may appear listless and disengaged, but is far from it. This presentation will give background on the changes in Chinese society that have precipitated this new breed of students and will give insight on how to practically address these issues in the classroom.

Chair: Tiffany Learned, University of Kansas

Co-Presenter: Jenny Selvidge, University of Kansas

Trip to Partnership: Changing the Conversation Around Healthcare and Nursing Experiences Abroad

Zia B

Current programming in international healthcare uses outcome based measures to determine efficacy. Montana State University's Office of International Programming and College of Nursing are currently collaborating on creating a structural shift to transition stand-alone programs into multi-disciplinary experiences in conjunction with our partner organizations. By focusing on cross-cultural communication and program outcomes, we hope to maximize short term opportunities while enhancing long-term results.

Chair: Krysta Gorder, Montana State University

Co-Presenter: Drewry Westerman, MS, MPH, FNP-BC, Montana State University College of Nursing

Two Offices, One Journey: Financial Aid and Education Abroad

Zia A

The relationship between Colorado State University's Education Abroad and Office of Financial Aid has allowed both offices to be more efficient in student outreach, overcoming barriers, and enhancing the educational experience for students. After over a decade of working closely together, the offices have built extensive programming; which creates a mutually beneficial relationship for staff and students. Come hear more about what each office has learned over the years, and be prepared to share your experiences in working with your financial aid offices.

Chair: Laura Thornes, M.Ed., Colorado State University Office of International Programs

Co-Presenter: Erica Norris, Colorado State University

12:15 PM – 2:00 PM

SESSIONS

(BOOK) Book Discussion: Americanah

Draft Station Restaurant (60 E San Francisco St)

Join colleagues for a discussion if you've read the book "Americanah." The book discussion will take place at the Draft Station restaurant. Attendees will pay for their own meal. Meet at the restaurant at 12:15pm. 60 E San Francisco St, Santa Fe, NM 87501 We will discuss the book, [Americanah](#) by [Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie](#) over lunch. All participants will be expected to purchase their own lunch.

Chair: Maria P. Beebe, MA in Political Science, Kansas State University

Co-Presenters: Sara Thurston, PhD, Kansas State University Office of International Programs; Inger M. Bull, PhD, Colorado College Office of International Programs

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

SESSIONS

Addressing International Student Academic Integration Issues at Small, Medium, and Large Higher Education Institutions

Zia A

Higher education institutions, across the U.S., find they are grappling with significant challenges in the academic integration of their foreign student populations. As international student enrollment continues to grow on American college campuses, schools are having to both bolster their existing student support services and develop new, innovative, academic support programs to increase retention, graduation rates, and overall satisfaction of their international students. Professionals from across Region II will share about the unique challenges and institutional initiatives they have implemented to facilitate greater international student academic success. English language skill development, reading and writing support, academic integrity and plagiarism, classroom participation, presentation skills, and faculty communication will be discussed.

Chair: Holly Frohlick, MA-Int'l Education, Arizona State University

Co-Presenters: Paige Progar, M.A. Education, University of Colorado-Boulder Office of International Education; Tracy Falconer, University of Nebraska-Kearney; Ruby Cheng, MBA, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

All About SEVIS Terminations - The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

This session will discuss different types of SEVIS terminations, SEVIS termination deadlines, reinstatement issues, and how to communicate with students regarding terminations (before and after). The consequences of termination will be discussed as well.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

Employment Strategies for International Students

Anasazi Ballroom North

We will facilitate a discussion on different strategies and best opportunities that help international students to find jobs in the United States after graduation.

Finding Your Place in NAFSA Leadership

Zia B

Engage in the field of international education by serving as a NAFSA member leader either regionally or nationally. Learn about the application process and discover opportunities available at every level of your career and for every level of commitment. NAFSA's various leader positions influence public policy, the path of the organization, and the services provided to international educators.

Chair: Mary Nellis, MT State Rep, NAFSA Region II, University of Montana-Missoula

Co-Presenters: Jennifer Gay, Fort Lewis College; Emily Hassenstab, MPA, University of Nebraska-Omaha

Internships in Non-Traditional Destinations: Opportunities Outside the Mainstream

Zia C

With over 50% of US students studying abroad in Europe, internships placements outside of the mainstream destinations can offer students opportunities they would not have had elsewhere. Given that 75% of the world's populations live in Asia, Africa and Latin America it would seem logical to offer more opportunities in these locations.

The session will first look at what we in the field consider as non-traditional destinations for internships. We will then review the types of placements, the benefits, challenges and considerations for planning internships in non-traditional destinations, and look at issues such as ethics, risk management and support structures. We hope the information will enable faculty and international offices to better advise students in this area, while diversifying the portfolios for their universities.

Chair: Heilwig Jones, Kaya Responsible Travel

Co-Presenter: Aaron Rose, MPA, Brigham Young University David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies

Serving Those Who Have Served: Interrogating Barriers for the Missing Veteran Student Population in Study Abroad

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

In the myriad discussions on diversity in study abroad, a critical group remains largely absent from the conversation: Veterans. While we increase financial programming to reach underrepresented students, our 500,000 US Veteran students already have access to \$4 billion in education funding. They are more likely to be first-generation, more likely to be a student of color, *and* are 75+% male—a diversity trifecta. But it can be a challenge to reach Veterans, not only because of their unique personal and academic obligations, but our own lack of knowledge about their needs, their funding, and their culture. Through panelist experience, campus case studies, VA funding procedure models, and student Veterans themselves, this session will explore the intersection of Military and Academic culture, their barriers to study abroad, and opportunities for increased access.

