

## Interchange

Dec 2010 Newsletter

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### From Outgoing Chair—Samantha Slaight

**Thank you for a truly remarkable year!** It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your 2010 Chair for Region III. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support and your dedication to NAFSA and NAFSA Region III and to the promotion of International Education. Despite one of the worst national economic downturns that many of us can remember, we defied all odds and had a wonderfully successful conference in New Orleans. Our vibrant, strong Region III team worked together and accomplished so much to make the New Orleans conference great. The energy that this year's team radiated was unlike any that I have experienced. They came together, each bringing their own special strengths and talents, and during the rush



and hubbub before, during and after the conference, showed the value of true leadership. I want to recognize and thank this year's team as one of the most remarkable teams of whom I have had the pleasure of working. I also want to

thank all of the Region III members and volunteers. You are the reason that Region III is one of the best!

### New Orleans Conference

At the 2008 conference in Merida I found out I would serve as Chair for the conference in New Orleans. I cannot tell you how excited I was! New Orleans has long been one of my favorite cities. While I am not from there, many of my relatives called New Orleans home and I have always felt a special kinship with the city. As many of you know, the region picked New Orleans as a conference site at a time when the city and the surrounding area had been devastated by Hurricane Katrina. While many other conference planners were either pulling out or putting their plans on hold, Region III knew that New Orleans would bounce back and we could plan on having one of the best conferences ever.

We felt that it was a wonderful tribute to the courageous people of the Crescent City for Region III to hold our conference in New Orleans.

The conference was a great success. We experienced a tremendous growth of newcomers, 107 participants received training in the six pre-conference workshops, and 370 registrants attended the conference. They were all given a warm Region III and Louisiana welcome. We were thrilled to offer 61 exciting, informational sessions. Three sessions were picked as Conference Highlights:

- Screening of the Feature Documentary "Crossing Borders" with the film Director, presenters, Arnd Wachter and Melissa Gluckmann
- A Language Immersion Experience: A Turkish Only Turkish Lesson, presenter, Rebecca Guler
- Lagniappe for Program Coordinators: Advising Study Abroad Students with Disabilities, presenter Laura Semenow

Between sessions and at the Exhibitor's Spotlight, there was ample opportunity to visit, welcome, and get to know our exhibitors. Other conference events included an inspiring Plenary Luncheon, Newcomer's Reception, state breakfasts, and an All Conference Reception in which conference attendees took part in a traditional New Orleans-style parade, complete with festive umbrellas and lively music provided by local entertainers. In addition to the usual conference Restaurant Hops, local arrangement members added some New Orleans spice and made Jazz Hops available. Finally, we enjoyed an off-site event at the National World War II museum. There we enjoyed the (continued next page)

## Congratulations, 2010 Region III Awardees

Dr. Bob Crosier - Plaque for Outstanding Service

Diana Klinghagen - Certificate for Special Service to International Education

David Ware - Region III NAFSAn of Today

### Outgoing Chair (continued)

exclusive 4-D movie titled *Beyond All Boundaries*, a tour of the museum, the silent auction, exceptional Cajun food, and a fun night of dancing to the sounds of traditional New Orleans music.

#### Special Guests and Awards

At this year's conference, newcomers and seasoned NAFSAns alike were honored and entertained during the Plenary Luncheon by our speaker. Dr. Al Kennedy, noted author and historian, gave us a historical and lively glimpse into the life of Big Chief Harrison in his speech, *A Look into the World of the Mardi Gras Indians*. NAFSA staff DeDe Long, Public Policy, and Kalilah Long, Marketing, also honored us with their presence and represented support from NAFSA National.

Three very special NAFSAns received awards during the conference. At the Plenary Luncheon Dr. Bob Crosier was presented the Plaque for Outstanding Service by Sue Marlay, past chair of Region III. This award recognizes Bob as a Region III NAFSAn whose sustained, outstanding contributions to the field have had national impact. The Certificate for Special Service to International Education was presented to Diana Klinghagen for her extraordinary service in Region III. It was presented by Sunny Garner, Region III's Two-Year Institutions Liaison. And finally, a new award, Region III NAFSAn of Today, to recognize untraditional NAFSAns for contributions to NAFSA and Region III, was given to David Ware. The award was announced during the off-site event.

#### Many Thanks

The New Orleans conference could not have been

successful without the contributions of many generous volunteers. Region III owes a big debt of thanks and gratitude to Alea Cot, our Conference Planner and Dana Criswell, chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, and the Local Arrangements Committee members. These dedicated folks did an outstanding job planning and organizing events, volunteers, and tasks too numerous to count. Others conference volunteers deserving of many thanks:

- Taking care of conference registrations for the second year was our hard working registrar, Cory Owens, who did a remarkable job along with Glenys Natera from Palisades. Assisting them were volunteers recruited by the Local Arrangements Committee.
- The accomplished staff at the Intercontinental Hotel-New Orleans. Meaghan and the hotel staff were terrific, accommodating our needs and making us feel very welcome.
- Jane Clarke who just this year came on the team as Development Chair, secured 40 exhibitors and over \$36,000 in fundraising! Given the economic climate, this was truly astounding. Thank you, Jane, for all of your hard work.
- All of you who contributed to the silent auction and service project. Because of the generosity of Region III conference attendees, the silent auction proceeds will provide for several new NAFSAns to attend the 2011 conference in Oklahoma City plus \$107 was given to STAIR (Start the Adventure in Reading), a group that provides reading tutors to at-risk children in New Orleans public schools.

