



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
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A Collaborative & Integrated International Student Orientation Experience

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NASPA International Education KC Live Briefing

- I. Learning Outcomes
- II. International Education 101: Understanding the Roles, Competencies, and Functions
- III. New Student Orientation & Transition 101: Understanding the Roles, Competencies, and Functions
- IV. Exploring the Intersection: A Case Study Example
- V. A Position in the Making: The Inaugural Student Director & Leader Roles
- VI. Application to Your Campus, Final Thoughts, and Reflections



Learning Outcomes

As a result of participating in this live briefing, participants will:

- Compare and contrast the core competencies of international educators and new student orientation professionals.
- Describe the core programming components of orientation programs utilizing the CAS Standards.
- Articulate the primary requirements of one institution's domestic student staff supporting the international student orientation program.
- Identify 2 strategies to collaborate between an international education office and a new student orientation office to improve the international student orientation experience.



International Ed. 101

NAFSA
International
Education
Professional
Competencies™



OVERVIEW OF MAJOR CATEGORIES

COMPREHENSIVE INTERNATIONALIZATION

- Advocacy for Comprehensive Internationalization
- International Partnerships
- Internationalization at Home (Curricular and Co-curricular)
- Mitigating Organizational Risk
- Sustaining Internationalization

EDUCATION ABROAD

- Contributing to Comprehensive Internationalization
- Developing and Implementing Programs (from a U.S. Campus)
- Funding and Financing
- Office Administration
- Risk Assessment and Crisis Management
- Student Advising
- Student Health and Safety

INTERNATIONAL ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

- Admission and Placement of International Students and Scholars
- Contributing to Comprehensive Internationalization
- English as a Second Language Program Administration
- Planning for International Enrollment Management
- Preparing International Students and Scholars for Study in the United States
- Recruiting International Students and Scholars

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

- Contributing to Comprehensive Internationalization
- Crisis Management
- Office Administration
- Orientation, Retention, and Student Services Programming
- Student and Scholar Advising

CROSS-CUTTING COMPETENCIES

- Advocacy
- Communication with Stakeholders Across Campus and Community
- Financial Stewardship
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Intercultural Communications
- Leadership
- Strategic Planning



International Student and Scholar Services

- Contributing to comprehensive internationalization
- Crisis management
- Office Administration
- Student and Scholar Advising
- ***Orientation, Retention and Student Services***

International Ed. 101

International Student Programs and Services can collaborate with the New Student and Orientation Office on programs and activities during orientation that:

- Ease international students transition to campus
- Help facilitate interaction with American students
- Assist with acculturation to the American classroom and expectations
- Provide information on resources and services



International Ed. 101

Collaboration brings the strengths of both offices together to create an effective and efficient orientation program for new international students.

The New Student and Orientation Office brings the “FUN” to international orientation!!



- Earliest orientation programs
 - Harvard University
 - Focused solely on academic transition
 - Provided by faculty members
- Movement towards a holistic approach
- Engagement of parents, families, and guests
- “A comprehensive process rather than a minimal program”
(Hower, 2012, p. 372)



- CAS Standards for Orientation Programs (OP). OP **must**:
 - Facilitate the transition of new students into the institution.
 - Prepare students for the institution's educational opportunities & student responsibilities.
 - Initiate the integration of new students into the intellectual, cultural, and social climate of the institution.
 - Support the parents, partners, guardians, and children of the new students.
 - Collaborate with colleagues and departments across the institution to promote student learning and development, persistence, and success.



- CAS Standards for Orientation Programs (OP). OP should:
 - Introduce students to the learning and development that will occur throughout the collegiate experience.
 - Emphasize the independence of students in accomplishing their goals while acknowledging their interdependence with their peers and families.
 - Provide information about the physical layout of the campus.
 - Design and facilitate opportunities to clarify personal and educational goals, meeting peers, and begin forming new relationships.



- NODA: Association for Orientation, Transition & Retention in Higher Education
 - Chartered in 1976
 - Premiere educational & professional development source for NSO
 - Responding to the changing needs of the NSO profession
 - New affinity networks for student micro-communities – including the official recognition of the International Student Network in 2010.

Exploring the Intersection

- Internationalization focus at FHSU
 - Boom of growth in 2006 – 3 modalities of enrollment
 - Introduction of new staff member → Assistant Director of International Student Services
 - Primary responsibility: Re-development of international student orientation & development of international FYE course for all new international students.
 - Previous approaches:
 - Compliance
 - Functionality
 - Individual student basis



Exploring the Intersection

- Office of Transition & Student Conduct

- First centralized office created in 2012

- Home to OTR

- Mission:

Through experiences and partnerships, the Office of Transition & Student Conduct connects students with relationships that help them transition in and throughout college discovering their place, passion, and purpose in the FHSU family.

- Physically housed in the VPSA Suite next door to ISS Office

Exploring the Intersection

- Fall 2014 enrollment
 - 360+ students
 - 35 countries
 1. China (64%)
 2. Saudi Arabia (10%)
 3. Paraguay (2%)
 - Bahamas students on the rise
 - Not only acculturation to American society but also social integration from various home countries



Exploring the Intersection

- Partnerships Developed between OTR & ISS
 - Focus for ISS staff
 - Focus for NSO staff
 - New collaborative social integration elements
 - Cultivation of new campus & community partners
 - Spouse Orientation program development
 - Re-design of NODA Summer Internship to collaborate
 - Re-work ISS orientation positions to blend into orientation leader roles
 - Functionality of Google+ community for training T12 Leaders

A Position in the Making

- Prior NSO Experience
 - Orientation Leader
 - Orientation Team Leader
 - Welcome Leader
- Worked closely with faculty and staff
 - studied the processes of orientation
 - confidence in knowing the job was instilled



A Position in the Making

- Taking on the challenge
 - How do I complete a job that has never been done before?



A Position in the Making

- Five Welcome Leaders
 - Summer trainings included:
 - TED Talks
 - Online Discussion Forums
 - Reaching out to international students
 - Helped students get acclimated to the university, small town
 - Hosted community service activities
 - Showed them processes in the residence halls (i.e. cafeteria lines)

A Position in the Making

- Benefits of working with international students
 - Heightened cultural humility
 - Built relationships





Lessons Learned





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