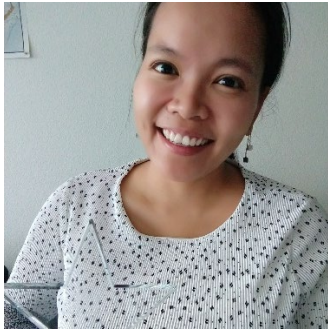


Sancha Elevado – Region I Rising Star Young Professional Award



"I'm grateful for the Seattle Colleges to allow me to grow professionally and for supporting me during the first five years of my career. Oftentimes during the beginning of our careers, it can be challenging to determine how we can be involved or if we have the capacity to get involved in the first place. But it's important to seek out those opportunities for growth. It's truly an honor to be recognized by NAFSA Region I for the Rising Star award, the acknowledgment makes my experiences more meaningful. Thank you!"

Emily Harper – Outstanding Service to NAFSA Region I Award



"What a surprising honor! I feel so thankful to get to work with such a brilliant team of colleagues at PSU and the Region 1 Leadership Team that inspire me to take risks, problem solve with compassion, and keep trying - even when it feels impossible! Over the last several years - and especially the last few months - I've been amazed by the resilience, creativity and grit of our colleagues in our field of International Education. I'm only able to accept this award because I've been fortunate enough to lean on and learn from the legends in the field around me. Thank you so much!"

Michelle Walters – NAFSAn of the Year Award



"If 2020 has taught me anything, it is the importance of community. This year I saw my Education Abroad colleagues hold one another up as we were forced to make heartbreaking decisions. I saw those of you in ISSS spend countless hours advocating for your students throughout some of the most challenging circumstances. I saw our Regional Team come together and pull off an incredibly successful virtual conference. With everything 2020 has thrown at us, your resilience and support of one another and the students we serve has reminded my why our field is a special community to be a part of. There may only be one named engraved on this award, but every single NAFSAn deserves to be reminded that your work as International Educators is important. So, thank you Region I for such an honor, but it is you who have inspired me throughout my career and especially throughout this year."