## Outgoing Chair (continued)

### Beyond the Conference

Region III would also like to thank:

- Our KCs and our RegBuds for the tremendous work that you have done throughout the year. Congratulations to Monica Sharp and Adam Harold as you go on to the National NAFSA team. We appreciate all that you have done for us here at Region III. We also appreciate and want to thank Loveness Schafer who volunteered to stay on for another year.
- Our exceptional Academy VII coaches, Jane Clarke and Barbara Harrison. Because of the overwhelming interest in the academy this year, it was necessary to bring on two coaches. Jane and Barbara were tremendous coaches and we thank you for your service and sharing your expertise with our academy members. Next year's coach is Shelby Cearley, who was also an Academy Graduate. Thank you Shelby. We are honored to have you as the coach for Academy VIII.
- An additional heartfelt thank you goes to our wonderful Region III Team State Liaisons. Rachel Daroca (Louisiana), Claudia Graves (North Texas), Sophie Teasdale (South Texas), Diana Klinghagen (Oklahoma), and Takeo Suzuki (Arkansas) organized and facilitated the very successful state meetings. We also thank you for approving and funding Region III's representatives who attended Advocacy Day last March 16 and 17 in Washington, DC.
- Thank you to all of the team members who are cycling off at the end of the year. Your time and service to NAFSA Region III is greatly appreciated.
- And, finally, I would like to acknowledge two NAFSAns who will be leaving their current team positions at the end of the month: Meg Morgan, outgoing Newsletter Editor, and Mark Powell, outgoing TechSig. Both have done a tremendous job keeping the channels of information open and flowing. Those positions will be replaced by a new team position, Communications Liaison. Meg has done an exemplary job in publishing Interchange newsletters, conference mailers, and conference programs. We deeply appreciate your time and your patience. Mark, who has been our TechSig for several years, will be sorely missed! Mark made sure that our sound and video equipment was perfect at conferences, throughout the year he sent e-mails to Region III members to keep

everyone informed of newsworthy information and job offers, and maintained the Region III website. I have probably not mentioned all that these two tireless NAFSAns have done. Thank you both for your outstanding service to Region III.

### Moving Forward

As we move into 2011, I would like to welcome all of our new team members and welcome back the seasoned members. A special welcome goes to our new Region III Chair, Glenn Freeman. Glenn has been a member of NAFSA for ten years and served as the Oklahoma State Liaison before becoming our Chair Elect. Over the past year, I have had the pleasure of working with Glenn and I can truly say that he is one extraordinary NAFSAn. Please join me in supporting Glenn in the coming year. He will be working with another experienced NAFSAn and one of our past chairs, Brenda Robati, who is the conference planner for the Oklahoma City Conference in October 2011. In addition, we also congratulate and welcome Claudia Graves as our new Chair-elect.

In the coming year, Region III, like many other regions, may continue to be hit with economic uncertainties. However, we are a strong, extremely innovative region and wonderfully supportive of each other as we all work together. Thank you to all the tireless NAFSAns who give unselfishly of your time to make Region III so great.

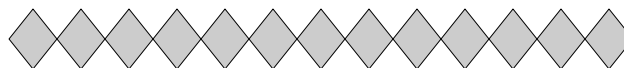
My best wishes to all of you for the New Year.

Sincerely,

*Samanthia Slaight*

Past Chair Region III

NAFSA: Association of International Educators



*Farewell...*

## Incoming Chair – Glenn Freeman

I hope all of you enjoyed the conference in New Orleans as much as I did! The wide range of sessions offered something for every interest in our profession and given our difficult economic challenges the attendance was very strong. Congratulations to our Region III Chair, Samantha Slaight, the entire Region III Team and the amazing Local Arrangements members for executing such a successful conference!



As we look to the future, I am happy to say that we have a very strong Region III Team lined up for next year with several new members. Our Team, Conference Planner and the Local Arrangements Committee have already been hard at work planning our next conference which will be in Oklahoma City at the Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center Hotel, October 24 –27, 2011. We will be offering a large variety of workshops and sessions as well as many opportunities for professional networking. For those

of you who have never been to Oklahoma City you are in for a treat as it is a lively, fun, and affordable city. For those who have been there before, you will be surprised to see the many changes and tremendous growth!

I am looking forward to January when I will begin my term as Region III Chair. I am very proud of our Region III Team and even more proud of all the NAFSA members and international educators in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas who make our region so strong and respected. I know how hard each of you work and how dedicated you are to International education! It is a great honor for me to serve you!

See you next year in OKC!

Glenn Freeman  
Chair-Elect, NAFSA Region III



## Development—Jane Clarke

A huge thank you to the 40 exhibitors, the multiple advertisers and the wonderful sponsors who attended, supported and sponsored events at the New Orleans conference. A grand total of \$36,030 was received. Thank you to all who contributed. You're simply the best! Your support is greatly appreciated.

My first year serving as Development Chair has definitely been a learning experience. It was certainly a challenging and exciting year. Every day I seemed to learn something new. Teamwork is essential to organizing a successful conference and I'm so fortunate to work with such dedicated professionals. Region III Rocks! I can't wait for next year's conference in Oklahoma City.

