"Making Caring Common" and International Admissions: Fundamental, Far-Reaching or Just Fluff?

There has been a push in domestic US admissions to ensure that application materials encourage students to talk about work experience or significant family responsibilities. With names like "Making Caring Common" and "Turning the Tide" many US colleges are signaling to applicants that it is not just about having a long list of activities, but rather about what those activities indicate about a student's character.

What does this trend mean for non-US applicants? How can non-US applicants convey meaning and authenticity behind their activities? How are US admission offices interpreting community activities when there is a concern that they are merely done for college admissions? Are US admission offices even serious about this, or is this just window-dressing to make us all feel good?

Join us for a frank discussion about these issues and how they relate to non-domestic applicants to the US higher educational system.

Terry Crawford, InitialView
John Yi, Yale University
Kathleen Abels, Haverford College
Lucien Giordano, Dulwich College Suzhou

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling
Room: LBC Stibbs 203 Rm
One State, Two State, Red State, Blue State: International Applicant and Student Experiences in the Era of Trump

This session will focus on US immigration policy changes along with student/counselor surveys to get a better understanding of the "Trump effect" on international higher education. We will begin by providing an immediate history of Executive Orders and policy changes that have affected the international admissions since Trump took office in 2017. We will move on to discussing the current landscape through counselor/student surveys, as well as anecdotes and data from schools located in traditionally "red" and traditionally "blue" states within the US. We will close the session by having a group brainstorming session for how we can better assist and serve students in this ever-changing political landscape.

Sarah Blackburn, Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Caitlin Kelley, University of Alabama
Matt Stiegemeyer, Concordia University
Sonali Hutchison, Dulwich College Shanghai
Sarah Loring de Garcia, Independent Educational Consultant

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling
Room: Jones Hall Rm 102

Partnerships Matter! Connecting International High Schools with Community Colleges Offering Support for University Transfer Via Partnerships

Learn from community college representatives in the U.S. and Canada on how their partnerships with international high schools and universities can assist with offering a variety of support services to international students whose ultimate goal is to graduate from a university which has what they are looking for. By establishing partnerships with international high schools and universities, community colleges can provide international students with many more opportunities to take the time that they need to decide which is the best university for what they want to study, where they want to live and most importantly, what they can afford. In many cases, what could not be achieved at the freshman admission level, was achieved at the transfer admission level due to priority transfer admissions and guaranteed transfer programs at many community colleges.

Diane Arguijo, San Mateo Community College District
Kathleen Dixon, Arizona State University
Mitsuko Leonard, University of California, Davis
Daniel Marschner, Loyola Marymount University
Ryan Sullivan, New Brunswick Community College

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling
Room: Weinmann Hall Rm 110

Pulling Back the Curtain - The Wizardry Behind Application Policy

Test-optional, need-based, self-reported documents, credential evaluation reports, English proficiency... how do schools decide application policy? Public, private, small and large institutions talk about what influences and factors go into these decisions and ways to help counselors understand seemingly magical application requirements. We’ll also explain why when you advocate for a student sometimes we can say “yes” but other times we have to say “no”.

Betsy Morley, Albion College  
Marco Chavez, The Ohio State University  
Christy Fry, Colby-Sawyer College  
Lin Larson, University of Texas at Arlington

Audience: BOTH

Theme: Financial Aid & Access - Helping students find their path and identity
Room: Jones Hall Rm 204

Networking Made Easy

Networking is one of the most important takeaways at the conference. However, it can be hard to do because of the size of the conference. In addition, networking is often uncomfortable because it pushes us out of our own comfort zone. So, take a break from other more cerebral sessions and come and meet some new people! Modeled after "speed dating" this session will be an organized and interactive activity. The session is for all conference participants at any level and on either "side of the desk." You are encouraged to attend if you are a seasoned professional and want to move beyond an already established social circle. You are encouraged to attend if you are new to the field and are eager to make some professional connections. Everyone is welcome!

Jennifer Russell, Bryn Mawr College  
Kim Cheah, International School Manila  
Priya Gupta, Jamnabai Narsee International School  
Patrick Love, Concordia International School Shanghai  
Iris Madeira, Madhavi Desai Consulting

Audience: BOTH

Theme: Inspiration & Leadership - Building capacity to support your team’s strengths
Room: LBC Kendall Cram Rm
Standardized Testing in East Asia: How It's Failing, Where and When It's Succeeding, and What to Do About It

Recently, the SAT has been restructured; ACT and SAT test dates have been added, changed or completely eliminated with relatively little notice; scores have been delayed without explanation and without notification of when they will be released; testing centers are too full to accommodate student numbers; and thousands of students in the region have had EA/ED and RD options compromised as a result. This panel comprised of counselors as well as colleges with varied testing policies, will review how and when the testing boards are informing students, counselors, and admissions representatives of these changes, and how to respond to what is almost sure to be an increasingly unreliable set of dates and data.

