



2025 Regional Council Election Candidate

Region 6

Name: Yaw Fosu-Korankye

Professional Title: School Counselor

Institution/Organization: International Community School Ghana

Country of Residence: Ghana

Member Group: Secondary (High School)

Applicant Questions

Explain your motivation for pursuing a leadership role with International ACAC, as well as why this position in particular. Highlight how your leadership experience and involvement with the organization make you a strong fit for the role..

I am eager to pursue a leadership role with International ACAC because I strongly believe in its mission to support international college admissions professionals and promote equitable access to higher education worldwide. My years of engagement with International ACAC have shown me how it encourages collaboration, professional growth, and cross-cultural understanding—key elements in today's global education landscape. A leadership position would allow me to contribute more significantly to these goals and help shape initiatives that address the evolving needs of our diverse membership.

This specific role interests me because it closely aligns with my skills and passions. Whether focusing on professional development, member engagement, or advocacy, the position offers a platform to influence critical aspects of the organization's work. I am particularly excited about the opportunity to design programs and strategies that enhance member experiences, build community, and uphold ethical admissions practices. Collaborating with an international network of dedicated professionals inspires me, and I look forward to contributing to an organization that impacts students and institutions globally.

My leadership experience prepares me well for this role. I have effectively led diverse teams,

managed complex projects, and developed training initiatives that support professional growth—often in international or multicultural settings. I prioritize inclusive leadership, creating environments where all voices are heard and respected, which aligns with the values of International ACAC. Additionally, my experience in organizing conferences and facilitating workshops has provided me with a practical understanding of how to create meaningful and engaging professional opportunities.

My active participation in International ACAC as a conference participant and committee member has deepened my understanding of the organization's culture and member needs. I have contributed to initiatives that have improved member engagement and helped shape policies that support our community. This ongoing involvement fuels my commitment to serve in a leadership role, where I can leverage my experience and passion to advance the organization's mission and effectively support its members.

In summary, my motivation, relevant leadership background, and active involvement with International ACAC make me a strong candidate for this leadership position. I am eager to contribute my skills.

Drawing from your previous experience in volunteering and leadership, how have these roles equipped you with the skills and insights necessary for the Founding Regional Representative position? Please highlight your leadership philosophy and strategies for effectively managing and leading a volunteer committee, with a focus on communication, collaboration, and recognition. Additionally, share specific accomplishments that demonstrate your ability to build professional communities, mentor emerging leaders, and promote inclusive and culturally responsive practices—key responsibilities of this role.

My volunteering and leadership experience, including my role as a volunteer for the IACAC mentorship program, has deeply prepared me for the Founding Regional Representative position by sharpening my skills in communication, collaboration, and community building. Leading diverse volunteer groups and supporting mentees taught me the importance of clear, consistent communication that fosters trust and engagement. I prioritize active listening and open dialogue to ensure every voice is heard, strengthening team cohesion.

My leadership philosophy centers on servant leadership—empowering others by providing support, resources, and encouragement. I set a shared vision while respecting individual strengths and cultivating a culture of mutual respect and accountability. This approach promotes collaboration, where diverse perspectives drive innovation and shared ownership.

A key accomplishment was organizing a successful gathering event that fostered networking and collaboration among professionals, increasing community engagement. Additionally, I secured an Opportunity Grant for college application sessions for High School students in Kumasi, which provided critical support and expanded access for students, demonstrating my commitment to equitable practices.

Through mentoring in the IACAC program, I have supported emerging leaders' growth, helping several volunteers step into leadership roles themselves. I have also initiated culturally responsive programming that increased participation from underrepresented groups, reinforcing an inclusive community ethos.

These experiences equip me to build vibrant, inclusive professional communities, mentor rising leaders, and lead with empathy and strategic vision—qualities essential for the Founding Regional Representative role.