Working as Development Chair has allowed me to meet many new colleagues. The capacity to reach out to friends and co-workers within the region is a

truly rewarding experience. I always appreciate feedback so please feel free to contact me with any wonderful ideas.

Work will begin in Vancouver to enlist exhibitors, advertisers and sponsors for the upcoming Regional Conference in Oklahoma City. I'll be sure to visit with you if you participated in this past conference in New Orleans. I want to ensure we have a "sold-out" venue again.

In the meantime, I thank you all for your continued support. Please visit those who supported the Region III conference by accessing their web sites at <http://www.nafsa3.org/conferences/reg10/10highlights.asp#exhibitors>.

See you next year in Oklahoma City!

Jane Clarke  
Development Chair



## Intensive English Programs—Rebecca Guler

Many of you were pleasantly surprised at the wider variety of presentation topics at this fall's regional conference, and welcomed the choice it provided, particularly to those NAFSAns whose jobs don't involve a lot of SEVIS issues. This variety is possible because of those who volunteered to present on a topic that was helpful to a mixed audience, and was based on personal experience and/or knowledge.

As an ESL professional, consider what you have to offer to our region. This fall's conference included a Turkish-only Turkish lesson, which not only ESL people enjoyed, but a rather mixed audience found helpful. At the end of the language lesson, everyone discussed what elements of the lesson (repetition, patiently and slowly explaining, giving written as well as verbal references, and using body language) could easily be applied to communicating with students with limited language skills. Perhaps next conference other staff with language teaching experience might consider a presentation that would teach a variety of professionals in International Education strategies to better communicate with second language learners and incoming international students? Food for thought.

One important upcoming change that ESL programs including future graduate students should be aware of is that the GRE exam will be going through major changes in 2011, and these changes will affect both



the way we prepare our students for the exam, and the counseling we need

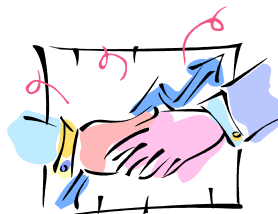
to offer them regarding the timing of their transition between ESL study and university. Here is a summary of the changes:

### Regarding exam content and format

- The verbal section will no longer include vocabulary without context! Hooray! The bane of international students, the dreaded random vocabulary inside antonyms and analogies, will no longer exist! Vocabulary will be within context, in text completion, sentence equivalencies, and reading comprehension questions, for a greater overall emphasis on reading and higher-level cognitive skills.
- The quantitative section will feature more questions requiring data interpretation and real-life scenarios. This means more graphs and diagrams. Some questions will not be multiple choice, but will

require the student to type an answer into a box. In addition, an on-screen calculator will be included in the new test.

- Test takers will now be able to mark and skip questions to return to, and change answers within a section.



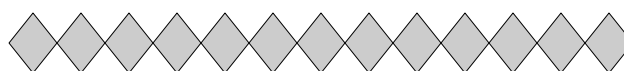
- The scoring of the exam will change. The new scale will be 130-170 for each section, reported in one-point increments, so that a difference of several points on the new scale is meaningful.

### Schedule of new exam and test score reporting

- The revised GRE exam will begin in August 2011. Gear up to start teaching the format and adjusted skills necessary for the new exam by next summer. Consider and budget for new test preparation materials.
- Tests administered during August through early November will not receive scores until November 15, so students who need to have GRE scores prior to November 15 need to take the current form of the exam BEFORE AUGUST so that they can meet admissions deadlines and matriculate into the university and avoid potential SEVIS issues.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you! I loved meeting so many of you at the fall conference and sharing ideas and suggestions. Please let me know if you're looking for ways to be involved in the region.

Rebecca Guler  
Intensive English Programs Liaison



### NAFSA State websites

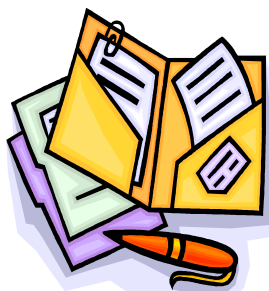
Arkansas <http://www.nafsa3.org/arkansas/index.htm>  
Louisiana <http://www.nafsa3.org/louisiana/site/index.html>  
Oklahoma [http://union.okstate.edu/iss/Nafsa/StateofOklahoma NAFSA.htm](http://union.okstate.edu/iss/Nafsa/StateofOklahoma%20NAFSA.htm)  
Texas <http://www.texasnafsa.org/>



## Registrar—Cory Owen

Another year has passed and I can't begin to express my gratitude for all the wonderful NAFSAns that came out to our 2010 Region III conference! We were thrilled to be back in New Orleans (our last conference there was in 2003!) and the city treated us well, as usual. There was a ton of great food, lots of fun activities, and plenty of good music — this guaranteed that the near 400 attendees all had a blast. With almost a quarter of our attendees participating in the pre-conference workshops, you could feel the buzz of knowledge exchange all around as NAFSAns met up to exchange stories, give tips, and pass out business cards.

I'd like to thank Glenys Natera specifically for all her help in managing the registrations and making



everything a smooth process. As we continue to grow as a region, it is with people like her and all of our countless volunteers that make our conference as successful as it is.

