

NAFSA Region XII Southern District Newsletter

(September 2014)

Announcements from Southern District Team

Greetings Southern California District!

SoCal District Team Updates

Thank you to Mackenzie Bristol, formerly of ELS Language Centers - La Vern, for her service to the District as the Chair-Elect and congratulations on her new position at Emory University in Atlanta. Region VII's gain means the SoCal District is in search of a new Chair-Elect. If you are interested or know someone who would be a great candidate, watch for the Survey Monkey nomination ballot coming in early September. **Chair-Elect:** As part of the "Chair stream," the Chair-Elect is a one-year position, but the Chair-Elect is expected to then serve as Chair and then Past-Chair, for one year each.

In October 2014, Mardy Arenas, Intensive English Programs (IEP) Rep, will be on Sabbatical Leave for 3 months. As a Center Director of a private language school, she wants to spend these 12-weeks doing what her students do: study a language abroad in a full immersion environment. So that's exactly what she is going to do, though with a specific focus in mind: The Student Experience. Understanding and gaining insight to the student experience is the first step to improving it. In analyzing student evaluations she has received from students this year, the top three student action drivers identified are the quality of the teachers, the amount learned, and staff helpfulness. When she returns to her post in December, she will surely have better insight into the minds of full immersion language students thereby allowing her to provide an even better program.

Travel Grants

Applications are now available for the (Region XII/Region I) [Bi-Regional Conference](#) in Portland! All four districts of Region XII (Hawaii/Pacific Islands, Nevada, Northern California, and Southern California) have their own respective Travel Grant Awards. **Deadline for submission is Friday, September 12, 2014.**

Applicants must submit their application online at <http://form.jotformpro.com/form/41906768883976>, as well as upload the financial worksheet when applying. The financial worksheet can be downloaded at https://ucsf.co1.qualtrics.com/CP/File.php?F=F_bOUi11ZAqoRqubj. Region XII Conference attendees are eligible to apply for a Travel Grant. Travel grants are open to NAFSA national members as well as non-members however preference will be given to NAFSA members. For questions regarding the Travel Grant process, please contact the Chair – Southern California District at dyoder@caltech.edu. Learn more about Region XII at (www.nafsa.org/regionxii). See you in Portland!

SoCal District Events

The July Southern California District/ LA PIER sponsored event was a big success with nearly 90 participants gathering at OTIS College of Art and Design to hear presentations by SEVP Field Representative Adel Nol and four Homeland Security Investigations (HIS) Special Agents. A special thanks to our presenters and to Darren Grosch at [OTIS](#) for hosting this event. Look for more SoCal District events coming this fall as we wait for approval from Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to offer tours of the remodeled Tom Bradley International Terminal at LAX.

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International Student Updates

Southern California's First SEVP Field Rep Introduced @ L.A. PIER

Many of us had the pleasure of meeting Adeli Nol, the new SEVP Field Representative for the Eastern Los Angeles area, at the July 25th L.A. PIER Meeting hosted by Otis College of Art & Design, where Adeli made her presentation. Field Reps serve as direct day-to-day liaisons between SEVP and certified schools, and those schools seeking initial SEVP certification. Prior to becoming a Field Rep, Adeli worked as a DSO at UC Riverside, so we are happy to have a knowledgeable liaison who has "been there/done that" to provide guidance with our SEVIS- and regulations-related issues and concerns. We look forward to meeting additional Field Reps for all of our regions in the coming year.

Consular Consolidated Database: Updates on Operational Status

Are your students still experiencing delays obtaining their visas due to the recent DOS database glitch? Stay up-to-date on the situation via this website: <http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english/news/ccd-performance-issues.html>

Deadline Near for Public Comment on SEVP Draft Policy Guidance: *The Form I-20 and English Proficiency Field*

The comment period for this guidance will close on September 8. If this issue is of concern to you, don't miss this opportunity to let your voice be heard. Access the draft policy and instructions to comment here: <http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevp-guidance-for-comment>

Join the International Student Advising Network

- Connect with your NAFSA colleagues to ask and share advice and feedback on concerns and issues.
- Post questions about day-to-day operations of your office, advising, campus or immigration policy, or whatever you need to know to make your professional life better.
- August topic submitted with most views (433!): [Policy & practice query: Form I-20 issuance based on unofficial transcripts?](#)
- Join now: <http://www.nafsa.org/groups/home.aspx?groupid=9>

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Education Abroad Updates

Open Leadership Positions with NAFSA

Build your résumé and grow your professional network. Volunteer today for NAFSA's Education Abroad Knowledge Community (EA KC), Education Abroad Regulatory Practice (EA RP) Committee, or one of many subcommittee positions. All open positions can be viewed at www.nafsa.org/openpositions. Visit www.nafsa.org/applynow to submit your application by **September 15!**

Japan Exchange and Teaching Program (JET) Workshop

The University of California, Riverside is pleased to host the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program (JET) Workshop on Tuesday, October 7. The Japan Exchange and Teaching Program seeks to help enhance internationalization in Japan by promoting mutual understanding between Japan and other nations. The program also aims to improve foreign language education in Japan and to encourage international exchange at the local level by fostering ties between Japanese youth and foreign youth.

JET representatives will host a two part workshop for advisors and prospective applicants as follows:

- General Information Session - 4pm-5pm
- Application Workshop (Steps to Applying) – 5pm-6pm

Space is limited, so reserve your seat today by emailing lasharon@ucr.edu. The priority registration deadline is **Friday, September 19, 2014**.

