

The RAP Overseas Advisers and Admissions Connection

“Connecting the World”

http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge_community_network.sec/recruitment_admissions/overseas_educational_1

http://www.bibl.uszeged.hu/oseas_adsec/

Prepared by:
Roberta James Paola, past ADSEC/OSEAS Chair

Updated by:
Rita Moriconi, RAP Overseas Advisers and Admissions Connection Chair and Liaison for Latin America
Country Coordinator for Educational Advising in Brazil
Fulbright Office of Educational Advising, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
rita@fulbright.org.br
http://www.bibl.u-szeged.hu/oseas_adsec/
www.educationusa.state.gov

WHAT IS THE RAP OVERSEAS ADVISERS AND ADMISSIONS CONNECTION ?

The RAP Overseas Advisers and Admissions Connection group consists of nine overseas based Educational Advisers from EducationUSA Centers – U.S. Department of State Affiliated Educational Advising Offices Overseas, who volunteer their time and expertise to assist admission personnel and others at United States tertiary institutions with information which will aid them in evaluating foreign credentials and foreign educational systems as well as supplying specific information based on particular needs. EducationUSA advisers formed this Liaison project with NAFSA in 1997, with the main goal of assisting our stateside colleagues with questions concerning foreign educational systems through a variety of means. Advisers are based at more than 500 U.S. educational advising centers around the world. They are the primary source of comprehensive, unbiased, and up-to-date information about all levels and aspects of the U.S. educational system and serve as a source of information on host-country educational institutions. Each of the Liaisons has a specific geographical area of responsibility. Combined, the Liaison team covers the globe. For a list of liaisons that will connect you with the nearby EducationUSA adviser, please go to http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge_community_network.sec/recruitment_admissions/overseas_educational_1/practice_resources_21/overseas_advising_and/overseas_advising_-_admissions

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE GROUP?

Internationalization of U.S. campuses has drawn considerable interest over the last several decades. Each year, more and more institutions become actively involved in study abroad programs and the recruitment of foreign students. Along with an increased interest in internationalization, the need for the ability to access information on various foreign educational systems and their credentials increases proportionately. Although U.S. organizations such as AACRAO and NAFSA assist in providing information which involve equivalency recommendations, changes occur throughout the world's educational systems that taxes the ability of these organizations to keep their information current and valid.

In an effort to assist U.S. institutions with accurate and timely information, the now called RAP Overseas Advisers and Admissions Connection Liaison group was formed. The immediate task was to collect and collate as much information on each of the geographical regions as possible and make it freely available. To this end, Dr. Ildiko Ficzko of the University of Szeged in Hungary and the Liaison for East and Central Europe continuously maintains a website, which provides easy access to educational information on each country of the world. Contact information of not only all the Liaisons but also contact information on Educational Advising Centers plus country educational profiles where available and a myriad of links to specific country information is easily accessible.

The website may be found at: http://www.bibl.u-szeged.hu/oseas_adsec/ or http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge_community_network.sec/recruitment_admissions/overseas_educational_1

In addition to the information available on the website, each of the Liaisons responds to hundreds of questions each year from US institutions. These questions are primarily found from scanning Inter-L postings and from direct contacts.

Despite a phenomenal amount of voluntary effort on the part of the Liaisons, the constant mobility in the field of education in the US impacts on the availability of this information to all who might need it. Not every institution subscribes to the Inter-L. Not every institution is a member of NAFSA. Yet all institutions have the same primary need when dealing with international education. That need is accurate and current information.

The Liaison Group was created so that it may provide, to the best of its ability, information that is both timely and accurate.

WHO ARE THE LIAISONS?

Africa: *Africa:* new Liaison will be chosen. For information on Africa, contact REAC Nancy Keteku, keteku@africaonline.com.gh

East Asia: Mila Tan. Ms. Tan is the Educational Adviser for the Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF-Fulbright Commission Philippines) since 2000; she has been the East-Asia Liaison since August 2001. PAEF's Educational Advising Center deals with 20,000 contacts per year and aims to increase the number of Filipino students in the US by 25% by 2005. mtan@paef.org.ph

East & Central Europe: Ildiko Ficzkó. Dr. Ildiko Ficzkó has been participating in the Liaison Project as ECE Liaison since 1998 and as webmaster of the website since 1999. As an Educational Adviser, Dr. Ficzkó disseminates information in person, via e-mail and through a website in an office sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. As ECE Representative, webmaster, conference organizer she has been a member of the OSEAS Leadership since 1994. ficzko@bibl.u-szeged.hu

Latin America (Chair): Rita Moriconi. Mrs. Moriconi has been with the ADSEC/OSEAS team since May 2001. She has worked as an Educational Adviser at the Fulbright Office of Educational Advising in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil since 1992, and she is presently the ADSEC/OSEAS Chair and Country Coordinator for Educational Advising in Brazil, responsible for the coordination of 21 advising offices throughout the country. Her EducationUSA center affiliated with the U.S. Department of State is located in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. rita@fulbright.org.br

Middle East and North Africa : New Liaison will be chosen. For information on this region temporarily contact Sohair Saad ssaad@amideast.org