Each year we look to improve your experience with registering for the Region III conference. You can expect a new form that will help streamline the registration process for next year. As always, we encourage online, early registration to help speed up the check-in time so that you can enjoy the conference as quickly as possible! I look forward to seeing everyone in Oklahoma City!

*[Editor note: Region III conference registrations are processed by Palisades Convention Management. Glenys Natera is a Palisades representative.]*



## Education Abroad — Laura Moix

### Recent Regional Meeting

The Region III Conference in New Orleans this past October was wonderful. We had many presentations relating to education abroad, including: visa updates, travel policies for study in countries with US travel warnings, strategies for advising study abroad students with disabilities, on-line pre-departure, on-line program evaluation assessment, career tips, a case study for sending engineering students abroad, presentation tactics for education abroad, and social networking while abroad. Thank you to all of our colleagues who presented their ideas!

### Upcoming State Meetings

Watch for information on when and where your State Meeting will be held this coming spring and then...**Propose a session.** We need you to share your ideas and experience in order to make these conferences as beneficial as possible. With the uncertain economic situation, many EA professionals are limited to attending only the state meetings, so it is extremely valuable to offer as many perspectives and experiences in our field at this level. And, it is a

great way for those looking to get more involved in International Education and/or NAFSA to get started!

### Upcoming Annual Meeting: Vancouver May 29-June 3, 2011

Remember the annual NAFSA conference will be in Vancouver May 29-June 3. Also consider the Forum conference in Boston, MA from April 6-8. There will be a wealth of information at both conferences. Don't forget, you'll need a current, valid passport for Vancouver: <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>. For more NAFSA information, see: <http://www.nafsa.org/annualconference/default.aspx>.



### In Legislative News: Easing Travel Restrictions to Cuba

Join NAFSA and the Latin American Working Group (LAWG) in Signing a [Petition](#) to President Obama asking him to use his Executive Authority to open non-tourist travel to Cuba. In 2004, the Office of Foreign Assets Control at the U.S. Department of Treasury

## Education Abroad (continued)

issued new restrictions on study abroad in Cuba. Under the new rules, which dramatically decreased the number of U.S. students studying in Cuba, study abroad programs must meet a number of criteria before they are approved by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

NAFSA is currently pursuing a dual approach on this issue. Although the president does not have the authority to open all travel to Cuba without legislation, he does have the authority to restore all non-tourist travel to Cuba, including academic travel. NAFSA primarily advocates for the administration to repeal the restrictions placed on academic travel by President Bush in 2004 that all but stopped study abroad to the island nation. However, NAFSA also supports legislation pending in Congress that would open all travel to Cuba. The U.S. government does not actively restrict travel to any other country, and we believe that Americans should have the right to choose where they would like to travel, including to Cuba.

### In Legislative News: Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act

The Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act is a visionary bill to address today's need for more Americans to know more about the rest of the world as a basic part of their undergraduate education. By numbers ranging from 77 percent to more than 90 percent, Americans believe that it is important for their children to learn other languages, study abroad, attend a college where they can interact with international students, learn about other countries and cultures, and generally be prepared for a global age, according to a national survey conducted by Lake Research Partners and the Tarrance Group.

The program's goals are to establish an innovative public-private partnership which would create a more globally informed American citizenry by:

- Increasing participation in quality study abroad programs.
- Encouraging diversity in student participation in study abroad.
- Diversifying locations of study abroad, particularly in developing countries.
- Making study abroad a cornerstone of today's higher education.

This legislation, once signed into law, will authorize the creation of the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation and will define the goals and objectives of the program. Once the foundation and program are authorized, specific funding levels will be determined through a separate appropriations process.

Recently, the Senate Appropriations Committee included initial funding for the Department of Education to start a program following the same model proposed in the Simon Act in their FY 2011 Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill. This is just the beginning of the FY 2011 budget process.

### Advocacy: Connecting Our World

Join NAFSA's new Grassroots Community on Connecting Our World. On Connecting Our World, we believe in creating a better world through international education. We are a **community of individuals taking action** to support public policies that strengthen and expand international education.



Sign up today at <http://www.nafsa.org/publicpolicy/default.aspx> to get the inside scoop on how international education changes lives, impacts your community, and shapes our global future. As part of the online community, you'll stay informed on the issues, like the Simon Bill and the easing of travel restrictions to Cuba, and join other International Education professionals in taking action by sending messages to Congress and the White House to support opportunities for living and learning across borders.

### IssueNet: Report Problems and Concerns

NAFSA members are invited to submit their problems and issues caused by government regulations and policies at [www.nafsa.org/IssueNet](http://www.nafsa.org/IssueNet). The information will be used by Regulatory Practice Subcommittees and staff from Public Policy and Professional Practice to determine NAFSA's advocacy and practice agenda. The more information and the more submissions you register, the easier it is to identify systemic problems, like visa issues, and find solutions.

Laura Moix  
Education Abroad Liaison





Registration opens March 1  
[www.nafsa.org/annualconference/](http://www.nafsa.org/annualconference/)

## Arkansas — Takeo Suzuki

### Greetings from Arkansas!

Arkansas NAFSAns will convene for the **Arkansas Annual State Meeting** on Friday, April 15, 2011 at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. Please mark your calendars! The conference agenda is currently taking shape thanks to all of the great suggestions gathered by our colleagues at the State Meeting in New Orleans. Thank you for those who attended the conference! Registration details as well as the conference agenda will be sent no later than February 1, 2010. Please watch your email for more information.



