



The Association for International
Credential Evaluation Professionals®

OCTOBER 1-4 2018

**4th ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**
PHILADELPHIA, PA

WORKING TOGETHER

**TO ENSURE INTEGRITY
IN INTERNATIONAL
CREDENTIAL EVALUATION**



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Greetings, friends and colleagues!

In preparing this welcome letter for our Philadelphia conference, I found myself first turning to our TAICEP website for inspiration. It's there that we can see how far we've come from our humble beginnings in 2013. In the five years that have passed since then, together we've built a thriving association of international credential evaluation professionals that had never before come together in such numbers and from such a variety of countries (nineteen, at last count!). If you're at all like me, this is a positive development, as you might have felt somewhat isolated in your job. We're a small industry, and collaborating with others in your own office, much less with international credential evaluators around the world, seemed like something that probably would happen only seldom, if at all.

But now there's TAICEP. It's a place and a concept where we can all meet, exchange ideas, learn from and teach other, and feel – finally! – like we “belong.”

When I saw our presenter-lineup for this fall's conference, I'll admit: I felt a little bit awestruck. What an amazing group of expert colleagues from around the globe! How fortunate we are to be able to come together and benefit from their knowledge, and to build our networks as we greet old friends and colleagues, and meet new ones.

But I really shouldn't feel surprised about it. One of the strengths of our industry is our generosity of spirit, our willingness to teach and learn from each other. I bet you've experienced it, too.

Are you new to international credential evaluation? Well, congratulations and welcome to the TAICEP annual conference. You've come to the right place to learn from experienced colleagues!

Have you been in the profession for what seems like forever? Guess what? You'll meet new-to-the-profession colleagues who will teach you a thing or two about innovations in the field.

In short, we're all fortunate to be here, at this venue, sharing ideas, comparing notes, and coming together to reaffirm the reasons we love this work.

I'd be remiss if I didn't lavish praise on – especially! – the two committees of tireless volunteer leaders who crafted this conference for us: the Conference Planning Committee (CPC) and the Professional Development Committee (PDC). The CPC, led by Timothy Kell and Kate Freeman (our Philly Conference Coordinator), includes Tatiana McKenna, Denise Benz, Sulaf Al-Shaikhly, and Chiara Finocchietti. When you see them, please thank them for choosing fascinating, historical Philadelphia as our conference venue, and for what promises to be a smoothly-run, successful conference.

On the sessions side, the PDC is led by Denise Benz and her committee members: Jessica Stannard, Timothy Kell, Robert Huang, Ildiko Bors, and Amy Arcario. These are the colleagues to whom you can give kudos for the sheer number, breadth, and depth of credential evaluation sessions that can't be found anywhere but at TAICEP.

And finally, thanks most of all to you, our members, who in little and big ways make us who we are: The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals.

TAICEP'ers...welcome to Philly! Let's make this our best conference yet!

LESLEE CLAUSON EICHER

PLENARY SPEAKER



Rajika Bhandari

Head of Research,
Policy and Practice
at the Institute of
International Education
(IIE)

Rajika Bhandari is Head of Research, Policy and Practice at the Institute of International Education (IIE) where she provides strategic oversight of research, evaluation, and thought leadership activities and leads the Open Doors and Project Atlas projects on international higher education mobility. Dr. Bhandari is a frequent speaker and widely published author on global student mobility with six books on the subject, including one on educational exchanges between the U.S. and India. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology from North Carolina State University and a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in Psychology from Indraprastha College, University of Delhi, India.

