

AWISA Winter Conference 2012

Friday, February 10th

Clover Park Technical College

McGavick Student and Conference Center

Lakewood, WA



Agenda

8:30 – 9:00 am

Social Time

Location: Rainier Ballroom

Light refreshments and coffee will be served-mingle with fellow AWISAns!

9:00 – 9:15 am

Greetings and Overview

Location: Rainier Ballroom

Presenter(s): Monica Olson, AWISA Chair

Joyce Loveday, Associate Vice President for Instruction at Clover Park Technical College

9:15 – 9:45 am

Welcome Address

Increasing Favorable Immigration Outcomes for International Students: a Legal Perspective on F-1 Status and Beyond

Location: Rainier Ballroom

Presenter(s): Lisa Ellis, Associate Attorney at Ellis, Li & McKinstry PLLC

Summary: Lisa practices immigration law exclusively. She started private practice in 2004 after working on immigration-related matters in the governmental, judicial and legislative branches. Her business and family-based practice includes assisting students, colleges and universities with a variety of immigration matters. She is the author of *Visa Solutions for International Students, Scholars, and Sponsors: What You Need to Know* to be published by Thomson Reuters (West Services) later this year. The upcoming book seeks to provide a collaborative approach to assisting international students and school advisors for navigating U.S. visa processes.

9:45 – 10:00 am

Break

10:00 – 11:00 am

Concurrent Sessions

Session A: International Education & Immigration Law: A Collaboration Review

Location: Cascade Room

Presenter(s): Susan Taylor, The Laurasian Institute (Former Kaplan DSO)

Lisa Ellis, Associate Attorney at Ellis Li & McKinstry

Summary: How can DSO's and immigration attorneys work together to find the best solutions for students who need immigration help? We will discuss the ways in which DSO's can help students and when referral to an immigration attorney is advisable. We welcome audience participation and hearing how other DSO's handle complicated immigration issues among their students and guide a Q & A session at the end.

Session B: International Education Topic Roundtables

Location: Glacier Room

Presenter(s): Lori Maxfield, Director of Marketing at Associates in Cultural Exchange

Shirley Henderson, Enrollment Services Director at Associates at Cultural Exchange

Summary: Short-term group programs can be a rewarding opportunity to add cultural diversity to your campus and explore new markets. But building a successful program requires collaboration from many stakeholders, both locally and internationally, all with diverse perspectives. Learn tips and best practices from Associates in Cultural Exchange (A.C.E.) as we explore case studies from a Korean teacher training program and a Russian university administrators' seminar. This interactive session will give you hands-on opportunities to practice juggling the many hats we wear in delivering quality short-term group programs.

11:00 – 12:00 pm

Concurrent Sessions

Session C: Homestay 101

Location: Cascade Room

Presenter(s): Angela Parisotto, Host Family Coordinator at Pierce College
Annemarie Martin, Coordinator of Short Term Programs and Housing at Tacoma Community College

Summary: This session will focus on how to set-up and run a homestay program by addressing the basics of getting started, choosing to keep your program in-house or use an outside source, creating and maintaining documents, homestay orientation, working with minors, crisis management and recruiting families and students for your program.

Session D: Digital Advising: A Tour of International Program Websites

Location: Glacier Room

Presenter(s): Sandra Spadoni, International Student Advisor at UW Tacoma
Akiko Bates, Program Coordinator at Olympic College

Summary: Write it, post it, done! Let's take a look at how creating more current F-1 student advising content for your website can increase student satisfaction, make best use of scarce time and resources, and reduce institutional risk. The presenters will discuss their own experiences with creating advising web content and take a look at some of the best examples of advising website from around the state and country..

12:00 – 1:00 pm

AWISA Lunch Sponsored by Firebird International Insurance Group

Location: Rainier Ballroom

-or-

Lunch on your own

1:00 – 2:15 pm

Session E: Orientation Models & Best Practices

Location: Rainier Ballroom

Presenter(s): Martha Koch, International Student Activities Manager at Green River Community College
Laju Nankani, Director International Programs at Centralia College
Brianna Cacchione, Advisor at Centralia College
Dale Watanabe, International Student Advisor at Seattle University

Summary: This session will showcase different orientation models including traditional and hybrid orientation styles, best practices, utilizing resources and student volunteers, creating and managing orientation activities and more.

2:15 – 2:45 pm

AWISA Business Meeting

Location: Rainier Ballroom

Agenda items:

- Introduction of New Members
- Membership Dues Reminder
- AWISA Meeting Travel Grant Proposal
- AWISA Survey Project
- Your Items
- Position Announcements

2:45 – 3:30 pm

Advisor to Advisor

Location: Rainier Ballroom

Presenter(s): Catherine Creason, Program Coordinator/DSO at South Seattle Community College

Summary: Regbud and Region I updates. This session is an opportunity to ask questions and learn from each other