



Message from the AIE Chair

Welcome to Fall 2018! By now most of you have welcomed your new students or have begun planning for the study abroad trips to come. Hopefully things have settled a bit for you, but we know you are busy!

Over the summer, the AIE Leadership Team and State Planning Committee has been working on plans for this academic year. We have forums in the works, and of course our annual AIE State Meeting will be held on March 1, 2019 at the Red Mountain campus of Mesa Community College.

This is sure to be another challenging year for international educators with new issues and changes weekly, it seems. This year's state meeting theme, **"Global Leadership in a Time of Change – We need each other"** is very fitting for us all. This is something we should work on year round – finding ways to support and help one another.

We hope you plan to attend the state meeting and that you will consider submitting a proposal for a session presentation and/or nominate someone for the AIE Awards. Hopefully, you have received the Save the Date emails with the forms to submit. There will be more emails to come! We truly do need each other in our climate of change!

— Debi Parris, Arizona International Educators State Chair

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NAFSA Region II Conference

Greetings International Educators!

We are just a few weeks away from the **NAFSA Region II Conference** in Lincoln, Nebraska. Can you believe it!? Getting close to conference means deadlines are looming! Please note the following:

- Early bird registration closes on **October 1st**. Current member/non-member rate is \$275/\$350. After October 1, the rate increases to \$350/\$395.
- The special room rate reserved for conference attendees at the Embassy Suites will be available until **September 29th**. Current rate is \$159. There are only a handful of

rooms left. Make your reservation now to ensure you have a room and receive the discounted rate.

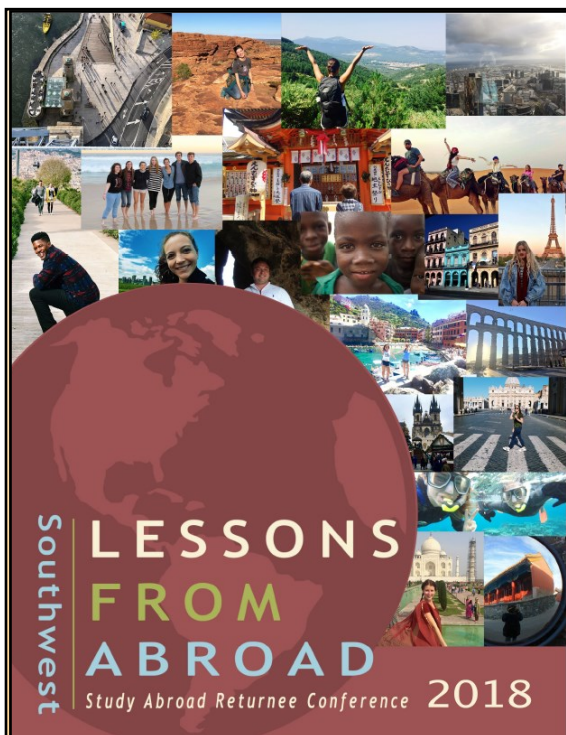
The website links to register for the conference and book your hotel are on the [Region II Conference website](#).

Also, please mark your calendars to attend the **Arizona State Breakout Session** during the conference from **5:15-6 PM on October 24th** (Room TBD but will be updated in the online planner and app once assigned).

See you all in Lincoln!

Thank you,
DeeAnn Resk
Arizona State Rep to NAFSA

Lessons from Abroad Southwest Conference



The annual Lessons From Abroad Southwest Conference took place Saturday, September 22 at the University of Arizona. There were nearly 100 attendees collectively from the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and New Mexico State University. Also joining were exhibitors and sponsors, including the Education Abroad Network, International TEFL Academy, Go-Abroad.com, Global Ties Arizona, CEA Study Abroad, BU-NAC, IFSA, The American College of the Mediterranean, CIS Abroad, and STA Travel. The conference opened with a keynote from U.S. Department of State Diplomat in Residence for the Rocky Mountain region Stewart Devine, followed by three concurrent sessions featuring over 35 presenters. The conference planning committee, a collaborative effort between the study abroad offices of the Southwest region, felt that the conference was a success and look forward to next year's conference! For more information on how international educators in Arizona can get involved to even better represent the diversity of our region's programming,

please contact the Conference Co-Chairs Kyle Rausch (Kyle.Rausch@asu.edu) and Abby Dalpra (Abby.Dalpra@asu.edu). — Holly Wheeler, Education Abroad Advisor, Northern Arizona University

Upcoming Dates & Announcements

October 1: Study Abroad Innovation Competition

The 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund is pleased to announce the opening of the 2018 ExxonMobil Competition for Study Abroad Innovations in Engineering, Physics, Geology, and Geophysics! This Innovation Fund grant competition is made possible through ExxonMobil Corporation's continued support and their commitment to advancing academic exchanges in the Americas.