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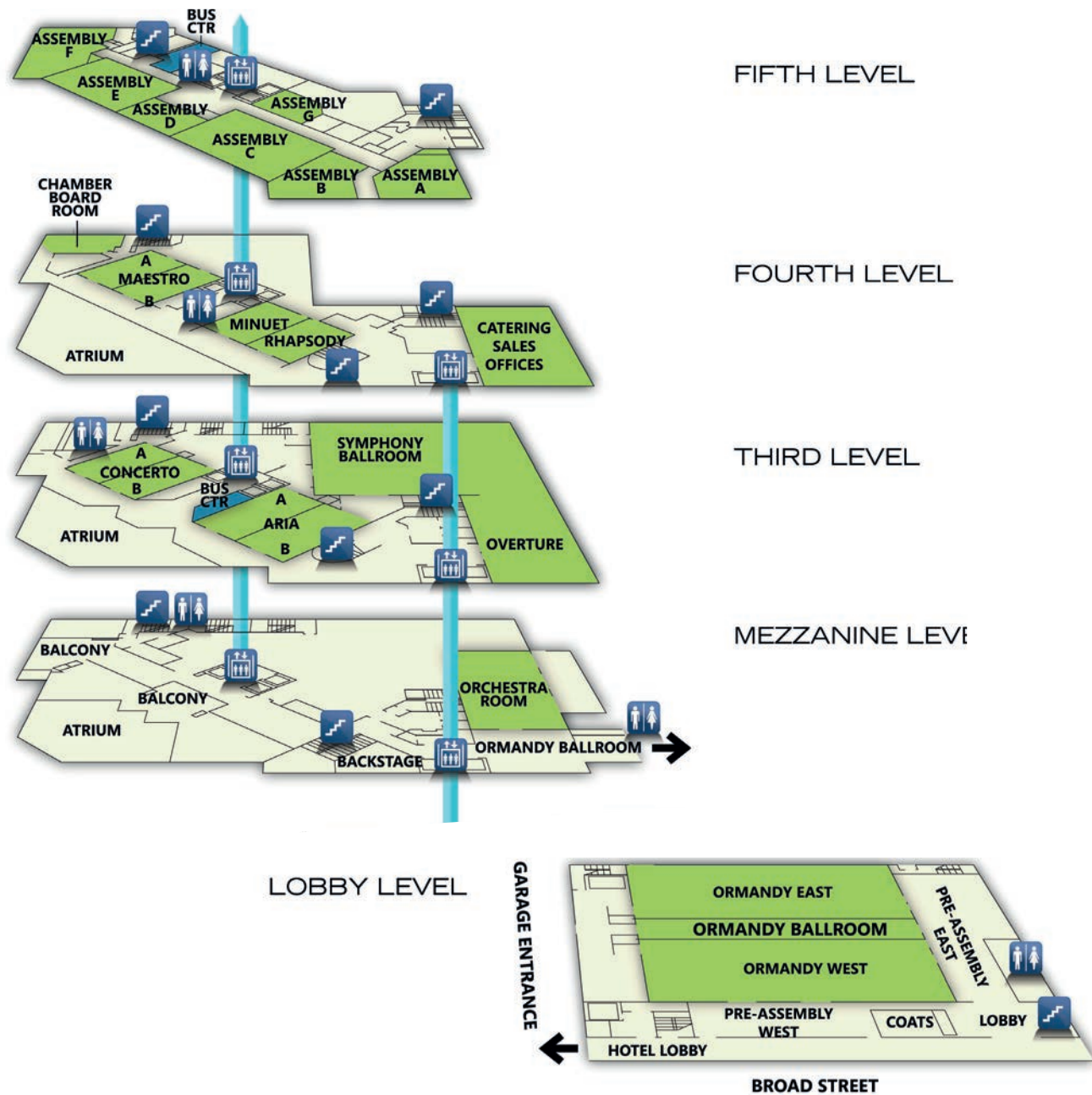
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- ✓ Members' senior evaluators possess expertise and mastery in the field of academic credentials evaluation
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NACES is a Proud Sponsor of the TAICEP 4th Annual Conference

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CONFERENCE HOTEL MAP



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY

- 7:15 – 5:00 Conference Registration
- 8:00 – 5:00 Full-Day Pre-Conference Workshops
- 8:00 – 12:00 Morning Half-Day Pre-Conference Workshop
- 9:00 – 5:00 Board of Directors and Committee Meetings
- 10:15 – 10:30 Refreshment Break
- 12:00 – 1:00 Lunch (on your own)
- 1:00 – 5:00 Afternoon Half-Day Pre-Conference Workshop
- 3:15 – 3:30 Refreshment Break

TUESDAY

- 7:15 – 5:00 Conference Registration
- 8:00 – 5:00 Exhibitors
- 8:30 – 9:45 Conference Welcome and Opening Plenary
- 9:45 – 10:15 Refreshment Break
- 10:15 – 11:30 Concurrent Sessions Block 1
- 11:30 – 11:45 Networking Break
- 11:45 – 1:00 Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 – 2:15 Concurrent Sessions Block 2
- 2:15 – 2:30 Networking Break
- 2:30 – 3:30 Concurrent Sessions Block 3
- 3:30 – 4:00 Refreshment Break
- 4:00 – 5:00 Concurrent Sessions Block 4
- 6:00 – 8:00 Conference Reception

WEDNESDAY

- 8:00 – 5:00 Conference Registration
- 8:00 – 5:00 Exhibitors
- 8:30 – 9:45 Concurrent Sessions Block 5
- 9:45 – 10:15 Refreshment Break
- 10:15 – 11:30 Concurrent Sessions Block 6
- 11:30 – 11:45 Networking Break
- 11:45 – 1:00 Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 – 2:00 Concurrent Sessions Block 7
- 2:00 – 2:15 Networking Break
- 2:15 – 3:15 Concurrent Sessions Block 8
- 3:15 – 3:45 Refreshment Break
- 3:45 – 4:30 TAICEP Open Meeting
- 4:30 – 5:00 TAICEP Business Meeting
- 6:30 Restaurant Hops

THURSDAY

- 8:30 – 9:45 Concurrent Sessions Block 9
- 9:45 – 10:15 Refreshment Break
- 10:15 – 11:30 Concurrent Sessions Block 10
- 11:30 – 12:00 Conference Closing
- 12:00 – 12:30 Attendance Certificate Pick-Up

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



LesLee Clauson Eicher

President

LesLee Clauson Eicher is a devoted member of the field of international education. She started her career evaluating international credentials as a graduate student at a large state university, and has been in the field ever since. In her current job at AACRAO, she splits her time between evaluating international credentials and providing training in credential evaluation topics to colleagues at colleges and universities around the U.S. and the world. She enjoys teaching and public speaking, and is eager to learn from and teach others the field of international credential evaluation.



Cloud Bai-Yun

Vice President for Standards

Dr. Cloud Bai-Yun is the Chief Executive of UK NARIC, the UK's national agency providing information and expert opinion on vocational, academic and professional qualifications worldwide. Dr. Bai-Yun joined UK NARIC in 1997 to affect the initial Ministerial brief to create and implement the UK NARIC services on behalf of the UK's Government. Under Dr Bai-Yun's dynamic and pioneering leadership, UK NARIC has been transformed from a low profile, loss-making operation to an internationally recognized and respected leading public service provider.



