



## **NGUM SYLVIA CHEMUANGUH EBUNE**

**From:** Cameroon

**Job:** Counselor at Academic School of Excellence

### **What's a proud moment from your work that you'd like to share with the International ACAC membership?**

When I guided a student to obtain a full scholarship to Columbia University in New York. This occurred in 2021 which was my first year as a high school counselor and member of the International ACAC. It motivated me to guide more students in 2022 through their university admission process.

### **Why did you apply to be an IACAC Scholar?**

Participating in the international ACAC conference will permit me to learn how to advocate for my students, raise funds to support them, register for standardized tests and also travel to the test sites. I will also learn how to organize and facilitate webinars with universities in the USA and other countries for my students so that they can gain knowledge about the universities, their faculties, summer programs, and financial aid offer. The Counselor Bus tour will enable me to carry out a door-to-door, first-hand look at select college campuses and what makes them unique. It will give me the opportunity to interact with students and staff at the colleges and universities we will visit so as to learn what they have to offer. It will give me the opportunity to appreciate the infrastructure, innovative programs, the beauty of the region, the hospitality of the people, and their culture.

### **What are you excited to contribute to the International ACAC association and annual conference?**

What I am excited to contribute to the international ACAC association and the annual conference is to volunteer on the different committees so as to contribute to the growth of the International ACAC association. I will also share my experience with other counselors.

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## **MARINA GRIGORYAN**

**From:** Armenia

**Job:** English teacher at Lyceum Photon” of Gyumri”  
SNPO (“Photon “College)

### **What’s a proud moment from your work that you’d like to share with the International ACAC membership?**

The most proud moment from my work is that I left Russia for Armenia for the purpose of enlightening Armenian kids who were suffering after the disaster of Spitak earthquake. Then I was very young but I made a life changing decision, despite all the challenges I knew I would face. But now, my pride

has mounted as I can see the success of my students who are currently enrolled in famous universities and colleges worldwide.

### **Why did you apply to be an IACAC Scholar?**

I was nominated by my former student for the 2021 International ACAC Scholar Program. I have never attended such International conferences. I am working in an organisation where financial support for professional development is non — existent. I work with a large number of students seeking both admission and financial aid for tertiary study both inside and outside my home country. To be a Scholar is a great opportunity for me to gain international experience and enrich my knowledge about College Admission Counseling.

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## **SUH ABONGWI TCHIO LEVIS**

**From:** Cameroon

**Job:** Counselor at Mada International College

### **What's a proud moment from your work that you'd like to share with the International ACAC membership?**

The first task I was given by my school was to oversee two students apply for the Yale Young African Scholars summer program. This is a remarkable moment for me because of the confidence and trust that had been given to me. At the end of the application these two students were awarded admission into the program and till today it has become a culture on campus.

This trust and confidence has become a motivation throughout my job as counselor in the school.

### **Why did you apply to be an IACAC Scholar?**

I applied to be a scholar because I feel that there is more that I can offer these young people of my community and to do that I have to learn, network and gather all the resources they will need in their journey. I definitely know the ACAC Scholar program will give me this.

### **What are you excited to contribute to the International ACAC association and annual conference?**

I will love to share my students' cultural diversity, day to day experiences and challenges as a counselor in my context. I believe this will help paint a better picture of how to tailor admissions conditions for them.

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## **TADIJA MITIC**

**From:** Serbia

**Job:** University & Career Counselor IBDP at Grammar School "Svetozar Markovic" Nis

### **What's a proud moment from your work that you'd like to share with the International ACAC membership?**

One of the proudest moments that I had actually happened quite recently. Since September 2021 I have been working with my students on their dreams come true, in their educational life. Finally, the time has come for the admission decisions to arrive, and my students

have managed to be accepted and received full scholarships for some prestigious Universities across Europe and USA. The first time I felt like I can fly was when my student sent me a message on WhatsApp where she said she was accepted at the University of Padova with a full scholarship for the programme she was dreaming of studying. At that moment, I knew that my job and my work have a purpose, and it motivated me to work even harder and invest more energy into getting better at my work, as my students depend on it. After the first great news from the mentioned student, I have received much other similar news from my students, as they were getting accepted by John Cabot University, Haverford College,, University of Zurich, etc. As I was going through their educational life for a couple of years as their CAS coordinator in the IBDP programme, this was one of the proudest moments in my career.

### **Why did you apply to be an IACAC Scholar?**

I have applied to be a Scholar as I honestly think that working with secondary students, especially as their University & Career counselor, is a lifetime opportunity to actually have one of the noblest jobs on the planet. As a Uni counselor, I am helping my dear students, and many other students that I am not directly teaching, to achieve their dreams and goals. What makes me even happier about it is that I am doing it pro-bono (for free). By applying for being a Scholar, I intend to create contacts worldwide and gain experience and knowledge that I would never have been able to do in Serbia. This programme will provide me with a broad network of people with whom I can collaborate, which will further influence my work with the students from the area where I live. The conference is a wonderful opportunity for me to network with many professionals from universities and schools around the world, which will create a big impact on my work, and upgrade it to a level that I honestly never believed was possible for me, due to the economical situation my school and I are in.

### **What are you excited to contribute to the International ACAC association and annual conference?**

I honestly believe that the biggest contribution I can make is the presentation of my school and students from it, as they are our most valuable resource. Students with so much potential, intellect, work ethics, and mindsets can be one of the most valuable University students worldwide. So far, our students are, almost every year, bringing medals from the physics, chemistry or mathematics Olympics, and they are one of the most successful young people in our country. Sharing my knowledge and experience about working in Europe but in an economically not that stable country, with all the issues that our students mostly face, is a valuable thing to share with the educational community. It is possible to inspire someone to overcome some of the problems they are facing at their school, by hearing how we managed to deal with things with a very low budget. So I am excited about sharing whatever I know and whatever I have experienced so far if it can help grow the educational world community.



## **SERZHAN ZHURMAGAMBETOV**

**From:** Kazakhstan

**Job:** College Counselor at Almaty  
“Bilim-Innovation” lyceum

### **What’s a proud moment from your work that you’d like to share with the International ACAC membership?**

A proud moment from my work is being a counselor and helping students in their difficult moments of life when they do not know what profession to choose or where to apply, you are there to help in any way you can.

### **Why did you apply to be an IACAC Scholar?**

I applied to be an International ACAC Scholar because I am sure that at the conference there will be many things which I can learn from other experienced counselors. It is a great opportunity to build a network with university representatives. I would like to share the acquired knowledge with the counseling community in Kazakhstan.

### **What are you excited to contribute to the International ACAC association and annual conference?**

It is a great honor to share with the International ACAC membership my experience. Relatively, I am new to this field so I would like to share how counseling is done in my country.