November 15: Call for Papers 30th Annual AAPLAC Conference

The Association of Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean is pleased to announce the call for papers for their 30th Annual Conference to be held at *Universidad Autonoma de Yucatan* in Merida, México, February 20-24, 2019. The deadline to submit proposals is November 15, 2018.

November 12-16: International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences.

NOW-December 10: Session proposals for the AIE 2019 State Meeting are now being accepted! You can submit a proposal for a session you'd like to present, or you can suggest a topic you'd like to see presented. AIE is accepting proposals until December 10, 2018.

NOW-December 15: Again this year, AIE will honor worthy individuals or entities for their contributions to international education in Arizona. We are seeking nominees for two awards: the **AIE Exemplary Global Leadership and Service Award**, and the **AIE Distinguished Contributions to Global Initiatives in Arizona Award**. Details are on the nomination form. Please submit your nomination by December 15, 2018.



ECE



AACRAO

Advancing Global Higher Education



TAICEP

The Association for International
Credential Evaluation Professionals

The 2018 AACRAO Cuba Trip:

My International Adventure, or How I Learned to Be Persistent

By Martha Van Devender, Senior Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.

In late 2017, I was chosen to be the TAICEP representative for the year-long [AACRAO Cuba project](#), which aims to produce updated resources on Cuban education, including revising the AACRAO EDGE profile for Cuba. I was the last person added to our group, making it a nice dozen. I rushed to get my visa and we travelled in February. We were in country for over a week to research their educational system. I could not believe it. How had I ended up as part of this group? It turns out that is the interesting part for my friends at AIE.

AACRAO initially envisioned a group of a dozen of international education professionals, including a representative from AACRAO and a research leader to actually keep the remainder on task. They had a call for applications and chose the cohort in the fall. An issue came up with one of the members of the research team and they had to back out. At that point, AACRAO approached TAICEP. If you are unfamiliar, [TAICEP is The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals](#). It is a group of credential evaluation profes-

sionals, from within governments, universities, and evaluation agencies like mine, advocating for the profession as a whole. Since they can disseminate information among a wide group of international credential evaluators, their inclusion was a great idea. Anyone they selected would be dedicated to the research. And they could share with their members about Cuba. TAICEP is an international organization, so their involvement can make a big impact.

That's where I enter the story. Several of my friends had already been announced as members of the cohort, so I was familiar with the application requirements and travel schedule. When TAICEP had their own call for applications, open only to association members, I suspected I was a decent candidate. I knew enough Spanish and was familiar with Latin America, both travelling there and evaluating the credentials. Plus my company encourages our involvement with our professional association, so I knew they would support me. The application had a turnaround time of a few days. Personally I had a shorter turnaround time, since this was the week before Christmas and I was travelling home. I contacted ECE management and started pulling together the paperwork. They thought it was a great idea to apply and no one else at my company had asked. I was amazed as my co-workers started pitching in to help me make the deadline. I found out a day or two later than I was chosen to be the twelfth. That was the beginning of my disbelief.

That's my first lesson: Have a reasonably up-to-date version of your resume and CV. It's not about being ready to look for a new job. It is more about being ready to represent yourself in the best way possible in your current capacity. I was embarrassed that I did not have a CV, when they asked for one as part of the Cuba application. I sent a current resume instead. But I've been building my CV from scratch since then and it has been challenging for someone with this many years of experience. So I encourage you to start earlier. *(Continued on page 4)*