Margit Schatzman

Past President

Margit A. Schatzman has been a leader in international admissions and credential evaluation for over 35 years and is currently president of Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE). She is a frequent speaker at U.S. and international conferences on international education on topics such as credential evaluation principles and methods and falsified and altered documents. She has shared her expertise through seminars, training programs and by consulting with university and government personnel around the world. Margit has been at the forefront of significant developments in international credential evaluation. As a member of the European Association of International Education (EAIE) she spotlighted for US audiences changes taking place in Europe as a result of the Bologna Declaration. She was co-chair of the first NAFSA Task Force on the Bologna Process. She was instrumental in the founding of The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals. Margit serves on the Board of Directors of the Groningen Declaration Network and is working to integrate and promote the use of digital student data in credential evaluation.

TAICEP 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WHEN

October 21 - 24, 2019

WHERE

Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle
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CONSIDER
SUBMITTING
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OR SESSION
PROPOSAL!



TAICEP

The Association for International
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EXECUTIVE BOARD



David Haynes

Treasurer

David Haynes is the president of International Education Evaluations, Inc. in Charlotte, North Carolina and has held that role since May 2007. He has enjoyed marital bliss for over 31 years with his wife Jennielea. He also enjoys travelling and spending time with his wife, three children and two grandchildren as much as possible. He competed in his second Ironman triathlon in Nice, France this year.



Diana Hense

Secretary

Diana Hense is a senior in international credential evaluation at the University of Amsterdam (UvA) where she has been working for over 15 years. Currently she is responsible for establishing a university-wide central admissions office at the UvA, and for reorganizing admissions procedures. She holds a degree in ancient history and is a certified marketing and communication and change management professional.



Marshall Houserman

Vice President
for Membership

Marshall Houserman is Director of Admissions at UIC Global, a partnership between the University of Illinois at Chicago and Shorelight Education. Prior to his current position, Marshall spent over six years working as an evaluator and senior evaluator with Educational Perspectives, nfp. Marshall was previously chair of the Membership and Outreach Committee in TAICEP. He is also a member of NAFSA: The Association for International Educators' Trainer Corps and has presented at state, regional and international level conferences. He has contributed to several publications, including the *NAFSA IEM Spotlight Newsletter*, the *NAFSA Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*, and the *AACRAO International Guide*.



Robert Prather

Executive Director

Robert has worked in a variety of position in higher education, including admissions, marketing, immigration, and study abroad. He has worked at several large state universities, and for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. Robert has held volunteer roles in NAFSA and AACRAO. In addition to his current role as TAICEP's Executive Director, he acts as the primary caregiver for his mother who has Alzheimer's. Robert has his master's degree in economics and diplomatic history from the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky. He is devoted to the international education profession and very much values his association with TAICEP.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Plenary speaker sponsored by NACES/National Association of Credential Evaluation Services



Tuesday morning refreshment break sponsored by SpanTran: The Evaluation Company



Administrative costs sponsored by ICAS/International Credential Assessment Service of Canada and SpanTran: The Evaluation Company



Wrap-up meeting sponsored by CIMEA/Centro di Informazione sulla Mobilità e le Equivalenze Accademiche



SPECIAL THANKS

COMMITTEES

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

Margit Schatzman*
Educational Credential Evaluators (USA)

David Haynes (ex-officio)
International Education Evaluations, Inc. (USA)

Robert Prather
TAICEP staff

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Rolf Lofstad*
NOKUT (Norway)

Emily Tse
International Education Research Foundation (USA)

Meg Wenger
Educational Credential Evaluators (USA)

Sarah Ledwidge
International Credential Service of Canada (Canada)

Diana Stevens
Australian Catholic University (Australia)

David Williamson
INTO/University of Alabama Birmingham (USA)

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Jessica Stannard
NUFFIC (Netherlands)

Timothy Kell
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Robert Huang
Conestoga College (Canada)

Ildiko Bors
SpanTran: The Evaluation Company (USA)

Amy Arcario
St. John's University (USA)

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Peggy Bell-Hendrickson
Transcript Research (USA)

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AACRAO (USA)

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ICAS of Canada (Canada)

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World Education Services (USA)

Chiara Finocchietti
Centro Informazioni Mobilità Equivalenze Accademiche (Italy)

Diana Hense
Universiteit van Amsterdam (Netherlands)

COMMITTEES

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEER

CERTIFICATION

Kate Freeman*
SpanTran: The Evaluation Company (USA)

Aleksandar Popovski
Ucredo (USA)

Marianne Tompkins-Carter
Ontario College of Teachers (Canada)

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Paula Baker
University of Minnesota (USA)

DIGITAL STUDENT DATA

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Educational Credential Evaluators (USA) (

Emily Tse
International Education Research Foundation (USA)

Diana Stevens
Australian Catholic University (Australia)

Erik Johannsson
Swedish Council for Higher Education (Sweden)

Xiaoshu (Susan) Li
China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center (China)

TAICEP COMMITTEES ARE ALWAYS
LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS.

**If you're interested in joining a committee,
contact Robert Prather at answers@taicep.org.**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**MONDAY
OCTOBER 1**

8:00-10:15 AM | FULL-DAY CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Developing Skills in Credentials Evaluation

Room: Aria A

This workshop will introduce the basics of comparative education and common guidelines found in evaluating credentials. Comparative education, documentation, characteristics of fraudulent documents, grade and credit conversions and recognition and accreditation will also be discussed. There will be ample time for group work and discussions.

