“Will they reject me for disclosing this?”: Supporting Students with Mental Health Issues through the Admission Process

Mental health issues like depression, anxiety, and ADHD are increasingly prevalent in adolescents, and can impact high school grades. Students worldwide struggle to determine if they should disclose their mental health issues to colleges during the application process. For international students, these issues can be even more complex due to cultural stigma; living in a third-culture household; changing schools (and sometimes countries) during high school; speaking a second language during the school day; etc. How can high school counselors and college admission reps work together to make the college application process welcoming to international students with mental health issues? How can colleges improve mental health resources for international students arriving to our campuses?

Eliza Plous, Loyola University Chicago
Jennifer Cheong, Branksome Hall Asia
Hyuk Sang Son, Suzhou Singapore International School

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling
Room: Boggs 105

Evaluating Foreign High School Curricula Across U.S. Admissions: A Panel Discussion

U.S. university applications may share a common list of requirements, yet credential evaluation and file review will vary by school, adding to the intrigue (or counselor fatigue) of the U.S. college
admissions process. This session is a collaboration between high school counselors, admissions officials, and those who have worked on both sides of the desk, to attempt to answer how foreign high school credentials are reviewed based on cultural and academic context and within the framework the U.S. international admissions office. We will focus the panel-led discussion on credentials from West Africa, China, Vietnam, and India, touching on international curricula such as the IGCSE/GCE, International Baccalaureate, and French Baccalaureate as well.

*Megan Lindle, University of Cincinnati*
*Katie King, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*
*Ling Zhang, Cornell College*
*Gretchen Logan, QSI International School of Dongguan*
*Claire Wilkins, New York University Shanghai*

**Audience:** BOTH

**Theme:** Enhancing Counseling - New tools and techniques for college counseling

**Room:** Goldring/Woldenberg Business Complex 170

**Bridging the Access Gap: How Colleges, Enrichment Providers, and Counselors Can Improve the Ecosystem for Underserved Students Globally**

What could we be doing to level the playing field for students around the world? What could we do together? Economically challenged students across the globe face greater challenges in finding international higher ed opportunities and navigating various systems. Higher ed institutions have increased access to educational experience and advancement for underserved students globally, but academic enrichment providers and counselors can do so as well. This talk will highlight some case studies of social entrepreneurship and philanthropy with the hope of inspiring others and catalyzing discussion. This is a call to action! Leave with some concrete ideas on how we can come together to do more to positively impact educational access and college admissions for deserving but underserved students around the world and to support the counselors who are guiding them.

*Matthew Jaskol, Pioneer Academics*
*Andrew Moe, Swarthmore College*
*Neeraj Mandhana, The Next Genius Foundation*
*Laura Kaub, Yale Young African Scholars Program*

**Audience:** BOTH

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

**Room:** Weinmann Hall Rm 357

**The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)**
Learn how Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) engages with international students, Designated School Officials (DSOs) and other stakeholders. This presentation includes notifications on SEVP initiatives, tips for DSOs, updates on facts and figures, and helpful resources available on Study in the States.

Paul Burgess, Tulane University  
Emerson Toledo, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Audience: BOTH
Theme: Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground
Room: LBC Race 201 Rm

60 Minutes at Your School: How Can We Effectively Use the Time of Students, Counselors and University Representatives?

As more universities hit the road to recruit future students, high schools are becoming overwhelmed with visit and schedule requests. While a university may only be asking for 60 minutes of time at a school, schedules are tight for students as they juggle classes, sports, extracurricular activities and social lives. Visits need to work for all parties, but what kind of visit is best and what is the best use of time? This panel will open a discussion of what works and does not work, expectations on both sides of the desk, and new ideas for all to use in future recruitment seasons.

Megan Mankarian-Stem, Creighton University
Logan Gauby, Kansas State University
Dwayne Zamora, Stamford American International School
JoBeth Brudner, Linden Educational Services

Audience: BOTH
Theme: University Recruitment 2.0 - Reimagining interactions with students & schools
Room: LBC Kendall Cram Rm

Life After Naviance: Finding Something Better

Rather than lamenting the death of Naviance, counselors should see this as an opportunity to move to a platform that is even more effective for their students, office, and school. In this session, counselors will share the steps they took as they researched, selected and implemented a new software platform - and what they learned along the way.

Dale Ford, British International School of Phuket
Jack Shull, St. Stephen's School
Erin Nicolis, Taipei European School
Kelly Braun, Saigon South International School
**The Answer is Never No, But Sometimes, It's Not Yet!**

Students and families often have high expectations and ambitions about their desired choice of university destination. However, there is often a mismatch between their ambitions and the reality of the competitiveness of their application. This workshop aims to look at managing student and parental expectation, explaining the nature of the college admissions process sensitively to families and building a balanced college list to ensure progression after high school graduation.

*Aidan Crowley, Saint Joseph's Institution International School*
*Lieve Perera, Bangkok Patana School*
*Alexander Alvendia, University of Southern California*
*Jenny Thacker, The University of Edinburgh*

**Financial Aid and Merit Scholarships in Asia: Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Singapore**

An expanding number of English-speaking programs are available at universities in Asia - Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, and Singapore. These are exciting opportunities and some come with significant financial aid opportunities and merit scholarships. What is it like to study in these countries, what students might be the right fit, and what are the costs? As the U.S. university landscape becomes prohibitively expensive, it is wise to look for more options that are high value but lower cost. Come to this session to learn more about what opportunities that are open to international students, what financial aid and merit scholarship opportunities are available, and what employment options are available after graduation.