**Sue Marlay** from Arkansas State University received Life Memberships status from the 2010 NAFSA National Award Committee. Sue has served in various positions in international education at Arkansas State University (ASU) for twenty-eight years including International Student Adviser, Faculty Immigration Specialist, Director of International Student Services and Director of International Programs. She is the Poster Chair for the 2010 Annual Conference in Kansas City and also for the 2011 Annual Conference in Vancouver. Sue is clearly a life-long active NAFSA member. Life Membership is awarded each year to senior NAFSA members to recognize their achievements in advancing the goals of the association and of

international education and exchange. Individuals may be nominated upon retirement from professional responsibilities in the field of international education.

**Emily Ironside** from University of Arkansas Fayetteville and Arkansas NAFSAns want to share this bill with you. You may already be aware that a bill to restrict in-state tuition benefits to "**U.S. citizens or legal residents**" was filed in the AR House Friday afternoon by Rep. Elect Justin Harris (R-87, Prairie Grove area) and Rep. John Woods (R-93, Springdale). Here is a link to the bill: <http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2011/2011R/Pages/BillInformation.aspx?measureno=HB1008>. This bill is predominately an anti-DREAM Act bill; however, depending on how "legal resident" is defined, as written this bill seems to have implications for international students. Just wanted to share what is going on in our state legislature and with other NAFSAns.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of our Region III colleagues!

Takeo Suzuki  
 University of Arkansas Fort Smith  
 Arkansas NAFSA State Liaison





## Oklahoma — Diana Klinghagen

### What a wonderful Region III conference in New Orleans!

Thank you to our wonderful hosts and the Region III Team, led by Samantha Slaughter, Region III Chair.

### Oklahoma Presenters

Also, thank you to the following presenters from Oklahoma:

- Wendy Sheets, TU – Asia: The Study Abroad Path Less Traveled
- Monica Sharp, OU – The “P” in OPT: Practical Guidance in OPT
- Monica Sharp, OU – Employment Verification E-Verify 3.0/3.5—Not the Brees We Were Looking For
- Jeff Simpson, OSU – Assessment: Is it Working? Online Study Abroad Evaluation
- Anne Mahoney, OSU and Dr. Brecca Farr, OSU – Web 2.0 Tools – What’s Dat? It’s S’pose to be the Big Easy
- Sunny Garner, OCCC – How Do You Make a Difference: Advocate
- Sheena Connell, OU – Regulatory Roundtable: Walk-in Clinic for Your Regulatory Questions
- Jeff Simpson, OSU – The Big Easy Way to Develop Student Leaders
- Monica Sharp, OU – Introduction to NAFSA’s Statement of General Ethical Principles
- Glenn Freeman, UCO – Getting Involved in NAFSA: A Great Opportunity

### State Meeting

At this time, we have decided to cancel our 2011



conference a huge success. However, if SEVIS II happens before summer, we will plan a training session.

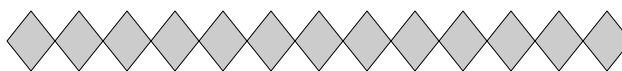
### Advocacy

If you have not received a list-serve notice from Tim Huff regarding the Advocacy scholarship and you are interested in attending Advocacy Day in Washington, DC, please contact me at [dklingha@tulsacc.edu](mailto:dklingha@tulsacc.edu) and I will send you the information.

### Award Project

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Oklahoma Liaison this year. And I was surprised and very honored to receive the Region III Certificate for Special Service to International Education. To see the main project, please go to the website [www.i-studentadvisor.com](http://www.i-studentadvisor.com) and view the completed Region III Study Guide. Several of us are now working on a “Study Oklahoma” website. I will keep you informed!!