Presenters: Jessica Stannard, NUFFIC; Bernard Ramos, Educational Perspectives, nfp

Toolkit for Recognition of Education for Refugees and Displaced Persons

Room: Aria B

The Refugees and Recognition (Toolkit) project was conceived to assist ENIC-NARIC offices in developing alternative approaches to credential evaluation and recognition of qualifications held by refugees, displaced persons and persons in a refugee-like situation, even in cases where the documentation is lacking or qualifications are scarcely documented. By identifying, describing and testing the tools, the project intended to present the inventory of assessment instruments, which can be fast applied and adopted to any context. This workshop will guide you through the Toolkit and give practical examples on implementation of tools in the contexts of Italy, Germany, Norway and Armenia.

Presenters: Marina Malgina, NOKUT; Silvia Bianco, CIMEA; Gayane Harutyunyan, National Information Centre for Academic Recognition and Mobility (Armenia ENIC)

8:00-10:15 AM | HALF-DAY CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 1

Understanding Secondary School Examinations

Room: Concerto A

Internal and external examinations are an integral part of assessing a student's academic achievement at the secondary school level in many countries. This workshop will provide an introduction to these examinations, assessment systems, and verification of results. This workshop is mandatory for anyone pursuing the TAICEP Secondary School Certificate.

* This workshop will be videotaped and recorded.

Presenters: Alex Popovski, Ucred; Charlotte Fletcher, UK NARIC

10:15–10:30 AM | REFRESHMENT BREAK: ASSEMBLY FOYER

10:30 AM–12:00 PM | ALL CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

12:00 PM–1:00 PM | LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 PM–3:15 PM | FULL-DAY CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

Non-Academic and Non-Traditional Secondary School Programs

Room: Concerto A

Not all secondary school programs are academic. This workshop will focus on non-academic and non-traditional secondary school credentials, including vocational, para-professional, adult education, home school, and apprenticeships.

This workshop is mandatory for anyone pursuing the TAICEP Secondary School Certificate.

* This workshop will be videotaped and recorded.

Presenters: Shams Chowdhury, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company; Ildiko Bors, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company

3:15–3:30 PM | REFRESHMENT BREAK: ASSEMBLY FOYER

3:30–5:00 PM | ALL CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

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7:15 AM–5:00 PM | CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: 3RD FLOOR LOBBY

8:00 AM–5:00 PM | EXHIBITORS: 3RD FLOOR LOBBY

8:30 AM–9:45 A.M.

WELCOME AND PLENARY

Room: SYMPHONY BALLROOM

Plenary speaker: Rajika Bhandari, Head of Research, Policy and Practice, Institute of International Education (IIE), New York, NY

9:45 AM–10:15 AM | REFRESHMENT BREAK: OVERTURE

10:15 AM–11:30 AM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 1

A Lawyer Walks into a Bar: Evaluating Law Degrees from Around the World

Room: Aria A

Foreign law degrees can be challenging to evaluate because legal systems and training differ from one country to another based on historical, cultural and political influences. This session will present a comparative look at law degrees from different models of legal education around the world. Presenters will share resources for information on legal education and discuss why it is often difficult to match a foreign law degree to a specific academic credential in another country.

Presenters: Nancy Katz, Evaluation Service Inc.; Margaret Wenger, Educational Credential Evaluators

Is This Really a Chinese Credential?

Room: Concerto A

Taught in China, transcribed in China, but is it a Chinese credential? In this session, the presenters will take a hands-on approach to reviewing several credentials from China that “look Chinese”, but are they really? Learn what questions to ask and where to find answers, as you hone your research, analysis and information-sharing skills to determine what these credentials are and are not.

Presenters: Annetta Stroud, AACRAO; Julia Funaki, AACRAO

AACRAO Cuba Project Presents: Secondary Education in Cuba

Room: Concerto B

Join participants from the AACRAO Cuba research group to learn more about the educational system of Cuba. Our goal is to share our knowledge. We’ll focus on secondary education, our February 2018 trip to Cuba, along with an overview of various secondary credentials, including technical programs. We will also discuss reforms that impact this tier of education and curricula. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Presenters: Melanie Gottlieb, AACRAO; Janine Pacheco, University of New Mexico; Christopher Adams, Indiana University Bloomington; Garrett Seelinger, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics; Martha Van Devender, Educational Credential Evaluators

11:30 AM–11:45 AM | NETWORKING BREAK

11:45 AM–1:00 PM | LUNCH: SYMPHONY BALLROOM

1:00 PM–2:15 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 2

AACRAO Cuba Project Presents: Post-Secondary Education in Cuba
Room: Aria A

Join participants from the AACRAO Cuba research group to learn more about the educational system of Cuba. Our goal is to share our knowledge. This session will focus on post-secondary education. Learn about our February 2018 trip to Cuba, along with an overview of various university credentials, with special emphasis on the health sciences. We will also discuss educational reforms and curricula. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Presenters: Martha Van Devender, Educational Credential Evaluators; Melanie Gottlieb, AACRAO; Patrick Leahy, Michigan State University; Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc.; Tanya Delgado, University of South Florida

Update on Bologna in Africa

Room: Aria B

In this session the presenters will describe the adoption of the Bologna process in Africa with area overviews, and specific countries as examples. The presenters will give an overview of the Bologna characteristics (three cycles, ECTS credits, quality assurance, national qualification frameworks, and the Lisbon Recognition Convention and how they have been adapted in Africa.

