

AISA CONFERENCE 2010

A ONE DAY CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISERS

**Monday 8 March 2010
University of Greenwich**

Building on the success of previous AISA conferences and training events, the AISA Conference 2010 aims to:

- Provide a forum for those working in international student advice to share and discuss strategies for running an effective advice service and the opportunity to find solutions together to some of the current challenges
- Showcase excellent work that is happening across the sector - sharing ideas and inspiring others in their work
- Consider ways in which advisers can improve the students' experiences of navigating UK immigration requirements
- Provide an opportunity for networking outside of the annual UKCISA conference and training days provided
- Provide the means by which to collate a number of case studies and presentations that can be posted electronically, providing a benefit to a wider scope of colleagues unable to attend

The conference will be dealing with the issues from PBS which affect advisers but will not provide any immigration advice training.

The cost of the day is £65 for AISA members and £80 for non-AISA members, this includes refreshments and lunch.



AISA CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 09:30 - 10:00 **Registration** (tea and coffee will be available on arrival)
- 10:00 - 10:20 **AISA AGM**
- 10:25 - 11:10 **PLENARY:**
The Points Based System (PBS): the story so far
Catherine Marston, Universities UK
- 11:10 - 11:30 Tea and coffee break
- 11:30 - 13:00 **RUNNING YOUR ADVICE SERVICE**
A session based around four themes which will be discussed by participants. Ideas for good practice will be shared and collated. Themes to be discussed will be:
- Student communications: informing students of Tier 4 requirements and regulations
 - The role of an ISA within PBS: what are the challenges you have found and the solutions you have implemented?
 - Running your advice service: are you changing the way you provide immigration advice (and other services) to international students?
 - Dealing with student visa refusals – have you implemented new systems for dealing with increased numbers of refusals?
- 13:00 - 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 - 14:45: **Workshops A, B or C**
- 14:45 - 15:00 Tea and coffee break
- 15:00 - 15:45 **Workshops D or E**
- 15:45 - 16:30 **Informal networking event:** tea, coffee and cake will be available.

Delegates will also have the opportunity to **visit the University of Greenwich's three baroque buildings designed by Sir Christopher Wren** at the end of the 17th century. "More breathtaking than the Versailles of Louis XIV" is how *The Independent* newspaper described them.

WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP A:

Student Support, supporting students through stressful situations

(also repeated as Workshop E)

This session will look at the elements involved in supporting students through stressful situations, particularly those in which you have little or no control over the outcome and / or the information you have to deliver. It will explore how best to prepare for the situation and what actions you can take to best support the student, while also looking after yourself.

Yvonne McLean, Director, Inkling Training and Coaching

WORKSHOP B:

Post Study Work and beyond: the benefits of combining immigration and careers advice to better prepare international graduates for the UK job market

At the University of Central Lancashire, the International Student Support Team work closely with the Careers Service (Futures) to ensure that our international graduates receive relevant careers and immigration advice to better equip them in a competitive UK job market. This session will endeavour to demonstrate to advisers the benefits of such a collaborative provision for international students and graduates and the impact on the career prospects for such individuals.

Richard Melia, Senior International Student Adviser, The University of Central Lancashire

Nicky Dowbiggin, Careers Adviser, The University of Central Lancashire

Nicola (Ze Qiong) Lin, International Student Adviser, The University of Central Lancashire

WORKSHOP C:

FE and proposed Highly Trusted Sponsorship within PBS and Tier 4

This session will look at the role of international advisors and support staff within the context of the first year of PBS and Tier 4. Looking to the future, we will consider how advisors can help move their institution into the proposed category of Highly Trusted Sponsor.

Angela Melley, Manager for International Operations & EFL and PBS Authorising Officer, West Thames College

WORKSHOP D:

Free interactive tools and materials for your website and orientation. Find out how UNIAID's resources can complement your information about budgeting and uni life and let us know how they could be improved to help!

The UNIAID PMI project has now produced three resources to complement information and guidance about money management and university life. This workshop will introduce the new Student Life Wiki, and the updated International Student Calculator and International Adviser's Resources. Participants will hear how their institution can add content to the Wiki and use these resources in orientation. Plus we ask for your ideas for how the resources could be improved for the coming year.

Jemma Samuels, Programme Director, UNIAID

Stephanie Saffrey, Programme Coordinator, UNIAID

WORKSHOP E:

Student Support, supporting students through stressful situations

(repeat of Workshop A)

BOOKING FORM

Please complete one copy of this booking form for each delegate, and keep a copy for your records. You will be invoiced at your institution.

Does your institution operate a purchase order system? Yes No

If yes, what is the purchase order number:

First name:

Surname:

Job title:

Name of institution:

Full address:

AISA Region (if known):

Tel:

Fax:

Email:

Special dietary or access needs:

Please state your preferred choice of workshops:

Please indicate your first and second preference for each workshop session by marking a '1' or a '2' in the relevant box. We will try and accommodate your first choice workshop as best we can but numbers on each session are limited.

WORKSHOP A

Student Support, supporting students through stressful situations (*also repeated as Workshop E*)

WORKSHOP B

Post Study Work and beyond: the benefits of combining immigration and careers advice to better prepare international graduates for the UK job market

WORKSHOP C

FE and proposed Highly Trusted Sponsorship within PBS and Tier 4

WORKSHOP D

UNIAID's free interactive tools and materials for websites and orientation

WORKSHOP E

Student Support, supporting students through stressful situations (*repeat of Workshop A*)

Please send the completed form as soon as possible to:

The Training Administrator
UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)
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