



Spring 2015 Conference

Friday, May 8, 2015

Highline College

Des Moines, WA

Agenda

8:30-9:00am

Social Time

Location: Mt. Constance Room Building 8 (Lower floor)

Light refreshments will be served. Mingle with fellow AWISAns!

9:00-9:30am

Welcome, Overview and Announcements

30 min

Location: Mt. Constance Room Building 8 (Lower floor)

Presenter(s): Kathleen Hasselblad, Executive Director of International Programs and Grants, Highline College

9:30-9:35am

Break—travel to sessions

9:35-10:25am

Concurrent Session A

50 min

Immigration Law: Post graduation options

Presenter(s): Lisa Elis, Ellis Immigration Law, LLC & Ursula Owen, International Scholar Advisor at UW Seattle

Location: Mt. Constance Room Building 8 (Lower floor)

Description: It's graduation season, and your international students are already starting to think about their next steps for staying here in the U.S. Make sure you have the answers they need regarding nonimmigrant and immigrant visas, as well as important tips for maintaining status and achieving smooth transitions from F-1 to whatever is next. Session will include discussion of common employment- and family-based strategies, as well as other more unusual visas.

ctcLink: Project Overview and Review

Presenter(s): Melissa Sitzenstock, Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

Location: Building 2

Description: ctcLink is the implementation of a single, centralized system of online functions to give students, faculty and staff anytime, anywhere access to a modern, efficient way of doing their college business. This session will consist of a brief ctcLink project overview and review of PeopleSoft functionality as it pertains to Admissions & SEVIS reporting. The presentation will also familiarize colleges with the project resources (training, UPK, and portal site) and lead colleges to begin discussion of business practice change that may be necessary. While this project is specific to the state's community and technical colleges everyone is welcome to attend.

10:25-10:35am

Break—travel to sessions

10:35-11:25 am

Concurrent Session B

50 min

Immigration advising: Best Practices Session

Presenter(s): Mabelle Allman, UW Seattle & Catherine Creason, South Seattle College

Location: Mt. Constance Room Building 8 (Lower floor)

Description: Mabelle Allman, our NAFSA region's Regulatory Ombudsman on Student Issues, and Catherine Creason, our NAFSA region's International Student and Scholar Services

Representative, will discuss best practices when dealing with immigration advising. They will specifically address our interactions with USCIS in reinstatement, change of status, and reentry.

Study Washington: Working Group

Presenter(s): Jon Dietzen, UW Tacoma; Kate Batten, WWU; Kyle Brown, City U; Sara Cass, CWU; Young Oh

Location: Building 2

Description: This is a continued discussion and working group for members of AWISA and Study Washington. Everyone is welcome! We'll bring participants up to speed on discussions and history so far, spend time on communication and collaboration moving forward on a developed website for colleges, universities, independent schools and education service providers in Washington State. The mission of "Study Washington" is to promote the State of Washington as the best destination for international students who wish to study in the USA. Member schools represent all levels of education and are located in every part of the state.

11:25-12:25pm
1 hour

Lunch Provided by Firebird

Off-site lunch options available at the check in table

Location: Mt. Constance Room Building 8 (Lower floor)

12:25-1:15pm
50 min.

Concurrent Session C

SEVIS Roadmap

Presenter(s): Stephanie Garrard, Seattle based SEVP Field Representative

Location: Building 2

Description: Based on the SEVIS 2015 Roadmap Webinar on February 20, 2015, this session will cover the up and coming developments and changes to SEVIS and also touch on some policy topics that may be of interest.

Advocacy for International Education

Presenter(s): Mariah Crystal, UW Bothell

Location: Building 7

Description: Each year the Association of International Educators (NAFSA) hosts an Advocacy Day which trains international educators on key international education policy issue, and advocates on Capitol Hill for issues that affect all of us! Advocacy Day is focused on the importance of international education, and why we need a more globally engaged United States. This year, the key bills at Advocacy Day were the "Immigration Innovation Act" and the "Freedom to Travel to Cuba" act. This session will include an overview of Advocacy Day this year, highlighting these bills, and briefing attendees on advocacy skills and strategies.

1:15-1:20pm

Break—travel to sessions

1:20-1:50pm
30 min.

AWISA Business Meeting

Presenter(s): Kathy Gallentine, CWU-Lynnwood; Laura Belle Douglas, UW Tacoma; Annemarie Martin, UW Tacoma

Location: Building 2

1:50-2:00pm

Coffee & Dessert Break

Location: Building 2

2:00-2:30pm
30 min.

Advisor-to-Advisor

Presenter: Mabelle Allman

Location: Building 2