Presenters: Margaret Wenger, Educational Credential Evaluators; Cecilia George, Swedish Council for Higher Education; Michel Bedard, Ministère de l’Immigration, de la Diversité et de l’Inclusion Québec

Building a Resource Library

Room: Concerto A

This session corresponds to the multipart series on “Building a Resource Library” that has appeared over 2017 and 2018 in the TAICEP Talk Newsletter. This session hits the highlights on building a resource library, including the importance of it, strategies for building it, and some of the best resources. This complements “Resources from the Resource for Members Committee” session, but focuses more on building, organizing, and stocking the resource library with sample credentials, glossaries, and more. If you want to organize your information so it’s readily at your fingertips, this is the session for you!

Presenter: Peggy Hendrickson, Transcript Research

Vulnerable and At-risk Populations: Who is Doing What and How
Room: Concerto B

With the world’s population currently on the move, those of us interpreting its education can certainly run into some roadblocks. This interactive session will include an overview of challenges encountered by credential evaluators and admissions representatives when working with vulnerable and at-risk populations. Potential problems and hurdles will be discussed, along with how various organizations are working to provide solutions for these students. A round-table breakout discussion will include specific case studies to discuss and analyze.

Presenters: Amy Ullrich, Educational Credential Evaluators; Annetta Stroud, AACRAO

2:15 PM–2:30 PM | NETWORKING BREAK

2:30 PM–3:30 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 3

Round Pegs, Square Holes, and Understanding Different Credential Evaluation Philosophies

Room: Aria A

Credential evaluation philosophies are challenged when a credential from a foreign educational system does not fit into the educational structure in the home country. Take three-year first-cycle degrees, for example, and their evaluation in the United States, land of the four-year bachelor's degree and the autonomy of higher education institutions in making admissions decisions. This session will examine the credential evaluation philosophies of year-counting and benchmarking, and will explore the nuances of understanding, purpose of evaluation and fine-tuned judgment that come into play when they diverge and intersect.

Presenters: Melanie Gottlieb, AACRAO; Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert, Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc.

Jeopardy! Credential Evaluator Edition

Room: Aria B

Here's your chance to test and expand your professional knowledge base! Alex Trebek won't be on hand, but Indiana University's team of credential analysts will give you the clues in the form of answers. Take what you do on an everyday basis in the office and compete against other teams as we jump from country to country with facts and credentials information. The pressure is on now - who will win honor and glory? Can your team come up with the correct questions?

Presenters: Ally Brinzea, Indiana University Bloomington; Sarah Hulen, Indiana University Bloomington

The Educational System of Scotland

Room: Concerto A

The educational system of Scotland is not the same as the rest of the United Kingdom, and has undergone significant changes in the past 20 years, especially at the secondary school level. This session will review all levels of education in Scotland, from primary through graduate study.

Presenters: Kate Freeman, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company; Alistair Wylie, Scottish Qualifications Authority

Careers in International Credential Evaluation

Room: Concerto B

What does a career in international credential evaluation look like? What steps should one take to start or develop a career? This session will feature panelists who are at the early, middle, and late stages of the profession and who work at a non-profit organization as well as higher education institutions. Each will reflect on their work experiences, particularly how they became involved in the field, the opportunities which have supported their professional growth, and their current job-related activities. Panelists will also offer advice for those seeking a career in international credential evaluation.

Presenters: Patrick Leahy, Michigan State University; Jeanie Bell, University of Colorado-Boulder; Bernard Ramos, Educational Perspectives, nfp

3:30 PM–4:00 PM | REFRESHMENT BREAK: OVERTURE

4:00 PM–5:00 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 4

Developing Tailored and Nuanced Information to Meet Different User Needs: a UK Case Study

Room: Aria A

In UK NARIC's role supporting the UK Home Office on immigration applications, trade and professional bodies on identifying appropriate competences for work, and advising UK universities and colleges on the suitability of international qualifications for admission, it receives over 125,000 enquiries from all countries annually. To manage this and provide recognition of all types of qualifications, UK NARIC has had to develop a number of appropriate tailored processes and resources to support its work. This session highlights the different ways in which the LRC can be applied to evaluate different types of qualifications depending on sector requirements.

Presenter: Charlotte Fletcher, UK NARIC

Vocational Tracks for International Student-Athletes

Room: Aria B

Vocational programs are common among international freshman and transfer student applicants for athletic eligibility in the U.S. This session will explore a sampling of vocational education tracks that have been pursued by prospective international student-athletes. It will focus on evaluating vocational high school graduation, advanced standing credit, and transfer credit for two-year post-secondary vocational programs. Particular attention will be paid to difficult distinctions between advanced secondary programs and post-secondary education.

Presenter: Garrett Seelinger, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics

Whose Reality Counts? Evaluation of Qualifications from Unrecognized and Disputed Territories

Room: Concerto A

Unrecognized states such as Transnistria, North Ossetia, Abkhasia, Eastern Ukraine, and Crimea have been a consistent feature of the political landscape for years. While international law points both to the rights of peoples and states, the argument for territorial integrity usually wins. What kind of approaches and solutions can be applied for evaluation of qualifications coming from such territories? This session provides practical examples and discussion on possible solutions for applicants with qualifications from unrecognized and disputed states.

