

# NAFSA Region XII Southern District Newsletter (February 2010)

## Announcements from the District Team

The Southern District Team is dedicated to providing networking and professional development opportunities to professionals in all aspects of international education throughout the Southern California and Southern Nevada region. Currently, there are more than 700 members on our roster. Our mission is:

- To recognize and support those in the Southern District who are engaged or interested in the international educational exchange of students and scholars;
- To collect and disseminate relevant information for the Southern District membership;
- To provide opportunities for professional development specific to the needs of the Southern District membership; and,
- To provide outreach to underrepresented institutions and non-NAFSA colleagues and affiliates within the Southern District to foster professional enrichment opportunities in international education.

While we promote NAFSA membership, we recognize that there are many professionals in our field who are not NAFSA members. As you can see, we would like to encourage our non-member colleagues to participate in Southern District activities. Please share our invitation to [join the Southern District](#) with others who you feel would benefit from, and perhaps contribute to our mission. If you have any questions or concerns, or have ideas for Southern District activities, please let us know.

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## Community College Update

### California Nisei College Diploma Project Efforts Underway at California Community Colleges to Honor Former Students Imprisoned in World War II

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – After nearly 70 years, many former California Community College students who were unable to complete their studies due to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II will finally be honored. As part of the California Nisei College Diploma Project, the University of California, California State University and California Community Colleges are undergoing massive efforts to locate these individuals and bestow them with a degree. [Read more...](#)

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## Education Abroad Update

It's not too late to market your program to the best and the brightest study abroad returnees at the Lessons from Abroad: Study Abroad Returnee Conference in San Diego on February 20th. If you would like to exhibit, please contact [sdreentry@gmail.com](mailto:sdreentry@gmail.com) for details. You can learn more about the conference at [www.lessonsfromabroad.org](http://www.lessonsfromabroad.org). We hope to see you there!

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## International Scholar Update

H-1B advisors around the country are anxiously awaiting prevailing wage determinations from the new U.S. Department of Labor system. Prevailing wage requests filed by mail and filed through iCERT online are taking approximately one month, which significantly delays H-1B processing. Once the system has been in place for some time, processing time may change.

Due to the catastrophic earthquake in Haiti, the Obama administration is granting temporary protected status (TPS) to Haitians who were in the U.S. as of January 12, 2010. This will allow eligible Haitian nationals in the U.S. to continue living and working in the country for the next 18 months. [Click here](#) for the complete USCIS field guidance memo.

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## International Student Update

### USCIS to Issue Revised Approval Notices for Certain Forms I-129 and I-539

Customers who have submitted a Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker (Form I-129) or an Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (Form I-539) may have received incorrect Notices of Approval (Forms I-797). If your student received an I-797 between January 20th and January 27th, they should be receiving the revised I-797 by February 8th. If your students do not receive the corrected I-797 by this date, please contact USCIS. For more information, please [click here](#).

### L.A. PIER

Friday, February 19 | 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM | Pomona College | [RSVP required](#)

The L.A. PIER focuses on a variety of F-1 and J-1 student issues and is open to anyone who works with F-1 and/or J-1 students. We meet every three to four months, at different campus locations around Los Angeles County. Participation is free, but participants are responsible for their own transportation, parking fees (if applicable), and meals. RSVPs will be required for planning purposes. Pomona College is an easy commute via the [Metrolink](#), so please come out and join us!

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## Recruitment, Admissions & Preparations Update

Did you know that NAFSA's online Resource Library includes useful information for those involved in international recruitment? [Resources for International Recruiting](#) is a compilation of helpful links to such essentials as ethical standards, sample mission statements, English language testing options, international credential evaluation resources, and much more. Best of all, the information is available to both members and non-members alike!

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## Questions? Contact Your District Team

Your Region XII Southern District Team members are ready to assist you. If you have specific content area questions, please contact the appropriate District Team representative from our [District Team member roster](#).

From your friends on the Region XII Southern District Team