



ARIZONA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATORS

Arizona International Educators (AIE) is a professional organization for educators who are committed to supporting and enhancing the ideals and practices of international education in the State of Arizona. Since its inception, AIE members have worked together in concert as professional colleagues, avidly promoting educational principles and curricula that stretch across cultures and national boundaries. This group has met yearly since the mid-1980s to exchange ideas, share information, teach one another and learn from each other about the latest trends and innovations in the field of international education. AIE has operated as an informal, though strong, network of like-minded people for many years, until recently when it established itself as an officially organized* entity operating under a set of regulations and guided by elected officers.

AIE membership includes people who are employed in Arizona schools and educational institutions, both public and private, that serve students and faculty whose interests are centered in programs with a global perspective, as well as retired international educators and interested community volunteers.

In its early history AIE membership included primarily people employed at higher education institutions – universities, colleges, community colleges, and post-secondary schools with special focus programs. In recent years, however, interest in international education has spread across all educational arenas, from early childhood programs and schools to all types of post-secondary education. There has been increasing interest among educators in schools of all types and educational levels in developing and implementing programs which include a global perspective. Vocational and K-12 schools have opened their programs to students from foreign countries, and we see more and more students in K-12 institutions participating in study abroad activities, foreign language instruction and other international study opportunities. Government and non-profit agencies more and more are offering opportunities to U.S. students, and are actively seeking out schools to engage in exchange partnerships.

We hope to continue this momentum in Arizona, and build upon the broadened interest to expand the network of professional colleagues to include all areas of education – public and private, PreK-12 and all types of post-secondary schools.

*An application to register the name, *Arizona International Educators* was filed in the office of the State of Arizona, Department of State. The Trade Name Certificate, certifying AIE as an official organization in the State of Arizona was signed by the Secretary of State of Arizona on September 25, 2012. The document titled, *Guidelines for Arizona International Educators*, outlines the governing rules and regulations for the organization. It was ratified at the annual AIE State Meeting on March 1, 2013.

The AIE network is open to education professionals and anyone interested in promoting the cause of international education. You can find out more about AIE at <http://nau.edu/CIE/Arizona-International-Educators/> and how you can be involved by contacting any of these people:

MaryLee Carter, Int'l Student & Scholar Resources, LLC, 623-847-3555 (AIE President).
Cathy Ribic, NAU, 928-523-4199 (Arizona Representative to NAFSA Region II Team).
Debi Parris, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, 928-777-3410 (AIE Board of Directors).