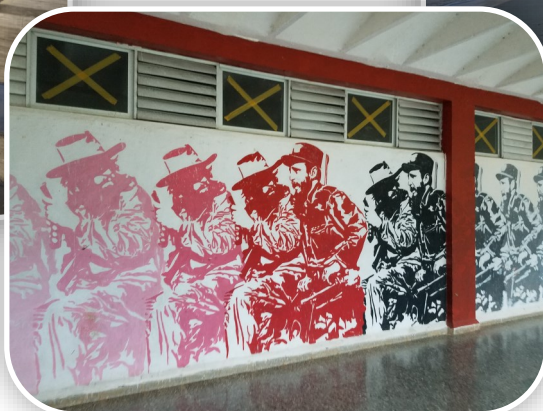


(Continued from page 3) The next lesson is to try. There are tons of professional development opportunities out there for people in our field. AACRAO wants to encourage more research projects like this, so keep an eye on them. EducationUSA has travel opportunities, as does NAFSA. The money is not always a deal breaker with these great partners. Just read your newsletters and emails. As soon as I saw this chance, I knew I was going to try. Make sure your managers expect you to ask for every opportunity. You want them to know that you are trying. Once my supervisors were on board, I followed through with the TAICEP/AACRAO Cuba application. I knew I was a strong candidate and that I could be serious about the research. I found out later that out of the original batch of applicants, nearly half were selected. What great odds of being chosen! But I was part of a special application. It was later revealed that I was the only person who submitted a completed application for the TAICEP slot. They were relieved that I actually met all of the criteria. But that's why you need to try for opportunities that come up. Don't say the pool of applicants will be too big or that you are not a strong

enough candidate. You need to try. You never know what the odds might actually be. Our field is quite small, so you have a good chance.

The final lesson is that once you start trying, you have to be persistent. I wanted to attend the NAFSA tri-regional last year. But my boss was sending someone else to represent Region IV. So I asked if she would be willing to pick up the remainder of the costs, if I got a travel grant to pay for the bulk. I applied and, sure enough, I got more money than I had even asked for from Region II to go to our conference, while we were hosting. That meant a lot to me. I was able to go and I even filled in during a presentation, when my friend got sick. I felt like I was supposed to be there and my persistence paid off in the end. I just saw in the newsletter that Region II gave AIE a grant to host the pre-conference networking event they held in Flagstaff this spring. It was a great event and yet another indicator of how persistence can pay off. Sometimes these grants and funds and awards go unused. So you never know what can happen, unless you start trying.

Martha Van Devender is a senior evaluator at Educational Credential Evaluators. The company is based in Milwaukee, but she works remotely in Salt Lake City after having worked many years based in Arizona. She is going to be presenting several times this fall including sessions on Cuba at the AACRAO Fall Symposium and the TAICEP Annual Meeting. She is also presenting, on international secondary documentation, at the NAFSA Region II conference in Lincoln this fall and hopes you will stop by and say hello.



*Cuban photos courtesy of
Van Devender*

Service-Learning Course Creates Ripples of Change around the Globe

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service to others.” – Mahatma Gandhi. To Scottsdale Community College (SCC), service-learning is defined as *meaningful service* within our community and *academic instruction* within our classrooms designed to develop more socially-aware, civically-responsible and globally-engaged student citizens. In 2016-17, SCC Service-Learning & Leadership partnered with the Community College Initiative (CCI) Program to pilot an innovative class, “Service-Learning Experience in Communication.”

The CCI Program is an international exchange sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by Northern Virginia Community College on behalf of the Community College Consortium. Since 2010, SCC has hosted over 130 CCI participants in this program. The comprehensive program is a one-year, non-degree academic program at a U.S. community college which provides opportunities for professional internships, volunteering, and cultural exchange through community engagement activities.

The Service-Learning Experience in Communication course was designed to bring greater intention to the CCI Program volunteer experiences and requirements (CCI participants are required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer service in less than 10 months). Instructor Michelle Dew says, “In their service-learning work, we examine and compare how social causes, such as environmentalism and hunger, are addressed in the U.S. and their home countries. Our class explores how communication can be the heart to social change and, when it is done effectively, how it can be used to bring about positive change.” Students complete a service-learning project, learning about the organizational operations, completing service hours, and designing a donation drive. This project, combined with their in-classroom discussions, journal reflections, and research brings the volunteer experience “full circle” with a more meaningful and educational experience.

Another component of the CCI Program is to create an Action Plan for a project they plan to implement in their home country after graduating. After assessing the pilot course, the class now contains assignments related to how to effectively communicate their idea to their networks, information which will go into their Action Plan. *(Continued on page 6)*

2016-17 Service-Learning Poster Fair: CCI Film students at Scottsdale Community College worked with Foothills Animal Rescue to create short promotional and training videos which received over 5,000 views before the end of the academic year.



Michelle Dew states the experience has been a positive one for her as an instructor, “Being a part of Service-Learning Experience in Communication has been a tremendous teaching-learning opportunity. Each year, I work with students from around the world whose dedication to learning, serving and making the world a better place is nothing less than inspiring.” — Therese Tendick, AIE Field Advocate for Service-learning and Civic Engagement, and Megan Young, SCC CCI Program Coordinator

To learn more about the scholarship, view a list of participating schools, watch videos and more, visit the new #YouAreWelcomeHere website at:
<https://www.youarewelcomehereusa.org/>

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