

# NAFSA Region XII Southern District Newsletter (June 2013)

## Announcements from Southern District Team

### Greetings Southern California District!

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. We have had a few minor changes on our District Team. I'd like to introduce you to our newest Team Members:

Mackenzie Bristow, Intensive English Program (IEP) Representative  
Center Director  
ELS Language Centers, La Verne  
[mbristow@els.edu](mailto:mbristow@els.edu)

Joan Cerera, International Scholar Representative  
Faculty/Staff Visa Specialist  
University of Southern California  
[cerera@saemail.usc.edu](mailto:cerera@saemail.usc.edu)

Nathan Jensen, International Enrollment Representative  
Director, International Center  
Orange Coast College  
[njensen@occ.cccd.edu](mailto:njensen@occ.cccd.edu)

We are very lucky to have such experienced international education professionals on the Southern California District Team. We are here to serve you and your campus' needs. Feel free to contact us with any questions related to your specific area.

### NAFSA Region XII San Diego Conference: Call for Session Proposals

NAFSA Region XII will be holding its regional conference in beautiful San Diego this November 4 - 8.

The Conference Planning Committee has opened the [Session Proposal Website](#) and is now accepting submissions. Proposal Deadline: July 3, 2013

### Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs Workshops

On Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, the University of California, Riverside will be hosting two workshops presented by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs. There is no cost to attend this workshop, except for parking.

#### 11:00 AM – 12 PM - Education Abroad

The Education Abroad workshop will cover services and assistance while abroad, managing crisis and non-emergencies, and how to best prepare students for going abroad.

#### 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM - International Student Services

The International Student Services workshop will cover visa application process and facilitation of travel for international students.

The mission of Consular Affairs is to protect the lives and interests of American citizens abroad; much of their outreach focuses on safe and informed travel, and how to stay connected to U.S. embassies and consulates overseas. Consular Affairs is also responsible for the adjudication of visas and passports and for promoting international exchange and understanding.

**To attend, RSVP to LaSharon McLean Perez at [lasharon@ucr.edu](mailto:lasharon@ucr.edu) by August 9th.**

If you have specific questions or issues that you would like the CA representative to address, please forward LaSharon the information.

Hanna Lee  
Chair  
Coordinator, International Student Programs  
Marymount California University  
[HLee@marymountpv.edu](mailto:HLee@marymountpv.edu)

## International Student Update

### **I-94 Automation is Here!**

NAFSA provides an excellent compilation of DHS resources here:

[http://www.nafsa.org/Resource\\_Library\\_Assets/Regulatory\\_Information/Updates\\_On\\_Electronic\\_Form\\_I-94\\_Process/](http://www.nafsa.org/Resource_Library_Assets/Regulatory_Information/Updates_On_Electronic_Form_I-94_Process/)

In addition, find some very helpful hints from members in the International Student Advising Network forum to help students find their I-94 data when the standard information entered does not produce results, here: <http://www.nafsa.org/groups/forums.aspx?groupid=9&g=posts&t=39823&boardid=269466>

**Of Note:** Students with automated I-94 and expired visas who wish to travel on “automatic revalidation” of their visa should print out their I-94 data before travelling. Otherwise, the airlines might not allow them to board their flight back to the U.S. due to the expired visa. (*Open Mtg:ISS Travel Issues/NAFSA 2013 Nat'l Conference*)

### **Join the International Student Advising Network**

Connect with your NAFSA colleagues to ask and share advice and feedback on concerns and issues. Select from a variety of resources developed to help you do your job better, including assistance with understanding immigration regulations, building successful orientation programs, intercultural communications advice, best practices for developing appropriate office policies, and supporting internationalization on your campus. <http://www.nafsa.org/groups/home.aspx?groupid=9>

Olga Piro  
International Student Representative  
Ph: [858-534-6784](tel:858-534-6784)  
[opiro@ucsd.edu](mailto:opiro@ucsd.edu)

## International Scholar Update

### **Scam Alert: People Falsely Representing Themselves as DHS Employees Calling Indian Nationals**

There have been recent reports from several institutions regarding Indian nationals in the U.S. receiving phone calls from people misrepresenting themselves as DHS employees, saying that there are discrepancies in the foreign national's immigration cases, and that they must pay a penalty via money transfer to resolve the inconsistencies and to avoid adverse immigration actions such as deportation. Apparently, the phone calls have come from numbers with 567 (Ohio) and 202 (Washington D.C.) area codes. Please alert your foreign nationals to be aware of the scam and to let their respective international Office know if they have received such phone calls.