Chair: Michelle Tolan, Butler University

Co-Presenter: Emily Garner, BA English, BA Spanish; MS Student Affairs in Higher Education (in progress), Colorado State University

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM

SESSIONS

Discussion of Adjustment Issues for Chinese Students at US Universities and Some Suggested Solutions

Eldorado Grand Ballroom B

Many of us working with Chinese international students have noticed that some of them struggle to adapt to US academic environments causing academic integrity, general adjustment, and retention issues. Recent rapid increase in the number of Chinese students in US colleges has made the situation more urgent for long term successes. A recently publicized academic integrity scandal at a US institution has affected both the school's reputation and many Chinese students' academic careers. This session would provide a platform to discuss specific case studies – failures and successes from both IEM and ISSS areas – that will create a basis for creating an interdepartmental "solution network" to tackle the problems over the long haul. International education professionals from China and a Chinese student parent will also share ideas from their Chinese perspectives.

Enhancing Student Learning Through Co-curricular and Experiential Programming

DeVargas Room

Co-curricular and experiential learning are cornerstones of education abroad, but have we designed our programs to capitalize on the benefits of student learning outside the classroom? Are students connecting the dots in a way that promotes critical thinking and develops transferable skills? In this session, we will present the benefits and limitations of co-curricular activities on education abroad programs. Presenters will discuss how institutions and organizations are overcoming obstacles to learning through innovative co-curricular and academic programming. Participants will conceptualize how to implement these strategies on their own programs and identify allies to help them achieve their goals. Join us to explore ways to help your students leverage their learning outside the classroom and encourage faculty to use effective learning structures abroad.

Chair: Megan Fulmer, International Studies Abroad (ISA)

Co-Presenter: Beth M. Laux, MPA, University of Utah

Fearing Families? Positive Engagement Opportunities in the Study Abroad Process

Zia C

Discover methods for engaging families of students studying abroad. This session shares how to improve the chances for success abroad through expanded channels of communication and transparency for the family community. This includes emotional, health and safety, wellness awareness, staying connected, and non-invasive student support promoting independence and personal growth.

Upon completion of this session, any participant will be able to:

- Build a support community for study abroad families using familiar platforms and strategies
- Effectively communicate the study abroad process to families of students studying abroad
- Better understand the family/student dynamic and the challenges students and their support networks face when studying abroad

Chair: Anna Ebert, CEA Study Abroad

Co-Presenters: Emily Sauey, CEA Study Abroad; Kari Rankin, M.S, New Mexico State University

Holistic Advising for Sponsored Students: It's All About Relationships

Zia B

Building strong, long-lasting relationships with sponsors, campus partners, and students (both at the individual and community level) is critical to the success of Sponsored Student programming – but how do you build that trust? The University of Utah hosts over 300 students sponsored by government bodies, NGOs, private companies, and foreign universities. This presentation will include specific situations and practical tips for holistically advising Sponsored Students from the point of view of the host institution and the sponsor. Case studies will be presented on how the U of U's SSP team engages specific Sponsored Student communities on campus as they navigate new cultural and institutional expectations, our communication strategy with sponsors, and an inclusive approach for collaborating with on-campus partners.

Chair: Jessica Schlotfeldt, University of Utah International Center

Co-Presenters: Kendra Taylor, University of Utah International Student and Scholar Services; Roya Zahed, Roya Zahed, World Learning

Military Accessions Vital to National Interest (MAVNI): What You Need to Know to Help Your International Students Navigate the MAVNI Process

Zia A

This session will provide information about the MAVNI program. A U.S. Army recruiter will discuss the history of MAVNI, MAVNI requirements, and what it means to international students. SEVP will explain how the MAVNI program intersects with the F-1 regulations and provide guidance on how Designated School Officials can best assist their international students who are interest in MAVNI.

Please note: I have verbal confirmation an Army recruiter will be able to present . I have asked for the SEVP field reps' presence as well.

Chair: Maria Zellar Maxim, JD, University of Colorado-Boulder

Co-Presenter: Lucas K. Thompson

Stump the Chumps

Eldorado Grand Ballroom A

Bring your most difficult questions and/or cases to this session and see if you can stump the panel of experts. We will have an international scholar adviser fielding J Scholar and H-1B issues as well as an international student adviser and an study abroad advisor. If they can't solve the problem, then we hope to have a discussion with the group to help solve your issue(s). Prizes may or may not be given if you can "stump the chump".

Chair: Maria P. Beebe, MA in Political Science, Kansas State University

Co-Presenters: Stephen Mattos, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Linda L. Melville, MIA, MA, University of New Mexico-Main Campus; Kyle Rausch, M.S., Arizona State University

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

VISIT TO MEOW WOLF ART PRODUCTION COMPANY (Registration required)

(GALL) Visit to Meow Wolf art production company

Visit Meow Wolf, an arts production company that creates immersive, multimedia experiences that transport audiences of all ages into fantastic realms of storytelling. A limited number of shuttle seats will be available, and attendees can also walk or find their own transportation. Then enjoy dinner on your own in one of the hip restaurants in the Railyard district. For more information about Meow Wolf, visit <https://meowwolf.com/>

Friday, November 4th

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

REGIONAL BREAKFAST/BUSINESS MEETING

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(BKFST) Regional Breakfast/Business Meeting

Anasazi Ballroom

Close the conference with the official annual business meeting for the region. Learn more about what's happening in the region, meet new team members, awards, finances and more.

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

DAY TRIP TO TAOS, NM

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(TRIP) Day Trip to Taos, NM

After the conference, join us for a day trip to Taos, NM! Known for its clean air and great views, visitors come to experience rich spiritual traditions, fine art and the beauty of the landscape. We'll be visiting the famous Taos Pueblo and Earthships. Take some time to yourself to munch on lunch and explore the eclectic city of Taos. Includes transportation and entrance fees to Taos Pueblo.