Diana Klinghagen  
Oklahoma State Liaison

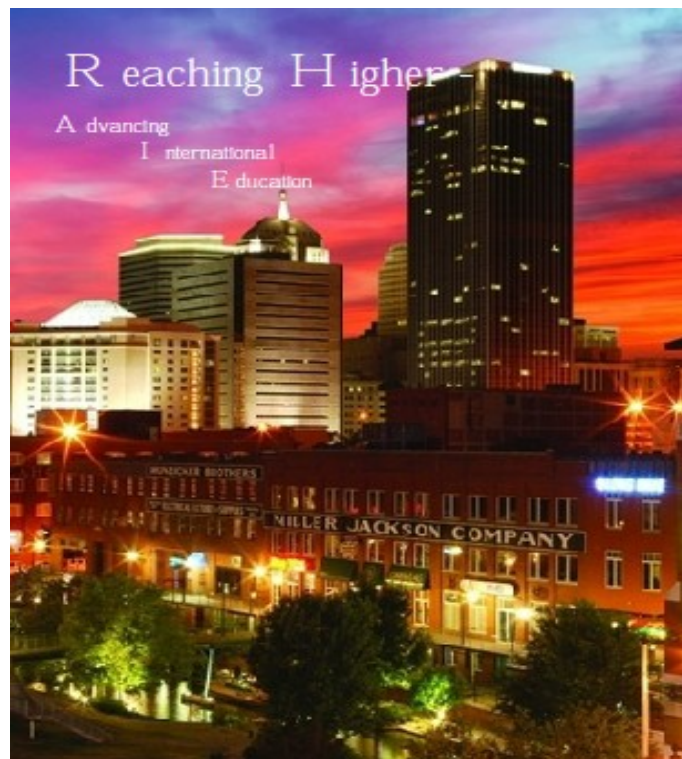


NAFSA Region III Conference

**OKLAHOMA CITY**

October 24-27, 2011





# NAFSA Region III 2011 Conference

## Oklahoma City Volunteers Needed

Session and Room Organization

Signage

Conference Logo and Program Cover

Education USA Host

Conference Bag Design

T-shirts

New-comer gifts

Shipping & Resolving Coordination

Silent Auction Coordinators

Restaurant Hops

Hospitality

Conference Evaluations

Entertainment Coordinators

To volunteer or for more information, contact Brenda Robati  
[bnr@thelanguagecompany.com](mailto:bnr@thelanguagecompany.com) or 405-715-9996

## Louisiana — Rachel Daroca

Dear Colleagues:

I hope that those of you who attended our Region III conference in October enjoyed your time in New Orleans!

### New Orleans Conference

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who gave so selflessly to ensure that our conference was a great success. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback both on the content of the conference but also on the hospitality that conference attendees encountered throughout the week.

### Fee Change

At the conference during the Louisiana state meeting, we discussed state finances and the group voted to increase our annual state meeting registration fee from \$25.00 to \$35.00 in the interest of increasing our state revenue to enable us to offer more services to our membership in the future.

By raising the registration fee, we will ensure our continuing ability to offer services to our LA NAFSA

membership in future years and we will have the capability to increase our Advocacy Day scholarship from \$300 to \$500 to enable one of our members to attend Advocacy Day each year. Additionally, we will continue to offer a subsidy of \$250 to our state representative to offset the registration fee of either the regional or national NAFSA conference each year.



### Next Liaison

During our state meeting, I mentioned to attendees that I will begin my second and final year in this role in January 2011. If anyone is interested in being considered for the role of Louisiana NAFSA Liaison to Region III for the term January 2012-January 2014, let me know prior to April. The new liaison will assume the role in January 2012.

I will send out a note regarding the state meeting logistics once I set the location and date and I look forward to seeing many of you again in April!

Best, Rachel  
Louisiana State Liaison  
[rdaroca1@lsu.edu](mailto:rdaroca1@lsu.edu)

## Texas — Claudia Graves

### Dear NAFSANS:

I hope this holiday season is bringing you lots of joy to you and your family. I am grateful for another year of wonderful colleagues, professional growth and excitement. As always, our regional conference was wonderful. Our conference in New Orleans was one of the best conferences we have seen in the last years. From the wonderful facilities at the Intercontinental Hotel to the delicious food, New Orleans was surely the perfect location for our 2010 meeting.



I'm happy to have had the chance to see many of you in New Orleans and to get to know those who joined a regional conference for

the first time. I hope you learned and enjoyed the sessions as much as we did. For my fellow Texans, thank you for joining our Texas state meeting. I hope it was a time to share information about the exciting things we keep doing as a state.

### New State Liaisons

I'm excited to welcome to our regional team our two new Texas Liaisons, Krista Tacey from Texas A&M - College Station and Kelli Anderson from Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Krista will be your new

South Texas liaison for 2010. She will be hosting our 2011 Texas state meeting at College Station. Stay tuned for more information about our next state meeting. As always, Krista will be sending a call for session proposals so I hope you consider coming to the state meeting and maybe present a session. Kelli Anderson is your new North Texas liaison and will be helping Krista put our state meeting together for next year. Please welcome your new, wonderful liaisons! I'm sure they will do a great job.

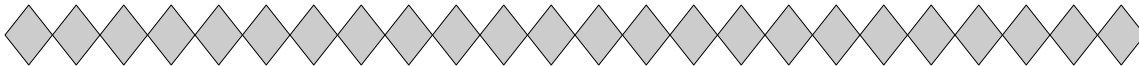


I want to thank you for allowing me to serve you as your North Texas Liaison for the last two years. I have enjoyed working with all of you, making great friends and developing professionally. I look forward to joining the chair stream next year and continue to serve the best Region in NAFSA; Region III.

I wish you a wonderful holiday season and hope to see you next year one way or another.

Best Regards,

Claudia Evelyn Graves  
North Texas Liaison and Chair-elect



## Be a Voice for International Education



**Advocacy Day in Washington — March 15 & 16**

**State Initiatives**

**Connecting Our World letter campaigns**

**Share your international story**

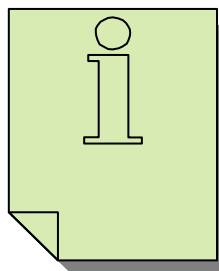
**<http://www.nafsa.org/publicpolicy/default.aspx>**

## International Student and Scholar Advising – Loveness Shafer, Monica Sharp and Adam Harold

### SCHOLAR EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

#### Regulatory Ombuds, Scholar Issues

**Greetings from your Regulatory Ombuds for scholar issues!** It was delightful to welcome you to the 2010 NAFSA Region III conference in our city of New Orleans. A big thanks to session presenters for the marvelous



number and quality of sessions presented! Unfortunately, it wasn't possible for me to attend all the great concurrent sessions, but thank you for making your presentations available on the NAFSA region III website. What a fun and informative week we had!