As a Founding Regional Representative for International ACAC, how would you outline your understanding of the role, including the priority areas you would focus on, your overall vision for the region, and the challenges you anticipate addressing? Additionally, what innovative solutions would you propose to strengthen all regional networks, enhance member engagement, and improve communication between members, the Council, and the Board, while acknowledging current practices or programs you find effective?

As a Founding Regional Representative for International ACAC, I see my role as a vital liaison connecting members with the Council and Board, advocating for regional needs, and fostering a strong, inclusive community. Priority areas include expanding access to professional development, supporting diverse membership, and promoting best practices in college advising. My vision is a region where equity, collaboration, and innovation drive student success globally. Challenges include geographic diversity, varying resource levels, and engagement consistency. To address these, I propose leveraging virtual platforms for accessible events, and implementing regular, interactive communication channels like webinars and regional newsletters. Building on existing initiatives such as ACAC's robust online resources and annual conferences, I aim to enhance real-time dialogue and peer support, ensuring all voices are heard and valued across the region.

As a Founding Regional Representative, advocacy for international students is central to International ACAC's mission. Identify a critical issue in college admissions or international education that you would prioritize addressing in your region. Explain its significance, the potential impact on students and institutions, and how you would collaborate with regional and global stakeholders to drive meaningful change.

As a Founding Regional Representative, I would prioritize addressing the critical issue of equitable access to college admissions for international students amid rising visa restrictions and financial barriers. This challenge significantly impacts students' ability to pursue higher education abroad, limiting diversity and cross-cultural exchange on campuses. For institutions, it reduces the richness of global perspectives and may affect enrollment stability. To tackle this, I would collaborate closely with regional educational organizations, consulates, and universities to advocate for streamlined visa processes and expanded scholarship opportunities. Engaging with global stakeholders, such as international education networks and policy makers, would help align efforts and share best practices. By fostering partnerships and promoting awareness, we can create more inclusive policies and support systems that empower international students, enriching educational communities and advancing International ACAC's mission of advocacy and access.

Explain how you would use this position to advance International ACAC's strategic plan by aligning your top three priorities with the organization's three pillars: enhancing member experience globally, clarifying the international brand, and

optimizing internal operations.

To advance International ACAC's strategic plan effectively in this position, I would align my top three priorities directly with the organization's three pillars: enhancing member experience globally, clarifying the international brand, and optimizing internal operations.

Enhancing the Member Experience Globally

My foremost priority would be to deepen member engagement by fostering inclusivity and accessibility, reflecting the organization's commitment to being warm, welcoming, and culturally humble. I would focus on developing innovative, inclusive programming aligned with the diverse needs of members worldwide, as outlined in the strategic plan. This includes implementing a comprehensive new member onboarding process and a certification program that builds competence and recognition within the community. Furthermore, I would revamp the volunteer process to ensure equitable access to opportunities, standardizing committee member selection to mitigate bias and promote transparency. By communicating strategy progress and sharing outcomes openly, I would reinforce trust and keep members informed and involved, enhancing their overall experience.

Clarifying the International Brand

To strengthen International ACAC's global identity, I would prioritize clear and consistent communication that highlights the organization's values and impact. This aligns with the plan's emphasis on revising the communications strategy and crafting an organizational impact statement. I would lead efforts to redesign communications channels to deliver timely, relevant information tailored to diverse member segments. Enhancing the website with expanded profiles, improved search functionality, and refined information architecture would showcase the brand's inclusivity and commitment to innovation. By developing advocacy guidelines, I would ensure the organization speaks with a unified, confident voice that resonates internationally, helping clarify and elevate the brand.

Optimizing Internal Operations

Optimizing internal processes is critical to sustaining growth and member satisfaction. I would focus on reimagining events to ensure equitable treatment and access for all members regardless of location, membership type, or origin, reducing engagement barriers such as time zones or event timing. This would involve creating segmented content for different membership types and hosting regional forums to increase accessibility and connection.