Presenters: Marina Malgina, NOKUT; Tatiana McKenna, Educational Credential Evaluators

Would You Recognize a MOOC If You Saw One?

Room: Concerto B

Professionals in the field of higher education have been hearing about Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for several years now, but have you ever been called upon to evaluate them for transfer credit? If the answer is “yes”, have you come up with an evaluation methodology or do you dismiss them as non-formal learning? During this session we will look at what is being offered, in what form, and by whom. An important goal of the session is to see if we can come up with guidelines on if and under what conditions credit can be granted for this type of learning.

Presenter: Jessica Stannard, NUFFIC

6:00 PM–8:00 PM | CONFERENCE RECEPTION: POOL DECK (FLOOR 5)

Join your fellow conference attendees for hot and cold hors d’ouerves and drinks. The cost of this reception is included in your registration fees. There will be a cash bar for beer, wine and mixed drinks.

*in case of inclement weather, event will be moved to Balcony Restaurant, mezzanine level

**WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 3**

8:00–12:00 PM | CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: 3rd Floor Lobby

8:00–5:00 PM | EXHIBITORS: 3rd Floor Lobby

8:30–9:45 AM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 5

Admission to Higher Education: Determining the Suitability and Ability of Students from Nigeria and the UK

Room: Aria A

How do we determine if a student is suitable for admission, in the broadest sense of suitability and ability? With an ever-increasing number of international students, and an ever-widening market for them to choose from, it is imperative that we fully understand the characteristics of the education system in which they studied. This session focuses on looking at the education systems, main qualifications, and issues of institutional recognition. Cultural, regulatory, and subject-specific issues that may arise when considering students from these countries are addressed.

Presenter: Charlotte Fletcher, UK NARIC

Data Privacy Regulations in the United States, Canada, and for EU Citizens

Room: Aria B

Collecting personal data from forms and documents obligates our organizations to follow applicable personal data privacy protection laws. This session will provide general updates on regulations that govern the protection of personal information, including FERPA (US federal educational record law), the EU GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation), the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (Canadian federal privacy law), and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Ontario privacy law).

Presenters: Julia Funaki, AACRAO; LesLee Clauson Eicher, AACRAO; Saran Ragnathan, Ontario College of Teachers

Diversity in Africa: A Multitude of Secondary Credentials

Room: Concerto A

With the sheer number of countries in Africa, learning about the educational systems of each one can be a daunting task. However, common colonial histories have created patterns and similarities among their educational systems, particularly at the secondary level. In this session, we will compare sample academic documents from across the region to explore these typologies. Attendees will learn how manageable these credentials can be, even if they are brand new to you.

Presenter: Martha Van Devender: Educational Credential Evaluators

Títulos, Técnicos, and Estudios Totales: Education in México

Room: Concerto B

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between a carta de pasante and a título? What an RVOE is and how to find out if a program has it or whether a técnico program is secondary or post-secondary? This session offers an overview

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As a proud member of TAICEP, ICAS welcomes the opportunity to learn from our international colleagues and to participate in shared initiatives to enhance the credential assessment profession.

The annual conference brings together individuals and organizations who are committed to improving the process for credential recognition internationally.

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ICAS is a bilingual Canadian organization with over 25 years of experience in the assessment of international credentials.

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of the Mexican educational system and its documents. We'll review common Mexican terminology, including terms that can easily be misinterpreted in English and how some terms may differ from other Latin American countries. We'll also examine secondary, vocational, and post-secondary documents, credits and grades, and check out resources for recognition and verification.

Presenter: Karen Krug, Educational Credential Evaluators

9:45–10:15 AM | REFRESHMENT BREAK: OVERTURE

10:15–11:30 AM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 6

Is this University Recognized? An Introduction to Best Practices in Determining Institutional Recognition Status

Room: Aria B

In this session, you will be introduced to best practices in confirming whether a higher education institution (HEI) is “recognized”, whether it has a status in its location that is comparable to the status of HEIs in your location that are legally authorized to provide higher education and award degrees. We will first define “recognition” and learn about statutes, regulations, laws and quality assurance bodies that determine and regulate the recognition status of institutions. Then we will explore resources for determining institutional status in countries around the world.

Presenter: LesLee Clauson Eicher, AACRAO

Perspectives, Policies, and Post-Secondary Degrees: Evaluating How U.S. Universities Review Post-Secondary Credentials

Room: Concerto A

Institutions in the U.S. generally review graduate applicants for U.S. bachelor degree equivalency before admitting them to a program of study. This term can have different meanings based on which institution, department, or office is reviewing files, so what does it actually mean? We will be discussing general ideas regarding this topic, as well as presenting more detailed ways to address the question of whether, or not, a student should be considered U.S. bachelor's equivalent. Due to a lack of consensus in our field, we will be presenting multiple viewpoints and seek audience input as well.

Presenters: Christopher Adams, Indiana University Bloomington; Amanda Holder, Baylor University

Remote Work Roundtable

Room: Concerto B

Working remotely is seen as an important employee benefit, as it can greatly improve the life-work balance. However, it can be challenging with a research-intensive job like credential evaluation. How do you view the educational documents? What resources do you need? How do you stay in touch with your co-workers? How do you convince your family that you are actually working? Join our panel of evaluation professionals with remote work experience to learn what works, what doesn't, and how to incorporate remote work into your job.

