



INTERNATIONAL

ACAC

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING

MEMBER MONTHLY BULLETIN

September 27, 2023

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From the Desk of the President, Michelle Chow-Liu

It was lovely to see so many International ACAC members at the NACAC Conference last week in Baltimore! Prior to the conference, the Executive Board met for two and a half days of focused and productive work. Here are some of the updates from our time together:

- We are continuing to focus on our strategic roadmap and brainstorming ways for our members to stay engaged within the association. November marks the return of our monthly "Webinar Wednesdays," and we are reviewing our IEC and organizational members' roles to ensure they feel included in the counseling landscape.
- Member Grant Program: The Board approved an ongoing member grant program designed to support regional engagement opportunities among our members. 12 grants of up to \$250 USD can be distributed throughout the year. This program was formerly known as **Family Style Gathering Grants**.
- NEW ways to encourage prospective hosts for our annual conference. We will share the Annual Conference Host Interest Form in the coming months - interested institutions will no longer submit an RFP, but rather engage in conversations early on to learn more about the feasibility of bringing International ACAC's yearly event to their campus. We are also looking at the possibility of establishing conference hosts two years out (2026, 2027).

- President-Elect Wilson Lee shared the 2023 Conference survey results and solicited Board members' feedback. The group had time to reflect and make solid suggestions that we hope to incorporate for future events, including the 2024 Conference at Western University.
- An Ad Hoc Focus Group has been formed to examine the Board structure, and will be chaired by Past-President Kristin Dreazen. She will lead a team of 14 members (including Past-Presidents, the immediate Past-President, current Representatives, current Vice Presidents, and several Members-at-Large). We thank you, Kristin, for your support in this vital work. This group will make recommendations to the Presidential Team next September.
- Northeastern University was selected as the host institution for the next International ACAC Annual Conference. We are excited to see you all in Boston, Massachusetts in 2025!

Wishing you all a wonderful start to the school year! I look forward to connecting with you in the coming months at the Regional Institute in Doha, at the NACAC Global Universities Fair in London, or the CIS Forum in Dublin.

Warm regards,

Michelle Chow-Liu
President, International ACAC
Head of High School Counseling, Western Academy of Beijing

Scholar Nominations Now Open

Do you know a high-impact university advising professional who supports academically strong, under-resourced secondary school students? If so, please consider nominating them for the **International ACAC Scholar Program**. The form takes roughly a minute to fill out, yet has the power to change that person's life and the lives of their students around the world. **The deadline for nominations is November 1.**

2024 Scholar Nomination Form

If you have questions about the nomination process or the Scholar Program in general, please check out the website linked above or email ias@internationalacac.org.

Nominate a Colleague for the GEM Award

The 2023 Fall **Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Award** nominations are open now! Our member recognition program acknowledges the exemplary work of International ACAC members by highlighting a dedication to our profession, our colleagues, and our students by demonstrating best practices, acts of goodwill, creativity, and ethics. If you know someone who deserves to be celebrated, now is your chance to nominate them! **Nominations are due on October 10.**

Nominate someone for a GEM award today!

Coming Soon: Paid Access to Pre-Conference Content

The Professional Development Committee wants to increase your access to learning content! With an eye on an October launch, members will have the ability to gain access to sessions from the 2023 Pre-Conference Institute. For only \$30, you will receive the recordings of 11 sessions presented by industry leaders and experts. Previously, this content was only available to those who

attended the Pre-Conference Institute in-person.

Please look out for the launch of this Pre-Conference content on **October 25**. Fee waivers for the content will be made available.

2023 NACAC Rising Star Award: James Akaba

Congratulations to our colleague and friend, Mr. James Akaba! James was awarded the **2023 NACAC Rising Star Award**, which honors individuals and programs that exemplify excellence and dedication to serving the needs of students in the transition from high school to college. As the Country Director for Open Dreams, a community-based organization in Cameroon. James has helped hundreds of students gain access to education and funding opportunities around the world. As a valued member of our community, he inspires many through his dedication to mentoring both students and professionals alike.

Read more about James, his work, and the impact he has on his community [here](#), and join us in congratulating him on this well-deserved recognition.

NACAC Global Universities Fair in London: Register Today

Registration is still open for **NACAC's inaugural Global Universities Fair**, taking place on November 11 in London, U.K. Hosted by Northeastern University London, the program will include a college fair format and panel presentations for students and families. There will also be time for university exhibitors to connect with student advisors through networking opportunities, a counselors' college fair, and more. Though there is still availability to register, space is limited. If you are a post-secondary member interested in participating in the event, please **complete the interest form** at your earliest convenience.

2024 Renewal Reminder

The 2024 renewal notice was sent to members via email in August. To renew your membership for the year, simply verify the information in your **Member Profile** and pay the renewal dues invoice. You can access the renewal dues invoice for payment by clicking the "Renew Now" button at the top of your member profile page (to the right of your photo icon).

If you are changing your institution/organization or member type, please complete the **2024 Renewal Form**. Within the form, you will have the ability to make any changes pertaining to your new or updated role.

Thank you to the 1200+ members who have already renewed their membership for 2024! As a reminder, members who renew by December 1 will receive early notification of 2024 Conference registration.

Dates & Deadlines

- October 6-8: MENA Regional Institute at Georgetown University in Doha, Qatar
- October 10: 2023 Fall GEM Nominations Due
- October 25: Access to Pre-Conference Professional Development Content

- October 26: Access to 17th Conference & Professional Development Content
 - October 25: Scholar Applications Launch
 - November 1: Scholar Nominations Due
 - November 11: NACAC Global Universities Fair in London, U.K.
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Quick Links

- [2024 Renewal Form](#)
- [2024 Scholar Nomination Form](#)
- [2023 Fall GEM Award Nomination Form](#)
- [2023 Conference Session Downloads](#)
- [Counselor & University Support Database](#)
- [2023 Middle East & North Africa Regional Institute](#)
- [Executive Board Meeting Minutes](#)
- [July General Membership Meeting Minutes](#)
- [2023-2024 International ACAC Student Financial Aid Forms](#)
- [Program & Events Calendar](#)