

Forum Meets with Irish Universities

On April 28th Forum President and CEO Brian Whalen and Associate Director for Programs Annmarie Whalen attended a meeting of the international education leadership of the 7 Irish universities where they presented on the Forum's Standards of Good Practice, Code of Ethics, Quality Improvement Program, and recent trends in US study abroad. "It was a pleasure and privilege to be a part of the meeting and discuss areas of mutual interest," said Brian Whalen.

Liam O'Dochartaigh, Director of International Education at the University of Limerick, which organized and hosted the meeting, noted that "the event was an ideal opportunity to inform colleagues about the work of the Forum with which the University of Limerick has been honored to be associated from the outset." O'Dochartaigh, a member of the Forum Council, said that "based on my conversations with colleagues after the meeting, I believe that most if not all of the Irish universities will be joining the Forum."

The Forum at the NAFSA Conference

President and CEO Brian Whalen will be representing the Forum at several events and sessions before and during the NAFSA Conference in Washington, D.C. "I hope to meet and speak with as many Forum members and education abroad colleagues as possible during the conference, and I look forward to hearing their thoughts and ideas about the Forum," said Whalen.

Here is a listing of selected sessions and events that involve Forum-related content during the NAFSA conference:

Friday, May 23:

- Presentation on the Forum at the "Strategic Initiatives for University Internationalization Symposium," sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
<http://www.iaestenatlconf.org/siui.htm>

Monday, May 26:

- Presentation on "Study Abroad Ethics and Best Practices," at the Australian Universities workshop, sponsored by Australian Education International (AEI).
- Presentation on "Ethical Practices in Education Abroad, an American Perspective; and Why it Matters to You" at workshop sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for German attendees of NAFSA.

Selected Sessions with Forum involvement:

Tuesday, May 27:

- "Setting Standards for Short-Term Programs" (2:30 – 3:45)
- "Study Abroad and Global Engagement: The SAGE Research Project Report" (2:30 – 3:45)

Wednesday, May 28:

- Institutional Management of Study Abroad: The Campus Conversation (1:45 – 3:00)
- Session presentation: "Increasing the Number of U.S. Students Abroad: Challenges and Opportunities" (3:45 – 5:00)

Friday, May 30:

- Session presentation: "Accreditation, Quality Assurance, and International Education—What Does the Future Hold?" (2:45 – 4:00)

Forum Membership Dues to Increase 2%

At its most recent meeting the Forum Board of Directors approved a 2% increase in Forum membership dues for next year, the first increase in dues in four years. For U.S. Institutions with a Level 1 membership, this means dues will increase \$14 from \$675 to \$689.

"This modest increase comes at a time when the Forum is providing more benefits and services to its members than ever before," said Forum President and CEO Brian Whalen. The past two years have seen the inauguration of the Quality Improvement Program (QUIP), and the production of a wide range of resources and activities to help members improve and enhance their education abroad programs. The increase in dues will be reflected in invoices that will be sent to members next week. If members have any questions, they should contact the Forum offices at 717-245-1031.

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