

The AIE Field Advocate Program

Arizona International Educators (AIE) is an organization comprising members in diverse areas of interest, experience, and expertise. AIE's purpose is to support professional international educators in whatever their area of educational service, as well as to enhance the broad arena of international education here in Arizona. AIE supports the whole field of international education so that the global message permeates across, and infuses into, the state's many educational institutions. The work of international educators stretches across a wide spectrum of functional and operational areas, interests, institutions, job responsibilities, and clients served. Whatever the area of their educational service, professionals in this field have an abiding interest in bringing the global perspective into their work. AIE had its inception in the network of international educational professionals in Arizona who were drawn together by this interest and the desire to learn and share with each other about the field of international education.

THE FIELD ADVOCATE POSITION:

The AIE Field Advocate (FA) position was established to give voice to the various factions of the AIE membership. In order to stay abreast of the trends and current topics that each of these factions encounter, it is expected that those closest to the issues in their particular area of interest and concern bring the message to the membership, to share what is happening so that the knowledge of the collective AIE body can be informed and thus have their work with international education enhanced. According to the AIE Guidelines the number of Field Advocates will be determined by interests and needs of the AIE membership. The team of Field Advocates should include, though not be limited to, members with expertise and experience in one or more of these areas:

- Education Abroad
- International Student/Scholar Advising
- International Admissions/Recruiting
- English as a Second Language and Intensive English Programs
- World Languages
- University Issues
- Community Colleges
- Internationalizing the Curriculum
- K-12 Education
- Vocational/Technical (M-1 visa) Schools
- Using Technology to Enhance International Education
- Undocumented Students
- Refugees/Asylum Seekers
- Study Arizona

THE FIELD ADVOCATE'S JOB:

A Field Advocate is a resource and a conduit of information from the FA's area of expertise to the AIE Leadership Team and the various program planning efforts of AIE. FAs are the movers and shakers

of international education in our state. As a group, the team of Field Advocates will represent the needs and interest of all members across the international education network in Arizona, each in his/her own particular area of expertise. It is expected that the FA's will seek out information about the current issues and trends that are driving their areas of interest and concern. This information can then be translated into activities that are shared with the AIE membership, most specifically by helping to develop sessions and presentations for the annual State Meeting program, finding relevant speakers and presenters, and planning related activities. FAs don't necessarily need to work alone, since they usually reside in a network of experts that share their concerns and issues in their area of interest. It's always nice to have a buddy (or buddies) to work with, so we hope that the designated FA will tap into his/her own focused network to glean relevant information, which then can be passed on to international educators in Arizona.

FIELD ADVOCATE JOB EXPECTATIONS:

1. Research and report on issues important to your knowledge area.
 - Stay abreast of the trends, innovations, and new information in your specific field of international education.
 - Continue to network and communicate with colleagues who work in your area of interest, and encourage them to share what they know with you.
 - Establish your own small group/committee to help with gathering information and finding ways to share it.
 - Encourage your network partners to work with you.
 - Work to enhance and expand your network in the broad field of international education.

2. Keep AIE membership informed
 - Research and report on issues of concern in your area of expertise.
 - Collect and share resources and contacts with AIE.
 - Share information about trends, issues and topic relevant to your area of expertise.
 - Contribute your thoughts, suggestions and ideas about possible improvements and changes that are needed in AIE.

3. Contribute to AIE programs
 - Recommend session topics for the annual state meeting.
 - Encourage colleagues to be presenters at the annual State Meeting. Show them how to submit session proposals.
 - Recommend presenters for State Meeting sessions, Brown Bag Forums, workshops, and other AIE-sponsored events.
 - Be a presenter on topics in your area of expertise.
 - Coordinate and moderate the networking session at the annual State Meeting.
 - Contribute items, articles, and important news for publication in the AIE newsletter and posting on the AIE website.
 - Recommend worthy candidates for AIE honors/awards.

4. Advocate for AIE

- Work to increase AIE membership.
- Share information about AIE at meetings, conferences, and activities you attend.
- Encourage professional colleagues to become members of AIE.
- Promote the annual State Meeting, Brown Bag Forums, workshops and other AIE sponsored events.
- Attend the AIE Leadership Team meetings to stay abreast of the tasks and operations of the organization.

AIE WILL HELP YOU.

- The AIE membership list can be sorted according to specific international education interests, thus allowing you to contact specifically targeted groups. Ask the AIE Chair for assistance with accessing membership information.
- AIE has materials that can be used to stimulate interest in the organization. The AIE quarterly newsletter, a promotional brochure and AIE business cards, as well as flyers and posters which advertise forums, workshops, and AIE-sponsored programs are available for use at meetings and conferences to promote AIE activities and membership. Ask the AIE Chair how to access these materials.