



# IFCCTL

Institute for Cross-Cultural Teaching and Learning

## “Integrating International Students on Campus”

### Webinars held Spring Semester 2018

International students experience many transitions as they arrive into a new living and learning environment. These transitions bring with them challenges of adapting to the new environment, meeting students, communicating with teachers or professors, and learning about local cultural patterns and expectations, including academic expectations.

The Institute for Cross-Cultural Teaching and Learning is pleased to announce a series of webinars held March-May 2018. These webinars will be presented by specialists who have spent years working with and supporting international students in their intercultural development and transitions. These presentations focus on practical steps taken by U.S. institutions to support and guide international students to more quickly and effectively integrate themselves into their new learning environment.

#### Webinar #1

##### **Integrating International and Domestic Students: What, Why, How**

Tuesday, March 27, 2018, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Presenter: Nancy E. Young, Intercultural Interaction LLC and author of *The Handbook of International Student Advising, Third Edition*

Registration page: <https://bit.ly/2BGZ0KQ>

Nancy E. Young kicks off this webinar series by framing the big picture of current practices to integrate international and domestic students in the U.S. Increasing integration of international and domestic students is a priority on many campuses. Based upon research Nancy conducted for the University of Minnesota, she provides a definition for integration in the international education context, articulates its importance, reviews five strategic approaches, and four common characteristics of current integration practices.

#### **Learning Outcomes: Participants in this webinar will be able to:**

- Identify and utilize a comprehensive definition of integration in the international education context
- Reflect upon the rationale for and benefits of integration for international and domestic students
- Identify five strategic approaches and four common characteristics of existing best practices

### **About the presenter:**

Nancy E. Young is the author of “Seeking Best Practices to Integrate International and Domestic Students,” a research report commissioned by the University of Minnesota. She also wrote *The Handbook of International Student Advising*, a complete revision of Gary Althen’s seminal work. Nancy is a passionate and committed advocate for international education, a calling she heard as an undergrad. She has presented over 70 sessions and workshops at several professional associations including NAFSA. Nancy’s diverse experience in international education includes serving as the Associate Director of Student Services at NYU’s Office for International Students and Scholars, as well as working at Hendrix College, NJIT, and Clark College. Nancy holds two Master’s degrees, one with a Creative Writing emphasis from her studies with John A. Williams, the second in Intercultural Relations. Nancy was awarded an IEA Fulbright to Japan.

### **Webinar #2**

#### **Integrating international students: The role of data, relationships, and tenacity**

RESCHEDULED to Friday May 11, 2018 -- 2:00 - 3:00 pm Eastern time

Registration page: <https://bit.ly/2Vbs4Bz>

#### **Presenters:**

Barbara Kappler Mikk, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, International Student & Scholar Services, Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, University of Minnesota- Twin Cities; Beth Isensee, M.A., Assistant Director, Student Engagement and Intercultural Initiatives, International Student & Scholar Services, Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Xi Yu, Evaluation Specialist, International Student and Scholar Services, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities



At the University of Minnesota, ISSS has taken the lead on institutionalizing a focus on international student needs and experiences. Through numerous campus partnerships and data and research, they have achieved significant positive outcomes through several initiatives, including these highlights:

- Consulting and connecting departments with existing resources (Culture Corps, academic enhancement fee, international student advisory board)
- Drawing attention to students’ desire for a sense of belonging
- Identifying integration in the classroom as a campus priority
- Enhancing campus-wide outreach to new students (Pre-Departure Orientations, arrival programming and connection to their studies)



The impacts have been significant. The data and research projects have helped create awareness of international student experiences and direct campus priorities to improve international student

experiences, including the integration of students. This work takes tenacity, building relationships, and harnessing the power of data.

**Learning Outcomes: Participants in this webinar will be able to:**

1. Identify research and data results that can be transferred to your campus
2. Consider how data can be used on your campus to draw attention to the student experience and to prioritize a plan of action.
3. Identify partners on your own campus and data you need to collect to help change your campus story.
4. Engage in conversation about challenges and successes in integrating international and domestic students.

**About the presenters:**

Barbara Kappler, Ph.D., is the Assistant Dean of International Student & Scholar Services in the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance. Barbara has 25 years of experience in intercultural communication, program management, teaching, and research. Barbara is also a member of the Graduate Faculty and serves on graduate committees in the department of with the College of Education and Human Development. Barbara is co-author of three guides for students, staff, and language instructors on “Maximizing Study Abroad,” as well as a book on communication styles. Her career at the University has been an exciting blend of program and leadership experiences, curriculum development, international communication research, teaching, and working with international students. She has taught 55 courses and served as one of the principal investigators on a recent research project examining the educational impact of international students on campus. She is currently co-editing with Inge Steglitz the NAFSA publication: Learning Across Cultures.

Beth Isensee, M.A., is an Assistant Director at International Student and Scholar Services at the University of Minnesota. Beth’s work in international education focuses on valuing and integrating international students as a critical aspect to the University’s internationalizing the campus and curriculum effort. In her current role, Beth oversees the ISSS Intercultural Initiatives and Student Engagement team. This team supports faculty, staff, and students university-wide in intercultural competency development, student transitions to campus, and programs that engage students in leadership development within the campus community. Beth leads campus-wide committees that create strategies for improving international student experiences and integration. She is a member of the University's International Student Academic Enhancement Fee committee where she advises on strategic planning and coordination of international student success enhancement initiatives university-wide. Beth also teaches a experiential internship course with the University of Minnesota’s Leadership Minor focusing on intercultural and leadership competency development in a workplace setting. She has worked within the field of International Education for 15 years and has an M.A. in Counseling and Student Personnel Psychology.

Xi Yu works at the International Student and Scholar Services at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities as an evaluation specialist. Xi conducts program evaluation and research on international student experience, satisfaction, and engagement. Xi’s professional expertise

focuses on evaluation, assessment and research on international student engagement, internationalizing campus and curriculum, and intercultural initiatives in higher education settings.

### **Registration**

To register for the webinar series (two webinars in total), go to <https://bit.ly/2GTfFhD>. The cost of the webinar series is \$180 USD. The cost is \$105 USD per webinar. Payment may be made by credit card on ifcctl.com. Follow the registration page links above for individual webinars. Webinars were recorded and will be made available for those who were unable to attend the “live” webinar presentations.

### **Questions?**

Contact us at [Events@ifcctl.com](mailto:Events@ifcctl.com).