## **JULY 2013 VISA BULLETIN**

The Department of State has released the Visa Bulletin for July 2013 which contains not only the usual priority dates, but a prediction on movements with priority dates and visa numbers through October 2013.

Movement for the Indian EB-2 category is expected to come in August or September brought by the availability of "otherwise unused" EB-2 preference numbers. However, it is expected that such move will "generate heaving new applicant demand," specifically due to Indian nationals upgrading from EB-3 category, which may impact the cutoff date in fiscal year 2014.

[http://travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin/bulletin\\_5993.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin/bulletin_5993.html)

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## **International Enrollment Management (IEM) Updates**

### **Conditional Admission**

Many institutions have used conditional admission programs to admit students and issue I-20s for degree programs when a student does not meet the English proficiency requirement for admission to the program. The student is required to attend the school's Intensive English Program (IEP) before they can be fully admitted to the program. The SEVP draft policy guidance on Bridge Programs and Conditional Admission ([http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/assets/pdfs/PG\\_1210-03\\_Bridge-Conditional.draft.vf.pdf](http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/assets/pdfs/PG_1210-03_Bridge-Conditional.draft.vf.pdf)) will ask institutions to change that practice. Some institutions have come up with creative ways to preserve the benefit these programs have to international student recruitment while being compliant with the regulations.

1. Issue a conditional admission letter along with a language training I-20. This preserves the connection between the degree program and the IEP.
2. Remove English proficiency as a requirement at admission. Students may still be required to take ESL courses based on a campus based placement test. In this case an institution may issue an I-20 for a degree program even though the student may be taking ESL as part of that program because all admission requirements have been met.

### **Upcoming Training**

Webinar

Successful International Recruitment: With and Without Agents – July 26<sup>th</sup>

[http://www.nafsa.org/Attend\\_Events/Webinars/Successful\\_International\\_Student\\_Recruitment\\_With\\_and\\_Without\\_Agents/](http://www.nafsa.org/Attend_Events/Webinars/Successful_International_Student_Recruitment_With_and_Without_Agents/)  
[NAFSA E-Learning](#)

Introduction to Armchair International Student Recruitment – July 26 registration deadline, course begins July 1<sup>st</sup>

[http://www.nafsa.org/Attend\\_Events/Training/E\\_Learning/Courses/Introduction\\_to\\_Armchair\\_International\\_Student\\_Recruitment/](http://www.nafsa.org/Attend_Events/Training/E_Learning/Courses/Introduction_to_Armchair_International_Student_Recruitment/)

Nathan Jensen, International Enrollment Representative  
Director, International Center  
Orange Coast College  
[njensen@occ.cccd.edu](mailto:njensen@occ.cccd.edu)

## **Intensive English Program (IEP) Updates**

Call for concerns and topics: With the creation of a free standing IEP representative, we want to hear from you! What issues are you dealing with at your IEP center or department? What would you like to learn more about? Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Mackenzie Bristow via email [mbristow@els.edu](mailto:mbristow@els.edu)

Two important articles to read related to the most recent developments from NAFSA national

USA schools seek clarity on conditional entry  
<http://www.hothousemedia.com/stmnews/news/130606-USA-school-seek.htm>

Educators Find Federal Views on Student Visas 'Surprising and Frustrating'  
<http://chronicle.com/article/Student-Visa-Issue-Frustrates/139589/>

Mackenzie Bristow, Intensive English Program (IEP) Representative  
Center Director  
ELS Language Centers, La Verne  
[mbristow@els.edu](mailto:mbristow@els.edu)

## Education Abroad Updates

### Gilman, Boren & Fulbright Workshop

On July 23, the [Gilman](#) Scholarship Program, the [Boren](#) Awards Program and the [Fulbright](#) U.S. Student Program will hold a workshop for advisors at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. There is no cost to attend this workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to summarize the goals of each program, to review the application process and to provide tips on helping students submit competitive applications.