Eurasia (NIS): Gayane Grigoryan. Senior Educational Adviser. Yerevan American Councils for International Education: ACTR-ACCELS Educational Advising Center, Armenia gayane@americancouncils.am

Oceania: Judy Freudenberger. Ms. Freudenberger has been the U.S. Educational Adviser at the Australian-American Fulbright Commission for over 6 years, and the (first) U.S. Educational Advising Country Coordinator in Australia since December 2001. She has been a part of the ADSEC/OSEAS team since May 2001. "Team Australia", made up of 5 Department of State affiliated advising centers around Australia, responds to about 9,000 inquiries annually. freuds@bigpond.net.au

South Asia: Swetha Muthanna, USEFI, Bangalore, India, swetha_muthanna@lycos.com

Western Europe and the Baltics: Merli Tamtik. Mrs. Tamtik has worked as an Adviser since 2001, and was appointed a Liaison in 2002. Mrs. Tamtik is the sole Adviser at the Educational Advising Center, which runs out of Tartu University Library in Tartu, Estonia. Mrs. Tamtik's center, one of the U.S. Department of State affiliated Educational Advising Centers, handles over 5000 contacts annually, 2500 of them are walk-ins. Merli.tamtik@ut.ee

The RAP Overseas Advisers and Admissions connection would like to invite you to submit your questions concerning our various areas to us. We are there to assist you, U.S. universities representatives.

LIAISONS – Countries Covered

Chair: Rita Moriconi, rita@fulbright.org.br

Latin America: Rita Moriconi, rita@fulbright.org.br

Anguilla / Antigua and Barbuda / Argentina / Aruba / Bahamas / Barbados / Belize / Bolivia / Brazil / British Virgin Islands / Canada / Cayman Islands / Chile / Colombia / Costa Rica / Cuba / Dominica / Dominican Republic / Ecuador / El Salvador / Falkland Islands / French Guiana / Guatemala / Haiti / Honduras / Jamaica / Martinique / Mexico / Montserrat / Navassa Island / Netherlands Antilles / Nicaragua / Panama / Paraguay / Peru / Puerto Rico / St. Lucia / St. Kitts and Nevis / Guadeloupe / St. Vincent and the Grenadines / Suriname / Trinidad and Tobago / Uruguay / U.S. Virgin Island / Venezuela

East Asia: Mila Tan, mtan@paef.org.ph

Cambodia / People's Republic of China / Hong Kong / Indonesia / Japan / Republic of Korea / Lao People's Democratic Republic / Malaysia / Mongolia / Myanmar (Burma) / Philippines / Singapore / Taiwan / Thailand / Vietnam

Oceania: Judy Freudenberg, freuds@bigpond.net.au

Australia / New Zealand

Eurasia (NIS): Gayane Grigoryan, Yerevan American Councils for International Education: ACTR-ACCELS

EAC, gayane@americancouncils.am

Armenia / Azerbaijan / Belarus / Georgia / Kazakhstan / Kyrgyzstan / Moldova / Russia / Tajikistan / Turkmenistan / Ukraine / Uzbekistan

ECE Eastern and Central Europe: Ildiko Ficzkó, University of Szeged, Hungary, ficzko@bibl.u-szeged.hu

Albania / Bosnia-Herzegovina / Bulgaria / Croatia / Czech Republic / Hungary / Macedonia / Poland / Romania / Slovakia / Slovenia / Ukraine / Yugoslavia

Western Europe and the Baltics: Merli Tamtik, University of Tartu, Estonia, merli.tamtik@ut.ee

Austria / Belgium / Cyprus / Denmark / Estonia / Finland / France / Germany / Greece / Iceland / Ireland / Israel / Italy / Latvia / Lithuania / Liechtenstein / Luxembourg / Malta / The Netherlands / Norway / Portugal / Spain / Sweden / Switzerland / Turkey / U.K.

Africa:

Angola / Benin / Botswana / Burkina Faso / Burundi / Cameroon / Cape Verde / Central African Republic / Chad / Cote d'Ivoire / Democratic Republic of Congo (former Zaire) / Djibouti / Equatorial Guinea / Republic of the Congo / Eritrea / Ethiopia / Gabon / Gambia / Ghana / Guinea / Guinea-Bissau / Ivory Coast / Kenya / Lesotho / Liberia / Reunion / Madagascar / Malawi / Mali / Mauritania / Mauritius / Mozambique / Namibia / Niger / Nigeria / Rwanda / Senegal / Sierra Leone / Seychelles / Sao Tome and Principe / Somalia / South Africa / Swaziland / Tanzania / Togo / Uganda / Zambia / Zimbabwe

Middle East and North Africa:

Algeria / Bahrain / Egypt / Iran / Iraq / Israel / Jordan / Kuwait / Lebanon / Libya / Morocco / Oman / Qatar / Saudi Arabia / Sudan / Syria / Tunisia / United Arab Emirates / Yemen

South Asia: Swetha Muthanna, USEFI, Bangalore, India, swetha_muthanna@lycos.com

Bangladesh / Bhutan / India / Nepal / Pakistan / Sri Lanka