*Joan Liu, UWC South East Asia, East Campus*
*Jennifer Lee, Victoria Shanghai Academy*
*Tiffany Knight, UWC ISAK Japan*
*Vicky Chan, University of Hong Kong*
*Christy Straniero, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University*
Peak to Peak - From Bavaria to Vienna to the Swiss Alps: Studying Abroad in a German-Speaking Country

Top class education and research: right in the heart of Europe! BMW, Tissot, Lufthansa, Swarovski, United Nations...whether it's cars, watches, airline companies, jewellery, politics, or quality education, German-speaking countries are known for their services worldwide. With hundreds of universities throughout Austria, Germany and Switzerland, there are plenty of reasons to consider studying in the German-speaking world. This presentation will introduce the different educational systems; university offerings with an emphasis on English-speaking programs; tuition fees; and provide resources to assist high school counsellors with planning and advising. Take an educational journey through three of the most beautiful Alpine countries in Europe.

Angolwisye Mwakisu, Jacobs University Bremen
Ioana Benea, MODUL University Vienna
Alexandra Schaffner, Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne
Carin D'Souza, International School Hannover Region

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

Supporting High-Achieving, Low-Income (HALI) Students

High-achieving low-income (HALI) students are a unique group of students who make an important impact on campus both inside and outside of the classroom. They also require different kinds of support than most international students, from the stage of identifying HALI students prior to the application process to maximizing their opportunity to make an impact in their home communities after graduation. This session will focus on experienced admissions counselors, and will discuss the big questions of supporting HALI students to maximize their impact on campus and opening pathways for them to use their education to make a difference in their home communities, where their skills are sorely needed. There will be particular focus on students from Africa, but information from the panel will be broadly applicable to recruiting high-achieving, low-income students across the world.

James Linville, Abaarso School of Science and Technology
James Akaba, Open Dreams
Rebecca Zeigler Mano, Education Matters
Peter Ibaare, Equity Group Foundation
Joy Beth Bodie, Bridge2Rwanda Scholars

Audience: UNIVERSITY
Theme: Financial Aid & Access - Helping students find their path and identity
Peeling the India Onion: Understanding the Tier II and Tier III Cities

According to the IIE's Open Doors report there was an overall increase of ~17% of Indian international students studying in the United States at the undergraduate level. However, we are facing significant headwinds due to the many political, immigration and safety concerns voiced by Indian international students and their parents in choosing U.S. as their preferred destination for higher education. To expand the India opportunity, it is essential to understand the Tier II and Tier III cities of India that holds the key for future international recruitment in India based on size of population, growth, technology usage etc. Through an in-depth analysis, the presenters will define key factors to evaluate Tier II and Tier III cities and share real case studies from some of these cities. Given the need to diversify your India strategy from over traveled, saturated Tier I cities, this session will provide the audience a framework to identify and engage with the expanded list of Indian cities.

Raghvendra Singh, University of Missouri
Ganesh Kohli, KIC UnivAssist
Jacob Wooden, Indiana University
Shilpa Gupta, Neerja Modi School

Supercharge Student Recruitment with EducationUSA!

Want to maximize international student recruitment dollars, find talented students that are a good fit for your school, and crack challenging new student markets? Then this is the session for you! HEI professionals will engage in small group discussions with EducationUSA advisers and Regional Educational Advising Coordinators (REACs) from five continents. The session will focus on regional recruitment trends (with information on foreign government scholarship countries), strategies for targeting students in dynamic markets, and accessing valuable (and free) resources through the State Department-supported network. Come meet advisers and REACs for insights and information that will help you take your student recruitment efforts to the next level.

Matthew Washburn, U.S. Department of State
Rita Moriconi, EducationUSA, Brazil
Clara Priester, EducationUSA, South Africa
Vincent Flores, EducationUSA, South Korea

Audience: UNIVERSITY
Theme: Regional Updates - Intel and updates from the ground
Bridging the Transition: Strategies from Both Sides of the Desk

Transitioning from high school to college can be an exciting time in a young person's life, but it can also be the most challenging. This presentation is intended to support both counselors and university representatives looking to develop their transition and orientation programs respectively. Specifically high school counselors will receive information about best practice, unique strategies and resources to support both students and families during the transition. Successful university orientation and student success models will also be explored.

Heather Pineda, Dulwich College International
Heather Cook, International School Kuala Lumpur
Kyndra Douglass, Dulwich College Shanghai
Lukman Arsalan, Trinity College

Demystifying the Portfolio: A Look into How Reviewers Use Slideroom and What We are Looking For

In this interactive session, counsellors will be brought through the fourth wall of Slideroom in a mock portfolio review lead by admissions representatives from Emily Carr University of Art + Design, CCA, MICA and SAIC. Audience participation will be required! This session will give you an intimate look into how Slideroom is used in the portfolio review process, and what admissions representatives are looking for in a strong portfolio. You will leave this session with confidence around the ever daunting portfolio require, and in turn you will be able to pass long to your art and design minded students.

Avalon Mott, Emily Carr University of Art + Design
Jackson Moore, School of The Art Institute of Chicago
Sarah Titford, Maryland Institute College of Art

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