#### Immigration Updates

Since returning from the conference, two major immigration changes occurred, both on November 23, 2010: The new US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) fee schedule came into effect, and USCIS published a revised Form I-129. The revised Form I-129 becomes mandatory on December 22. One of the major changes is in Part 6 of the form, pertaining to "deemed exports" or the certification regarding the release of controlled technology or technical data to foreign persons in the United States, including H-1B workers.

As of the writing of this note, many of us are creating protocols for handling this part of the form. NAFSA has recommended developing an institutional sign-off form that can be completed by the office that handles "deemed export" compliance for the university. The sign-off form might include the H-1B beneficiary's name, position title, country of citizenship, country of residence, job description, and an image of the "deemed export" attestation from the I-129 itself; as well as the text of the relevant I-129 instructions. The form may also include space for the name, signature, title, and telephone number of the person who will make the attestation and the date the attestation was made.



I wish you luck working with the relevant offices on your campus to create protocols that will work for your university. Please feel free to share insight and best practices with NAFSA colleagues. NAFSA's practice advisory on this subject can be found in NAFSA's resource library at: <http://www.nafsa.org/resource-library/default.aspx?id=23261>.

Loveness Schafer  
Regulatory Ombudsperson, Scholar Issues



### GUESS WHAT?

The session proposal, entitled "Region III Highlight: Film Series: Screening of the Feature Documentary "Crossing Borders" with the Film Director," has been accepted for the 63rd NAFSA Annual Conference, to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, from May 29 - June 3, 2011. Congratulations to the presenters Arnd Wächter, Crossing Borders Education, and Melissa Gluckmann, Western Connecticut State University.

*It is highly recommended that you go to the website <http://crossingbordersfilm.org/> for more information regarding this excellent documentary.*



## International Student and Scholar Advising (continued)

### STUDENT ISSUES

**Monica Sharp, Student/Scholar Advising Liaison**  
**Adam Harold, Regulatory Ombuds (Students)**

Greetings to all Region III NAFSA members from your Regulatory Ombudsman (RegBud) and International Student and Scholar Advising liaison (KCISSS rep)! We have been honored to work with all of you to resolve your International Student and Scholar advising issues and to provide updates. We welcome any questions you may have, as well as comments and suggestions about how the regional leadership team can work to better support you.



Adam and Monica have enjoyed serving you as RegBud and KCISSS rep, respectively, for the past 2+ years. We regret that we must leave these positions at the end of this year, but are thrilled to announce that we leave you in very capable hands! Meg Morgan from UT-Dallas has been named Region III's new KCISSS Rep, while Regina Henry, Oklahoma State University, will be your new RegBud for Student Issues. Many thanks Meg and Regina.

As a reminder, if you have a question that is specific to the USCIS Texas Service Center (TSC), contact your RegBud, via IssueNet on the NAFSA website at <http://www.nafsa.org/issuenet>. The RegBud liaises with the TSC to expedite critical issues and resolve recurring problems. If you have a question about regulatory practice, regulatory interpretation, or need guidance on crafting internal policy regarding a specific issue for your institution, contact the KCISSS rep, Meg Morgan, at [meg.morgan@utdallas.edu](mailto:meg.morgan@utdallas.edu). Many thanks again to all of NAFSA Region III for giving us the opportunity to serve you on the leadership team.

Sincerely,  
 Adam Harold and Monica Sharp

### Immigration Updates

And now, for the updates!

- The 2010 NAFSA Region III conference in New Orleans was successful and informative for all ISSS professionals! Many of the session presentations

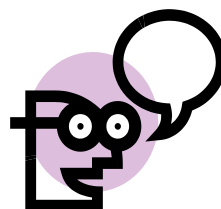
are now posted on the Region III website at <http://nafsa3.org/conferences/reg10/10highlights.asp>.

Other items of note:

- The SEVP email address for reporting issues regarding Drivers' Licenses: [DMVSSA.sevp@dhs.gov](mailto:DMVSSA.sevp@dhs.gov)
- Many schools are now in the Recertification Process: [http://nafsa.org/regulatory\\_information.sec/get\\_sevis\\_information/updates\\_on\\_fm\\_school/](http://nafsa.org/regulatory_information.sec/get_sevis_information/updates_on_fm_school/)
- SEVIS 6.6 implemented 2010 CIP codes. How does this affect you? Check NAFSA's practice resource: <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=22754>
- New fees for USCIS applications and petitions for benefits, including the Premium Processing Fee, became **effective on November 23, 2010**. Most fees were raised, but the fees for Form I-539 and several other forms lowered slightly: <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=22475>
- USCIS released guidance on Study While in B (Visitor) Status and Change of Status: <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=21926>
- Review the highlights from the most recent NAFSA-CBP Liaison call: <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=23213>

### SEVP Policy Guidance

- Guidance 1104-10 has a little information on naming conventions: <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=23023>
- Guidance 1004-07 <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=23021> should be interpreted in light of the broadcast message Lou Farrell, Director of SEVP:



*I received strong feedback from many of you at this week's NAFSA regional conferences in Jacksonville, Florida, and Providence, Rhode Island, regarding recent draft "Policy Guidance 1004-07 – DSO Reporting Tips," which required all nonimmigrant students to be registered by their program start date. Based on this feedback, I want to assure you that SEVP will not impose such a requirement. The draft policy guidance was one of the first SEVP has*

