



2023 Executive Board Election Candidate

Vice President for Advocacy & Outreach

Name: Daniel Marschner

Title: Director of International Admissions & Outreach

Institution: Loyola Marymount University

Location/Region: United States/Canada & U.S.

Member Group: Post-Secondary (College & University)

All Applicant Questions

Please provide a statement of why you wish to run for the International ACAC Board, and other relevant information you would like members to know about you.

I have loved serving on the International ACAC Board as Vice President for Advocacy and Outreach, and I hope to continue in this position because the connections I have made through International ACAC have been incredibly important to my personal and professional growth. I have been involved in International ACAC for over a decade, and the passion, creativity, and courage that my fellow members have demonstrated continually inspire me! As a US citizen who has lived and worked in Australia and Latin America, I have a great appreciation for international students and I feel that our profession has never been more vital in a time where xenophobia has been rising around the world. As Vice President, I hope to build upon the successful Regional Institutes that have brought together members from around the world, expand our efforts to help international students navigate the college admission process, and clarify our work to influential global policy makers. I also seek to learn from our members better ways to provide evidence and resources to demonstrate the value of our increasingly vital work to help students make more informed decisions about their higher education aspirations. I am

excited about the future of our organization and I humbly seek the opportunity to continue to serve our membership as its Vice President for Advocacy and Outreach.

Background and Experience

Years of experience in post-secondary admissions counseling or related fields?

10+ years

Please describe any professional or volunteer experience you feel would be relevant for serving on the International ACAC Executive Board.

I have greatly enjoyed my participation in the Advocacy and Outreach Committee for the past three years, and in my previous and current role as Vice President of Advocacy and Outreach for International ACAC. I believe very strongly in the mission and values of the organization and the connections I have made through International ACAC have greatly enhanced my personal and professional development. In addition to being part of the International ACAC Executive Board, I also joined the university advisory board for Cialfo in 2019, and I really enjoy the opportunity to further my knowledge and understanding of the field through interactions with my colleagues. I have greatly enjoyed my experiences working with the Professional Development Committee and the Advocacy and Outreach Committees; the Regional Institutes I have attended have been very positive experiences, and the Annual Conference has always been a highlight of the summer for me. I believe very strongly in the importance of collaborative leadership, and therefore the opportunity to connect with my peers and help the organization grow together while learning from others' expertise is very compelling. Ultimately, the most exciting aspect of service on the Executive Board from my perspective is the opportunity to continue the impressive legacy of International ACAC and help guide the organization to become even stronger in the future.

Please describe how you have engaged in the international community, and the impact this has had on your professional life. Describe any International ACAC Committee experience you have.

I have been working in university admissions for two different institutions for over thirteen years, and I have attended International ACAC annual conferences consecutively since the University of Denver in 2012. Previous to serving on the board, I was part of the Professional Development Committee from 2015-2017 and I joined the Advocacy and Outreach Committee in 2019. As part of the Professional Development Committee, I helped to organize the Pre-Conference Institutes in Oregon, Rutgers, and Case Western. I was also part of the planning team for the East Asia Regional Institute in Incheon, South Korea in 2017 and in the MENA

Regional Institute in Abu Dhabi, UAE in 2017. In both of these events, I helped with the content and structure of the event, presented on multiple occasions, and helped select and guide the faculty in their presentations. In my role as a committee member of the Advocacy and Outreach Committee, I collaborated with some other committee members to create a report for the planning team to consider various sites in the region. I also was an organizer and panelist for the webinar entitled “Counseling Cash-Conscious Kids – Exploring Options in the US and Canada” in October 2019. I have enthusiastically participated in these activities because I think that International ACAC’s initiatives have significant impact on their participants and on continuing to enhance our profession. Additionally, I have served as the Vice President for Advocacy and Outreach since September 2022 and have enjoyed my time interacting with the current Executive Board.

Please describe your affiliation with NACAC, if any. How long have you been a member of NACAC? Do you have any volunteer or committee work or experience with NACAC?

