

International Education in Transitioning Times

Friday, November 20, 2009

- 8:30 – 9:30:** Early Bird Networking
Room
- 9:00 – 9:30:** Registration & Student Networking
Room
- 9:30 – 9:45:** Welcoming Remarks, Dr. David Ostroth, Vice President of Student Affairs, Bridgewater State College
Room
- 9:45 – 10:30** Keynote Speaker: Janet Johnson Bryant
Room
- 10:30 – 10:45** Break
- 10:45-12:00** MORNING SESSIONS

Social Networking and Technology Tools in International Education

Presenters: Clare O'Brien and Heather Daly

Room

Audience: faculty, staff and students

So much to do, so little time! Learn how to accomplish more, effectively, through the use of technology in your office. Affordable options for better communicating with both international and study abroad students will be discussed, along with using Outlook to its fullest potential as a database, as an electronic filing system and for prioritizing and keeping track of what needs to be accomplished on a daily basis. Presenters will explain the use of social networking and methods for holding virtual meetings with students.

Roundtable: Student Clubs and Programming

Presenters: Pat Demaras, and Kristy-Ann Eldridge

Room

Audience: staff and students

Join this student run roundtable focusing on running an effective meeting and developing successful programs in an interesting and fun forum. This interactive workshop will focus on examples of ice breakers, ideas for panel discussions and inexpensive multicultural programs. All students are invited to share information and ideas from their home campuses.

Integrating Culture and Language in the Classroom - Working with International Students and ESL Students

Presenters: Sarah Dietrich and Julia Stakhnevich
Room

Audience: faculty, staff and students

Bringing together students from different countries and language backgrounds creates a myriad of possibilities for exciting discussions and innovative assignments. This session will explore both in-class and extra-curricular activities which effectively integrate both language and culture.

EARTHVIEW

Presenters: Dr. James Hayes-Bohanan and Natalie Regan

Room

Audience: faculty, staff and students

“With support from President Mohler-Faria and the Division of External Affairs, and a regional network of geography teachers, the department has been taking its EarthView program to area schools. As a result, thousands of students - mainly in grades 4 to 8 - have had the opportunity to learn about the earth from a new perspective - from the inside of an inflatable model of the Earth, 22 feet in diameter and two stories tall.”
“The EarthView is both a fascinating teaching tool and a delicate work of art. The outside is a hand-painted, large-scale map of the Earth's surface, showing biological communities, rivers, seas, landforms, continents, islands, oceans, and major cities. The inside reveals the positions of tectonic plate boundaries and ocean spreading centers, along with all of the detail visible from the outside.” (The Globe)

12:00 pm Lunch & Earth View Showcase

1:30 – 2:45 AFTERNOON SESSIONS

Immigration Hot Topics & Employment: CPT, OPT, E-Verify, Q & A

Presenters: Donald Ross, Richard Iandoli and Maria Conley
Room

Audience: faculty and staff

Come join a member of the NAFSA Region XI GRAC Committee, an experienced DSO and an Immigration lawyer as they discuss hot immigration issues and employment options. Will review an AILA listing of “The Top 25 things that every immigration practitioner should know about international students and scholars.” Bring any questions you might have and difficult cases to discuss.

MaCIE

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"Orientations: Much more than a simple welcome to a country"

Presenters: Carol Lebold and Michelle Deignan

Room

Audience: staff and students

Orientation sessions are an important part of the welcoming process to new international students or employees, and to outgoing study abroad students. For the incoming internationals, focus is on visa review, SEVIS, travel issues, banking, housing, children, safety, emergencies, health insurance. Introduction to the UMass Medical School's ISSO website as an excellent resource.

Outgoing Study Abroad students also have logistical, administrative, and intercultural needs. This session will include suggestions on ways programming can take advantage of international students' expertise and/or returning students. What topics are shared? What information must be specific to a particular group? What strategies can be used that bring these two diverse groups together?

"Can we make a difference"? – International Service Learning and Community Projects

Facilitator: Barbara Dexter-Smith

Panelists: Grace Riley, Juan Melo, Elizabeth Tikiwa

Room

Audience: Faculty, staff and students

A panel of international students will share their experiences of service learning and community projects they have participated in overseas. The projects will include a health study in Haiti; a village project in Malawi and a community project in Ireland. The discussion will include the benefits of such projects to the recipients and the providers.

"What's a Pediatrician Doing Working at Dunkin Donuts?" "How Do We get the Pediatrician Fully Employed?"...Runways to Professional Licensure

Presenters: Susan Seibel and Katey Palumbo

Room

Audience: faculty, staff and students

There is a tremendous need for programs that provide access to professional positions/licensure for non-native English speakers who possess credentials and experience in their native country. The presenters will share their project: "Runways to Professional Licensure" which identifies the most commonly held professions by immigrant professionals and the resulting product, the Professional Licensure Guide. The guide contains the top 20 professions and outlines the necessary steps to gain licensure/certification in Massachusetts. Participants will receive a copy of the Guide.

2:45 - : Raffle, Survey, Tea, Networking

Room

Coffee, tea and dessert reception, with evaluation, raffle and networking



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