Presenters: Martha Van Devender, Educational Credential Evaluators; Marshall

Houserman, University of Illinois Chicago; Margaret Donaldson, Global Credential Evaluators; Olivea Dodson, Transcript Research; Karen Krug, Educational Credential Evaluators

11:45 AM–1:00 PM | LUNCH: SYMPHONY BALLROOM

1:00–2:00 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 7

The New European Education Area: What's In a Name?

Room: Aria A

TAICEP members have heard of the European Higher Education Area that was established in 1998, but did you know that in 2018 the European Commission is launching new plans for a European Education Area (EEA)? The EEA has ambitious goals for the automatic recognition of qualifications within the EU region. This session will provide an update of the main goals of the EEA agenda, illustrated with practical examples. After a presentation on the new developments, the audience will be invited to discuss the advantages of this new initiative for credential evaluation in Europe and other regions in the world.

Presenter: Bas Wegewijs, NUFFIC

Evaluation Resources: Before the Internet, There Were ... Books!

Room: Aria B

Nobody wants to kill trees and dedicate space to storing paper any more, but if your work involves evaluating older credentials, sometimes the only information you will find is in printed resources and correspondence that predate the electronic era. This interactive session will be an opportunity to share notes about the “must have” print resources of years past, reasons to keep/acquire them, where to find them, and how to manage them in an electronic environment. Bring a printout of your top 10 favorite paper-based resources and we'll party like it's 1999 (1989, 1979, 1969...)!

Presenters: Emily Tse, International Education Research Foundation; Michel Bedard, Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Diversité et de l'Inclusion Québec; Nancy Katz, Evaluation Service, Inc.

Recognition of Vocational Education and Training (VET) Qualifications: New and Innovative Ways of Approaching Credential Evaluation in Norway

Room: Concerto A

This presentation will go in-depth into the methodology of NOKUTs recognition of VET qualifications as seen from the case handler's perspective. The method involves an evaluation of the scope, level and vocational content of qualifications. What a case handler does in each of the assessment stages and how the precedent database is being developed and used, will be presented. A challenge in this evaluation process is to find reliable sources from different historical periods. The presentation will elaborate on the office processes and information management systems, and suggests potential ways of handling and sharing this digital information.

Presenters: Sigurd Thorsen, NOKUT; Silje Molander, NOKUT

Introduction and Update on TAICEP's Certification Program

Room: Concerto B

Members of TAICEP's Certification Committee will provide an update on TAICEP's Certification Program, including the Foundation Certificate that is in its second year and the Secondary School Certificate that was introduced earlier in 2018.

Presenters: Kate Freeman, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company; Alex Popovsky, Ucredo; Marianne Tompkins-Carter, Ontario College of Teachers

2:00–2:15 PM | NETWORKING BREAK

2:15–3:15 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 8

Resources from the RMC: A Useful Guide for Creating and Organizing a Reference Library in the Digital Age

Room: Aria B

The Resources for Members Committee (RMC) has dedicated itself to providing quality resources for TAICEP members, including extensive lists of reference materials, a verification database that is regularly updated, a companion webinar, the TAICEP Talk Newsletter, and more. Now we want to explore some of these available resources such as online databases, country profiles, publications, and others that we've compiled for you. We will discuss different uses of resources based on user (admissions vs assessment agency). We'll also summarize some of our suggestions for tracking and storing information which will allow members to keep their library current and relevant.

Presenters: Peggy Hendrickson, Transcript Research; Anu Soin, ICAS of Canada; Christopher Adams, Indiana University Bloomington

Insights Into Managing a Credentialing Team Successfully

Room: Concerto A

Managerial roles can be both challenging and rewarding, no matter what area one supervises. This may be an admissions or evaluation office within a larger institution or a stand-alone agency. Frequently, lack of resources, whether in terms of budget or personnel, can make it difficult for managers. Often, such teams tend to be structured linearly, providing limited opportunities within the organization, which can lead to high turnover rates, posing further challenges. The presenters will discuss some of the successful strategies they have used to hire staff, motivate and challenge them, and provide them with professional development opportunities in the field.

Presenters: Emily Tse, International Education Research Foundation; George Kacenga, Purdue University Northwest

Authentication and Official Documents in the Digital Age

Room: Concerto B

Authentication of academic documents is a very important aspect of credential evaluation. In the digital age, it is ever more challenging to detect fraud, and there is more of a push to utilize electronic means of delivery. It is also challenging to establish guidelines and best practices as to when electronic document submission can be accepted and what types of online resources can

be used for authentication/verification. In this session, different authentication methods will be introduced, including verification, official documents from institutions, apostille procedure, legalization, and third-party verification services.

Presenters: Ildiko Bors, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company; Sulaf Al-Shaikhly, World Education Services

3:15–3:45 PM | REFRESHMENT BREAK: OVERTURE

3:45–4:30 PM | TAICEP OPEN MEETING: SYMPHONY BALLROOM

This is your time to give feedback to TAICEP leadership about the conference and the organization.

4:30–5:00 PM | TAICEP BUSINESS MEETING: SYMPHONY BALLROOM

TAICEP leadership will report on the state of the organization, including organization finances, strategic plan, and proposed changes to the by-laws. While all conference attendees are encouraged to attend the business meeting, only eligible TAICEP members may participate in any voting that may occur.