Parking is \$5. Workshops will be held in the Highlander Union Building, room 355.

Workshop: Developing Your International Risk Management Action Plan

The third offering of "[Developing Your International Risk Management Action Plan](#)," will be held **September 20-21**, in Louisville, KY. This seminar is designed for teams of risk management and education abroad professionals to attend together. These institutional teams will spend a day and a half with experts in both fields to:

- Create an international risk management action plan for *their institution*
- Discuss specific *operational, financial, and strategic* aspects of risk management
- Learn about *future trends* in both study abroad and risk management.

Live Chat: Creating an Effective Study Abroad Career Integration Plan on Your Campus

NAFSA is hosting a [free live chat](#) on **September 25** at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) to discuss "Creating an Effective Study Abroad Career Integration Plan on Your Campus." Help your students get more out of their study abroad programs by harmonizing career services and study abroad advising practices. You may also download the [Study Abroad Career Plan](#) from the NAFSA website, a resource to help advise students on how to integrate their study abroad experience into their career plan.

Los Angeles Area Education Abroad After Work Gathering

Come meet and mingle with fellow education abroad colleagues at an after work gathering at Edendale in Silverlake, on Thursday, **October 9**, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Kick off the school year, enjoy drinks and appetizers, and connect with colleagues in EA. To help us prepare Edendale for our group size, RSVP to nsd04747@pomona.edu.

Edendale is located at 2838 Rowena Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90039. This event is co-hosted by NAFSA Region XII and NAFSA Region XII Southern California District.

Lessons from Abroad Returnee Conference, Los Angeles

On behalf of the Los Angeles Lessons from Abroad planning committee, I would invite you to SAVE-THE-DATE for the Lessons From Abroad Returnee Conference: Los Angeles hosted at the **CSU Long Beach** on **Saturday, November 1, 2014** from **9:30 am to 5:00 pm**.

The conference is a continued collaboration between regional study abroad offices and program providers, with the goal of addressing the often overlooked needs of recently returned study abroad alumni. The keynote presentation will offer insight into how study abroad translates socially, academically, and professionally. Afternoon breakout sessions will provide the tools necessary for practical application of these lessons.

The overall learning objectives for participants are many, but include the following:

- To foster a forum where returnees can reflect on the present and future value of their overseas experience
- To build networks of personal and professional resources for future endeavors in the field of international education
- To learn how to market the transferable skills gained from study abroad to the professional marketplace
- To discover professional opportunities with international objectives
- To find teaching opportunities worldwide
- To consider extending study abroad to graduate school
- To connect with other study abroad alumni, professionals, and organizations

We hope that you will continue to share the information about this wonderful opportunity with your students. In order to help with recruitment efforts, we have created promotional flyers and posters and please contact us if you would like copies of these for your office. You may consider other forms of reaching students, such as advertising the conference on your university ListServ or Student Forum, or via social media. You can also direct students to like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/LALessonsfromAbroad

Registration is NOW OPEN and available at www.lessonsfromabroad.org/losangeles. The cost is \$15 for students who register online before the event. It is \$20 for study abroad professionals to attend.

For additional questions, please feel free to contact Katie Roller – Director, Office of International Programs, Whittier College (Kroller@whittier.edu) or Jay Bartletti – Regional Director, The Education Abroad Network (Jay.bartletti@teanabroad.org). We welcome your and your students' participation and hope to see you at the conference in November!

Ebola Resource Page for Education Abroad

Wondering how to advise students and develop an institutional response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa? Check out NAFSA's [Ebola Resource Page for Education Abroad](#) for more information on other institutions' responses, news articles, and resources for travelers.

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Community College Updates

Governor Jerry Brown's 2014-15 State Budget Act:

A total of \$156.3 billion has been appropriated from the General Fund and other state funds. The budget makes substantial progress toward correcting fiscal problems, including \$5.1 billion to eliminate delayed payments to school and community college districts. Community colleges will receive almost \$400 million in new funding, including \$140 million to increase attendance by 2.75% and \$170 million for counseling and other student support services.

City College of San Francisco Given More Time To Meet Accreditation:

Ed Lee, the mayor of San Francisco and [Brice W. Harris](#), the Chancellor of the California Community College system asked to give City College of San Francisco more time to meet accreditation requirements. They wrote in the [article](#), Give City College more time to meet accreditation requirements: "We stand with the students at City College of San Francisco. Our offices have worked together since July of last year when the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges threatened its loss of accreditation."

Senator Paul Simon Award Applications For 2015 Now Available:

Two community colleges, Green River Community College and Lone Star College System have received NAFSA's 2014 [Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization](#). This achievement demonstrates that community colleges are making considerable progress in their international efforts and are providing exemplary strategies in their approach to internationalization.

The Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization recognizes colleges and universities that are making significant, well-planned, well-executed, and well-documented progress toward comprehensive internationalization—especially those using innovative and creative approaches.

The Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization is granted to a limited number of institutions each year—usually no more than five.

For application details and information, please visit the

link: http://www.nafsa.org/Explore_International_Education/Impact/Awards/Senator_Paul_Simon_Award/Simon_Award_How_to_Apply/#senator

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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 California District Team
Email: region12south@gmail.com

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Region12SoCalDistrict" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to region12south+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.