The IB Diploma Programme and the College Admissions Process - IB 101

Professionals on both sides of the desk are working closely with students and families who are participating in the IB Diploma Programme. Globally, over 400 schools per year apply to offer one or more IB Programs. Why IB? The International Baccalaureate prepares students for higher education in a globalized society.

If your school is new to the IB, if your recruiting territory now includes IB schools, if you would just like to learn more about the IB, this session is intended to give participants an overview and prepare them to answer the most frequently asked questions about the IB:

- What is the IB Diploma?
- Where is it taught?
- How are the courses evaluated and assessed?
- Diploma vs. Certificates? HL vs. SL?
- Will the IB help students get into college?
- Does the IB prepare students for college?
- Will students receive credit for the IB?

Marie Vivas, International Baccalaureate Organization
Ray Marx, Colegio Americano de Quito
Brandy Fransen, Rollins College
Camila Vasquez, St. Thomas University

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling
Room: Jones Hall Rm 204
Stories of Team Building: Embracing Colleagues’ Strengths, Work Style Preferences, and Quirks

High school counselors from Jakarta Intercultural School will share the steps and stories about how they have reflected upon and embraced each other's strengths, work style preferences, and quirks over the past three years. Beginning with a strengths-based approach and embedded in best practices, this team of six learned how to trust, collaborate and listen. Over the years, the team has adjusted how they meet, how they plan, and how they tackle projects big and small. Come to this session if you are interested in resources and strategies that benefit team cohesion and celebrate individuality.

Alexandra Bilan, Jakarta Intercultural School
Joseph Tavares, Jakarta Intercultural School
Heather Cook, Intercultural School Kuala Lumpur
Anthony Dickinson, Jakarta Intercultural School
Michelle Burlock, Jakarta Intercultural School

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Inspiration & Leadership - Building capacity to support your team's strengths
Room: Weinmann Hall Rm 257

DESPACITO: Learning to Slow Down and Be Present in Maintaining a Positive Work/Life Balance

Feeling married to your office? Family & friends calling you a workaholic? Struggling with stress? Our session aims to help participants discover both reactive stress-release strategies as well how to create proactive wellness habits in light of the work-life balance dilemma. University and high-school professionals working on 3 continents will share their best practices, discuss 3-minute tips, and explore more drastic life-changing decisions. We hope to help you make genuine and positive revisions to how you approach your own personal work-life balance regardless of your starting point so you can breathe again by the end of the conference.

Victoria Lidzbarski, Canadian Academy
Julie Chapman, Vanderbilt University
Jennifer Lee, Victoria Shanghai Academy
Joey Kirk, University of Glasgow

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Inspiration & Leadership - Building capacity to support your team's strengths
Room: Weinmann Hall Rm 357

The Elephant in the Classroom: How to Leverage Teacher Expertise to Improve Your Success in Admissions and Counseling
Teachers are the experts on the students we advise and universities admit and yet they are often conspicuous by their absence in our discussions. This sessions aims to highlight ways both counselors and admissions staff can leverage the expertise of teachers they work with or encounter to improve their understanding of both students and the qualifications they undertake.

Mark Stacey, International School of Brussels
Jessica Darke, Cheltenham Ladies' College

Audience: BOTH
Theme: University Recruitment 2.0 - Reimagining interactions with students & schools
Room: Weinmann Hall Rm 110

Social Media: Engaging Students Where They Are

Maybe you've heard that in the U.S. we Twitter, but in China WeChat; a student told you that Facebook is for "old people;" or you wonder how to use Snapchat, whose entire premise is ephemeral content, to engage students? In this session, we will introduce and discuss the top utilized social media platforms and apps used by teens around the world and present case studies of how high schools and universities have effectively connected and communicated with students across different regions. We'll also delve into the mechanics of developing and implementing a social media communications strategy. Come share social media techniques, and brainstorm exciting content to engage your community!

Berta Liao, Hsinchu International School
Isther Chaudhury, University of Rochester
Renee Lurie, Blue Valley School
Liam McCartney, Boston University
Christina McDade, American Community School of Abu Dhabi

Audience: BOTH
Theme: University Recruitment 2.0 - Reimagining interactions with students & schools
Room: Richardson Rm 117

The Do's, Don'ts and How To's for Planning a College Fair

Counselors, do you want more universities to visit your region? Or maybe you have too many visits? Planning a counselor led fair will attract more universities to your school and organize those single visits that consume so much of your time. Presenters will provide different proven formats, schedules, ideas, tips and much more for planning a counselor led large high school college fair. If you build it, they will come...
The Write Approach: Application Writing for Various Systems

What's the difference between a motivational letter, essay, supplement, and a personal statement? Are resume and CV interchangeable? How much editing is too much editing? This session is for counselors to hear from a panel of university and counseling professionals about how to best support the student writing process for applications to multiple countries. We will address admission officers' expectations and discuss suggestions for students tasked with different application writing requirements.