If you are interested in attending, RSVP at this link – <https://www.iiefeedback.org/se.ashx?s=61250225292E09E5> – by July 15, 2013. Please contact [boren@iie.org](mailto:boren@iie.org) with any questions regarding the workshop.

### Lessons from Abroad Returnee Conference – Los Angeles

Have your study abroad students mark their calendar! Lessons from Abroad Returnee Conference on Sunday, November 3rd, 2013 at the University of Southern California. [Check out photos from the 2012 LA conference!](#) This is a great opportunity to network with other students and professionals. We ask that you dress **business casual** and bring several copies of your **resume**. Registration is \$15 for students and will open on August 1st. For more information go to <http://www.lessonsfromabroad.org/losangeles/>.

### It's Time—Register for the 2013 CIEE Annual Conference!

November 20-23, 2013; Minneapolis, Minnesota

Don't miss out on attending the leading conference on international education—register for the [2013 CIEE Annual Conference](#) today! During four exciting, informative days, leaders and experienced professionals in the field of international education will come together to continue professional development, network with colleagues, and interact with experts in the field. Learn more about this year's featured events and sessions, discover how to become an exhibitor, and register for the conference by visiting our [website](#). If you have any questions, contact us at [conference@ciee.org](mailto:conference@ciee.org).

### Accepting Applications for the 2013-2014 Diversity Abroad Internship

Diversity Abroad announces our annual internship program! This is a great opportunity for a graduate student or recent graduate interested in getting into and learning more about the field of international education and education abroad. Please share the announcement with your constituencies.

Through the intensive 9-month full-time Diversity Abroad Internship Program, interns, who are interested in entering the field of international education with an emphasis on working with diverse and underrepresented students, will work with students and international education professionals at colleges/universities and provider organizations to increase participation and promote diversity and

inclusive good practices in international education. We are looking for hardworking, self-motivated, results driven workers who have demonstrated an interest in working in the field of international education and who have a passion for making international education opportunities available for all students. **Contact Information:** Antonio Reyes, email: [jobs@diversityabroad.org](mailto:jobs@diversityabroad.org), job URL: <http://jobs.diversitynetwork.org>

### **Australian International Education Conference**

October 8-11, 2013, Canberra

The 2013 Australian International Education Conference (AIEC) theme is *Global Imperative - Local Realities*. Book before Friday, 5 July 2013 and save \$200 off the price of a full delegate registration. This year's AIEC will focus on the key global, regional and local drivers that influence and shape international education. For more information and to register, please see [www.aiec.idp.com](http://www.aiec.idp.com).

### **Introducing Fulbright Flex Awards**

Deadline to Apply: August 1, 2013

In order to engage U.S. scholars unable to spend extended periods of time abroad, the Fulbright Scholar Program welcomes applications from faculty and researchers who propose multiple, short-term stays in the host country over a period of two to three years. Flex Awards are also designed for scholars who require multiple visits abroad to accomplish their research objectives. In addition to their research activities, Flex award scholars will be required to give public talks, participate in seminars, mentor students, and otherwise engage with the host country academic community. Specific details on invitation requirements and grant length can be found in each individual [award listing](#). For more information about this new program model, visit the [website](#) or the [Fulbright Scholar Blog](#). To learn about the full range of Fulbright Scholar Program opportunities and eligibility requirements, visit: [www.iie.org/cies](http://www.iie.org/cies).

LaSharon McLean Perez  
Education Abroad Representative  
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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  
Email: [region12south@gmail.com](mailto:region12south@gmail.com)