_Caitlin Worsham, American Education Group, Vietnam_
_Darryl Tynen, Northeastern University_
_Nicole Buenzli, Union College_
_James Bishop, George Washington University_

**Audience:** BOTH  
**Theme:** Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground  
**Room:** Woldenberg Art Center Freeman Auditorium

How to Survive the Post-Naviance Apocalypse

With so many application management platforms out there, how do you know which one is for you? If you haven't yet settled on a platform, we will share our review process and how to choose a platform that best meets your needs.

_Greer Bevel, UWC South East Asia, Dover Campus_
_Pat Desbarats, UWC South East Asia, East Campus_
_Alex Becker, Colegio Nueva Granada_
_Keith Layman, International School of Dusseldorf_

**Audience:** HIGH SCHOOL  
**Theme:** Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling  
**Room:** LBC Qatar Ballroom

A Tale of Three Applications: Differing Approaches to Application Review

Every university reviews applications through a different lens depending on institutional profile, admission philosophy, and enrollment management priorities. How does application review differ between institutions? What information helps give important context to an application? What are key indicators in an application that a student may not be a good fit for a university?
Presenters in this session review three applications and discuss their differing approaches to reaching an admission decision.

Justin Parsons, University of California, Los Angeles
Rebecca Hansen, Northern Kentucky University
Harvey Werner, Loyola University New Orleans

Audience: HIGH SCHOOL
Theme: Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling
Room: Weinmann Hall Rm 257

Sitting the Multi Mini Interview (MMI)! Help your students prepare for the MMI-by trying out the interview yourself!

Following feedback received by counsellors around the world and at previous conferences, this session, representatives from UK Medical and Vet programs will focus on detailed introduction and explanation of the Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI) component of applying to many global Med, Vet & Dentistry programs. Along with hearing about the MMI from the university perspective, this interactive session will get colleagues on their feet trying out different interview stations and will include tips and advice from a HS Guidance counsellor and from students themselves. Audience interaction, and information shared by the panel and feedback from students, this session will give counsellors & University Reps (who advise on PG programmes) a better understanding of the MMI and what students experience. Overall, this session will give counsellors the tools to effectively explain the role of the MMI to their students and will allow them to help prepare their students for this very important (but often less understood) part of the med and vet application process.

Richard Evans, RVC, University of London
Darren Beaney, Brighton and Sussex Medical School

Audience: HIGH SCHOOL
Theme: Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground
Room: Weinmann Hall Rm 357

New to International Admissions? Tips for Growth in the Field

International admissions is both a challenging and rewarding profession. This session provides tips and secrets on how to develop the skills you need to review and admit international students, as well as how to become an expert in this exciting field. The team of presenters will share insights on how to get started as well as the types of activities that exist for professional development. Opportunities include presenting at conferences, publishing, committee work and travel!

Rosalie Saladzis, Santa Clara University
The Trends and Correlates of International Students Studying in the United States and Australia (Focus group: South Korea, China and India).

International education is vital to strengthening economics and societies in the United States and around the world. The goal of this presentation is to review the trends in and predictors of international student attendance at U.S. and Australian institutions of higher education. We will take closer look at the top three sending countries: India, China and South Korea. Using regression analysis with data from 2010-2014, We consider how the number of international students in a given state depends on characteristics of the origin country and the destination state.

Cynthia Look, University at Albany State University of New York
Michelle Mi, International School Dhaka
Sherrie Huan, The University of Sydney

Understanding A Levels: What is actually like to be an A Level student?

Increasing numbers of students with A Levels are applying to universities internationally. In this session, four A Level teachers (who are also counselors) will provide you with the ultimate A Level experience.

In this session the audience will become the students, as we deliver three mini A-Level style classes of 15 minutes each covering Math, Geography and English. These will give you a deeper insight into the academic content, forms of assessment and style of teaching experienced by students studying A Levels, to enable you to fully understand how different these courses are from IB, AP and US HSD classes.
Two experienced counselors, one from a university admitting many A Level students, and one an IEC working with students across many A Level schools, will also give their insights into how best to evaluate A Level applicants to your institutions.

David Hawkins, Hawkins Global Education
Kathryn Timlin, Georgetown University
Jessica Darke, Cheltenham Ladies' College
Jonathan Ratnasabapathy, Dulwich College

**Audience:** UNIVERSITY  
**Theme:** University Recruitment 2.0 - Reimagining interactions with students & schools  
**Room:** Goldring/Woldenberg Business Complex 170