Hannah Minturn, Colegio Alberto Einstein
Jorge Delgado, Brandeis University
Elizabeth Zeller, Leiden University College
Kathleen Schultz, Dulwich College Shanghai

Redefining Affordable: 0-5000$ in 60 Minutes

There are many genuinely affordable options for students to study abroad. These options are not just available to top students who can avail of scholarships. Many countries offer a university education for less than $10,000 or even $5,000 per year. By thinking of non-traditional options, a university education abroad can be an option for all students. Admission representatives and college counselors from different regions will discuss options in Canada, community colleges in the US, and universities in the Baltics and Central/Eastern Europe.

Jack Muir, Liceo Internacional
Anne Payne, International School of Latvia
Jennifer Brook, Foothill + De Anza Colleges
Keir McIsaac, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Financial Aid & Access - Helping students find their path and identity

Audience: HIGH SCHOOL
Theme: Financial Aid & Access - Helping students find their path and identity
Room: Goldring/Woldenberg Business Complex 170
Digging Deeper Into the Dutch Admissions Landscape

In the past decade the Netherlands has increased in popularity as a study destination for students around the world. The 'whys' have been answered, but what about the 'hows'? With little standardization, navigating the numerous types of admissions processes, deadlines, expectations and even Studielink can be a challenge. This session serves to go beyond an introduction level, and to dig deeper into how your students can apply to Research Universities, University Colleges, and Universities of Applied Science in the Netherlands. College Counselors who are experienced in having applicants to the Netherlands will also be sharing their experience, tips and tricks.

Carolyn Barr, Leiden University
Denise Nijhuis, University College Roosevelt
Janie Digby, UWC Atlantic College
Lauren Rigter, Hotel School The Hague - Hospitality Business University
Bela Gligorova, Nova International Schools

Audience: HIGH SCHOOL
Theme: Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground
Room: Boggs 104

Making MENA-ingful Connections: Strategies for Success in the Middle East & North Africa

With the rapid development of international schools in the region, government sponsored scholarship schemes, and increasing numbers of Middle Eastern students attending universities abroad, there are many reasons why MENA should be on your upcoming travel itinerary. This session brings together presenters from both sides of the desk to help you plan effective and meaningful visits to the Middle East and North Africa. High school counselors will provide an overview of the region's diverse student population and matriculation patterns to help you prioritize your schedule. University representatives will discuss ways to go beyond initial visits to MENA and extend relationships through government and institutional partnerships, area counselor networks, summer programs, and counselor fly-ins. Together we will share insider intel on top tour providers and the best university and education fairs MENA has to offer. And along with these sweet strategies, we might just have some kunafeh!

Stephanie Barker, Cairo American College
Raghvendra Singh, University of Missouri
Megan Lindle, University of Cincinnati
Shana Russell, Dubai American Academy
Will Burns, Loughborough University

Audience: UNIVERSITY
**Theme:** Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground

**Room:** LBC Stibbs 203 Rm

**Town Mouse vs Country Mouse in Australia - Finding the Right Size and Fit for Your Student**

In the post-truth Trump era, Australia is featuring more and more on many students radars. Counselling professionals are often aware of the big name institutions such as Sydney and Melbourne, but there is a great deal on offer outside the major metropoles and you can save a bundle without sacrificing the student experience. By the end of this sessions delegates will be have gained an overview of the best on offer in both the big and smaller cities in Australia.

Featuring a fun icebreaker game with prizes, and a Fly Over Australia, virtually visiting 5 or 6 unis and focusing on what they are well known for and that they offer out of the ordinary.

*Cris Lawrance, The University of Sydney*
*Cathy Curtis, Retired, School Counselor*
*Lea-Anne Allen, Macquarie University*

**Audience:** HIGH SCHOOL

**Theme:** Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground

**Room:** Boggs 105

**Baking a Cake with Busted Ingredients - Recruitment Strategies for Doing More Outreach with Less Financial Resources**

Are you being asked to recruit more students but with fewer financial resources? Are you a new recruiter who is just starting out and not sure how to begin? Or are you an experienced recruiter who is looking to brainstorm budget-friendly ideas with others? This session is meant to highlight budget-friendly ideas to promote higher education institutions-- with representatives from a private university, a public flagship and a community college. We will discuss sample itineraries with detailed expenses, armchair-approach options, and ways to involve other campus departments with recruitment efforts. All levels of recruiters invited, we welcome audience participation.

*Anne Faucett, Benedictine College*
*Ashley Sansotta, Hillsborough Community College*
*Pablo Torres, University of New Mexico*

**Audience:** UNIVERSITY

**Theme:** University Recruitment 2.0 - Reimagining interactions with students & schools

**Room:** LBC Kendall Cram Rm