

# WORKING IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Did you enjoy your off-campus study, and are you considering working in the field after CC? Are you an international student who has directly benefitted from an international educator welcoming you to the U.S.? Ever considered teaching English abroad? The professional field of International Education is wide and varied. Here are some places to start looking for leads of a career that is always a new adventure.

## MAIN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**NAFSA: Association of International Educators** <http://www.nafsa.org/>

-The *Career Center* section of their website has a Job Board of most openings around the world in various sectors, profiles of international educators, and a Career Resources section.

-NAFSA's annual conference is Memorial Day Weekend and is the largest international education conference every year. It is a great chance to meet people and network across the main sectors of international education: Education Abroad, International Student Support Services, and Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

-NAFSA offers workshops in-person and online to train you in areas like international student advising, education abroad, international enrollment management, research, and intercultural skills.

**The Forum on Education Abroad** <http://www.forumea.org/>

This newer organization was formed specifically for the sector of international education that deals with Education Abroad, that is, the sending of U.S. students overseas. They also are the standard-setting body for best practices in the field. Forum has an annual conference in early April every year, a networking and learning opportunity (you can volunteer also, for reduced registration).

-Explore the "Professional Certification in Education Abroad" training courses, they are well-respected in the field and would be a wonderful way for a serious beginner to add to their resume.

## EXAMPLES OF JOBS TO EXPLORE

- You could work on a college campus (2-year or 4-year, private or public), advising students either going abroad or international students coming in to study in the U.S.
- Program providers like IES, CIEE, IFSA-Butler, Arcadia, SIT, or ISA need program reps to travel to U.S. colleges and represent their study abroad program options at fairs. If you did a CIEE study abroad program, they have paid summer internships in their Portland, Maine headquarters offices to learn about the field.
- Programs overseas need bilingual speakers to work with American students in their abroad offices, and interface with locals or host families.
- There are short-term high-school language programs overseas, such as EF (which has a Denver office)
- While you're still completing your undergraduate education, you might see if your study abroad program offers an ambassadorship or alumni representative program on-campus that you can apply to. Telling other students about your off-campus study is a great way to show your dedication to furthering international education, and to get some experience in the field.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

In addition to the trainings mentioned above through the Forum on Education Abroad certificate programs and the NAFSA workshops and Academy, getting a graduate degree in International Education can open doors to employment and make you a more competitive candidate. Here are some to explore:

- School for International Training (SIT): MA programs in International Education; Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL); Intercultural Service, Leadership, and Management; and Sustainable Development: Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Change. SIT also offers a shorter online certification in International Education with a short residency on their Vermont campus.
- Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey: This program in Monterey, CA, offers masters' degree programs in International Education Management, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), Teaching Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpretation, and International Development.
- Lesley University: In Cambridge, MA, offers a masters' degree in International Higher Education and Intercultural Relations.
- Also explore graduate-level summer short courses through the Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication (SIIC) at Reed College in Portland, OR. One of the premier gatherings of professionals in the field of intercultural communication, SIIC presents a unique opportunity to explore the field and network with others in a stimulating and supportive environment.

## OTHER IDEAS

- The Institute for International Education (IIE) is a far-reaching research & policy organization that supports international education across the country: <http://www.iie.org/Careers>. They administer scholarships and fellowships like the Gilman, the Boren, and the Fulbright and many other forward-thinking initiatives and programs to support worldwide educational exchange, and have offices in cities around the world.
- If you've already studied abroad, your off-campus study program may offer a wide range of alumni resources, internships, volunteer positions, job boards, or alumni networks. Always check with them!
- If you haven't studied abroad yet, consider picking a program with an internship course component, so you can develop your own professional networks in a country you'd like to return to and work with.
- Visit the CC Career Center for resources that other CC alums have utilized to find satisfying global careers in international education.