I have been a continuous member of NACAC since 2016 and I have twice attended the NACAC Annual Conference (St. Louis in 2010 and Louisville in 2019). As Vice President of Advocacy and Outreach for International ACAC from 2019-2020, I worked with Michael Rose and Lindsay Addington from the NACAC Government Relations office with regard to planning efforts for the Advocacy Day in March 2020. I also participated in NACAC's ad-hoc committee Reimagining the NACAC-Affiliate Partnership from 2021-2022. Finally, in my current role as VP for Advocacy and Outreach starting in September 2022, I meet quarterly with the NACAC Government Relations representatives to discuss initiatives that involve the coordination of affiliates and NACAC to connect with leaders throughout the state and national governments in the United States.

VP for Advocacy & Outreach Specific Questions

What advocacy issues do you see as relevant to International ACAC?

I think that International ACAC has an important voice in higher education admission around the world and the organization should always advocate on behalf of the best interests of students. I think that communication with members is key to understand the emerging issues that they would like the Advocacy and Outreach Committee to address. First, I think that the work that the Advocacy and Outreach Committee has done to provide networking opportunities via the Regional Institutes and Roundups has been very impactful and led to significant professional development for our members. I think that the committee should further its collaboration with the Professional Development Committee to enhance these experiences further. Second, the organization should expand upon its successful outreach efforts to lawmakers in the US to address student mobility concerns in countries such as Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, and the UK. Third, International ACAC should continue to support counselors with limited resources and visibility so that students can have greater opportunities to find their best educational future. I think that the success of the Scholars’ program over the past several years has

demonstrated the value of diverse perspectives in our Annual Conference, and I think that International ACAC should continue the efforts such as webinars and through our website to make resources more readily available around the world.

Please describe ideas you have for the future direction of this position, or specific initiatives you would like to develop. This may include this specific position, or may be in collaboration with another Vice President. Be as detailed as possible.

I think that the role of the Advocacy and Outreach Committee is essential to moving International ACAC forward as we continue to serve our members and foster international student mobility. I look forward to the opportunity to coordinate the return of in-person Regional Institutes starting in fall 2023 as I think these events are some of the most appreciated opportunities for members to engage with each other. I also think that Advocacy and Outreach will reimagine our efforts to connect with government officials on behalf of international students around the world especially as NACAC evolves its Advocacy Day program. Additionally, collaboration with International ACAC committees such as the Admissions Practices, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Professional Development has great potential to enhance the programming and experiences that members receive from our organization. Overall, I am excited to see how the Advocacy and Outreach Committee emerges from the pandemic with increased energy to represent our membership well in connecting to entities around the world.

Part of this position is managing people, committees, and projects. What is your experience in this area? Describe your management style. How do you like to be managed?

I have the pleasure of managing a team of three other professional staff, two graduate assistants, and ten international student workers in my current role as Director of International Admission at Loyola Marymount University. When faced with a challenge, I work with my team to develop a solution together and I always seek to incorporate as many diverse perspectives as possible. I also celebrate our accomplishments often, and provide flexibility so that the staff can determine the best ways to achieve our goals and also meet our obligations while still allowing for personal and professional growth. I provide clear communication about my expectations and speak with my colleagues directly to address any concerns that may arise. When I am being supervised, I prefer to have clear goals set from my supervisors and I appreciate the opportunity to work independently. I also volunteer for new opportunities to expand my professional experience as well as provide consistent updates about my progress toward my goals. My supervisors have appreciated my dedication to my work and noted my ability to manage my team while traveling frequently as required by my position.

Name your three most impactful takeaways from the December 2020 DEI Organization Assessment Report. How would you advance the conversation around diversity and inclusion

within International ACAC? How do you believe the Executive Board should function in this capacity?

I think that diversity and inclusion are essential components to a functioning organization, and that International ACAC becomes stronger as an organization the more representative it becomes to reflect our global membership. I think that the Executive Board should have membership that represents regions from around the world – for example, I think that designating representative positions for particular regions would be worthwhile – and I think that previous initiatives such as the joint training with CIS about implicit bias should be continued and expanded. If I have the opportunity to continue to lead the Advocacy and Outreach Committee, I will consider diversity and inclusion amongst the top of the criteria for who would be a good addition to the group. I also look forward to working closely with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to see how we can combine resources to advocate for greater diversity in our profession. I also think that International ACAC should continue to expand its partnerships with other organizations around the world, such as with International College & Career Counseling (IC3), to better incorporate a more global perspective in its programming.