6:30 PM | RESTAURANT HOPS: MEET IN THE LOBBY



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THURSDAY OCTOBER 4

8:30– 9:45 AM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 9

Más Allá de lo Inicial: Una Mirada Avanzada a la Educación Mexicana Room: Aria A

Beyond timelines, system structures, and verifying cédulas online, this session is for those who are very familiar with Mexican education, yet might benefit from understanding CCT or CURP; confirming program accreditation and loss thereof; verifying CCT, CURP, RVOE and apostilles online; discussing the plethora of online programs, whether secondary or tertiary; sharing institutional decisions regarding CENEVAL; reviewing post-técnico completion degrees; and acknowledging that undergraduate degrees are based on credits, not years of study.

Presenter: Barbara Glave, SDR Educational Consultants and Credential Consultants Translations

Translating and Transliterating Room: Aria B

One challenge of credentials evaluation is working with documents in different languages. The more you rely on a translation, the more opportunities there are for you to be misled, through faulty or interpretive translations, or inadvertently. Credentials evaluators need to read native language documents and identify common characteristics, words or characters, and more. This is harder when the alphabet used is different than your own, and you cannot easily type things into an online translator. In this session, we will explore some of the strategies for transliterating from a different alphabet such as the Latin alphabet to Cyrillic.

Presenter: Peggy Hendrickson, Transcript Research

Facilitating Admission of Refugee Students to Higher Education - Examples from USA, Turkey and Norway Room: Concerto A

Refugees and vulnerable migrants, especially those without proper documentation of their qualifications, are at a disadvantage within both the labor and higher education markets. This panel session directly address improving the situation of refugee students concerning their integration into higher education, and will present best practices that have been tested in the U.S., Turkey and Norway in the evaluation of educational background and admission of refugee students to higher education institutions.

Presenters: Marina Malgina, NOKUT; Jeanie Bell, University of Colorado-Boulder; Marybeth Gruenewald, Educational Credential Evaluators

The Experience of the Swedish ENIC-NARIC in Dealing with Fraudulent Credentials: The Case of the Middle East with a Focus on Syria

Room: Concerto B

We'll provide you with tools for establishing an efficient anti-fraudulent unit within your agency including instructions, guidelines and computer software. Get tips and tricks for spotting fraud in foreign credentials with a focus on the Middle East will be addressed, with a special attention on credentials awarded in Syria.

Presenters, Samir Gabro, Swedish Council for Higher Education; Adnan Dautbegovic, Swedish Council for Higher Education

9:45 AM–10:15 | REFRESHMENT BREAK: Overture

10:15–11:30 AM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK 10

The Recognition of Foreign Vocational Education and Training (VET) Qualifications and Their Relevance to the Labor Market

Room: Aria A

Germany and Norway have established recognition schemes for foreign vocational education and training (VET) qualifications. The presentation will show how the countries developed their methodology and evaluation practices in this area and will give practical insights in the different practices of evaluating the content of VET qualifications. The session will also focus on the "end users" (companies, applicants, refugees) and their great benefits.

Presenters: Marie-Claire Von Radetzky, German Economic Institute; Sigurd Thorsen, NOKUT; Silje Molander, NOKUT

Ná Hǎo from Norway and Sweden: Best Practices for Evaluating Chinese Credentials

Room: Aria B

The ENIC-NARIC offices of Norway (NOKUT) and Sweden (UHR) have a wide experience with evaluation of Chinese documents and have different approaches on how to recognize Chinese credentials. This session will share their unique best for the assessment and recognition of Chinese credentials. NOKUT and UHR's distinct recognition procedures, including institutional and programmatic accreditation, document requirements, verification procedures, and online databases, will be explored. Attendees will be able to compare and contrast these two different approaches to the evaluation of Chinese academic documents to their own processes and procedures.

Presenters: Dongdong Meng, NOKUT; Ase Rislund, UHR; Marybeth Gruenewald, Educational Credential Evaluators

Climbing the Ladder: How 3 Professionals Are Navigating Careers in Higher Education

Room: Concerto A

Many individuals happen upon the field of international credential evaluation and enjoy what they do day-to-day, but where do they go from there? Three representatives from a US institution - all involved with international credential

evaluation at differing levels, from data entry to higher administration - will discuss their career paths and mobility within the field of international education. What opportunities are there for evaluators to develop and grow into different positions? What skills are required for those who would like to explore other areas of the same general career path?

Presenters: Christopher Adams, Indiana University Bloomington; Ally Brinzea, Indiana University Bloomington; Rachel Salinas, Indiana University Bloomington

Game of Ministries

Room: Concerto B

After the collapse of the USSR, the countries of the former Soviet Union established their own Ministries of Education. Despite their common history, each country now has a unique system of education in terms of educational structure, language of instruction, institutional recognition, and other factors. When searching for specific educational information, we are overwhelmed by the wealth of information stored in the ministerial websites. How do we search for lists of accredited recognized institutions, quality assurance bodies and online verification databases in various languages? These questions are always on the agenda of evaluators working with former Soviet countries.

Presenters: Tatiana McKenna, Educational Credential Evaluators; Kurt Baumbach, Academic Evaluation Services, Inc.; Olivea Dodson, Transcript Research; Laura Dirvonskyte, CIMEA

11:30 AM–12:00 PM | CONFERENCE CLOSING: SYMPHONY BALLROOM

12:00–12:30 PM | PICK UP YOUR CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE: 3RD FLOOR LOBBY

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