*Continued next page*

## International Student and Scholar Advising (continued)

*published that seeks your feedback within 60 days. This is part of SEVP's new process to seek your input prior to deciding policy. I have decided to leave the draft policy guidance document out for your comments in case you have other feedback, but I again assure you that SEVP will not impose the 'registration by program start date' part of that draft policy.*

### USCIS Texas Service Center and Dallas Lockbox Tour

The USCIS hosted the Annual Texas Service Center Stakeholders Meeting and Dallas Lockbox Tour in Mesquite, Texas and Lewisville, Texas on October 20 -21 2010, giving both legislative officials and International Student Services offices an opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge of the processes and procedures when submitting benefits applications on behalf of international students. Approximately 100 attendees were present, evenly representing legislative offices and schools.

The tour began with the slowly phasing-out Texas Service center Records Office. Until May of 2010, this was the primary location for all benefits applications. Since the creation of the Dallas Lockbox, the Records Office handles a decreasing volume, but still processes



over 10,000 forms each day. The Dallas Lockbox Facility is a more modern facility, managed through a third-party contract with J.P. Morgan Treasury Services, and processes documents in a 24-hour timeframe.

Tour participants saw Dallas Lockbox personnel input data (for example, incorrect address information on Form I-765) that negatively impacted document processing for many schools in the region. These issues have

since been resolved. Although many students were impacted by the Dallas Lockbox data input practices, it was useful to see the complete cycle of benefits applications, and how to resolve these issues.

### Important Change

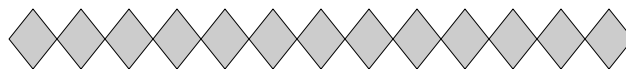
Perhaps the most important piece of information we learned on this part of tour was to NOT write "C/O" on the address line for I-765 applications, because there is no C/O line on the I-765 and the Lockbox will NOT type in anything referenced as C/O prior to an actual street address. For example, do **not** write "c/o ISSO, 415 South Street, MB 040, Waltham, MA 02454-9110." **Instead**, indicate "415 South Street, ISSO, MB 040, Waltham, MA 02454-9110."



On day two, tour participants visited the Texas Service Center, where officials adjudicate students' work authorization and change of status applications. Attendees met and discussed specific cases with the USCIS Supervisory Immigration Service Officer who oversees the processing of I-765 applications.

This meeting provided participants with a larger perspective of how International Student Services, USCIS Lockbox facility and the USCIS Texas Service Center interact, and provided an important opportunity to network with adjudicating officers.

For more information, including Powerpoint presentations provided at the Stakeholders' meeting, go to: <http://nafsa.org/resourcelibrary/default.aspx?id=23300>.



### Region III Team 2010

Chair	Samanthia Spence	Regulatory Ombudsperson/Students	Adam Harold
Past Chair	Olga Grieco	Regulatory Ombudsperson/Scholars	Loveness Schafer
Chair-Elect	Glenn Freeman	State Liaison/Arkansas	Takeo Suzuki
Treasurer	Liz Branch	State Liaison/Louisiana	Rachel Daroca
Development	Jane Clarke	State Liaison/Oklahoma	Diana Klinghagen
Admissions Liaison	Shelby Cearley	State Liaison/N. Texas	Claudia Graves
Education Abroad Liaison	Marsha Anderson	State Liaison/S. Texas	Sophia Teasdale
Intensive English Programs Liaison	Rebecca Guler	Conference Planner	Alea Cot
Int'l Student/Scholar Advising Liaison	Monica Sharp	Conf. Planner Apprentice	Brenda Robati
TechSIG Liaison	Mark Powell	Newsletter Editor	Meg Morgan
Two-Year Institutions Liaison	Sunny Garner	Registrar	Cory Owen
CEP Workshop Coordinator	Bob Crosier	Academy VII Coaches	Barbara Harrison, Jane Clarke
Intl Education Leadership Liaison	Michael Clarke	Teaching, Leadership & Scholarship	Veronikha Salazar

### Region III Team 2011

Chair	Glenn Freeman	Regulatory Ombudsperson/Students	Regina Henry
Past Chair	Samantha Slaight	Regulatory Ombudsperson/Scholars	Loveness Schafer
Chair-Elect	Claudia Graves	State Liaison/Arkansas	Takeo Suzuki
Treasurer	Liz Branch	State Liaison/Louisiana	Rachel Daroca
Development	Jane Clarke	State Liaison/Oklahoma	Diana Klinghagen
Admissions Liaison	vacant	State Liaison/N. Texas	Kelli Anderson
Education Abroad Liaison	Laura Moix	State Liaison/S. Texas	Krista Tacey
Intensive English Programs Liaison	Rebecca Guler	Conference Planner	Brenda Robati
Int'l Student/Scholar Advising Liaison	Meg Morgan	Conf Planner Apprentice	Sue Marlay
Communications Liaison	Laura Semelow	Conf Technology Coord	Daniel Escobar
Two-Year Institutions Liaison	Sunny Garner	Registrar	Cory Owen
CEP Workshop Coordinator	Bob Crosier	Academy VII Coach	Shelby Cearley
Intl Education Leadership Liaison	Michael Clarke	Teaching, Leadership & Scholarship	Veronikha Salazar