



## **2020 International ACAC Annual Awards**

### **Peter Hauet Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Ellyn Taylor Levin  
University Guidance Counselor  
International School of Geneva**

#### ***Members who nominated Ellyn for the Distinguished Service Award shared these comments:***

For almost two decades, Ellyn Taylor Levin has served as a University Guidance Counselor at the International School of Geneva. For much of that time, she has also served International ACAC in a variety of roles.

Ellyn served two terms on the (then-named) OACAC Executive Board. During this period, she represented members as a Delegate to the NACAC Assembly, representing the international community at a time when that voice was not heard like it is today. In the years since then, she has served on several committees, including conference planning, and most recently she was an important voice on the Ad Hoc Committee on Standardized Testing. Ellyn was fundamental in starting the Annual Silent Auction (now Raffle) and has continuously generously supported the auction by offering holiday time in her vacation home as a prize.

A true highlight of Ellyn's contributions to our organization was her organizing the first OACAC Counselor Bus Tour, held in conjunction with the annual conference. The tour, which continues annually, has enabled hundreds of school counselors, representing thousands of students from all over the world, to visit universities they might not otherwise have had the opportunity to visit. These tours have resulted in educational opportunities for students beyond well-known institutions, enriched the communities at those schools, and left lasting friendships among International ACAC members.

In addition to her constant support and service of this affiliate, Ellyn served on the ECIS Guidance Committee for the better part of the last decade. In that role, she has helped guide and inform the professional growth of our counseling colleagues around the world. She founded the Swiss group of university counsellors, which provides support and advice for high school counsellors in Switzerland. She is one of the "Wise Ones" to whom many, many people turn when seeking advice or help.

Ellyn is a devoted professional and an outstanding colleague, and is the quintessential international college counselor. Meeting the needs of students in her quest to place them

on a post-secondary path that's most appropriate for them is at her core. She has shepherded hundreds of students (including her own) and parents through the ever-changing landscape of university admission around the world. She has done this while also being a consistent and collaborative colleague to other counselors in the field, both new and veteran to the profession. Ellyn believes that both sides of the desk should be student-centered, and has served as a mentor to many, no matter their institutional affiliation or the institution's ranking. Her kind spirit spread from work into her home as she is known for her hospitality in hosting road-weary university representatives, providing a home-cooked meal and warm friendship as they pass through Geneva during weeks of travel on the road.

Ellyn leaves a rich and deep legacy that will be remembered as this chapter in her career comes to a close and she moves back to the US. The International School of Geneva, a generation of graduating classes, along with countless peers and colleagues are better because of her dedication to our profession and the college counseling community. Having more than 25 years in admission and enrollment, Ellyn singularly stands out. She is the epitome of professionalism, integrity and honor; a wonderful example of what a counselor should aspire to be and is a prime example for all International ACAC members.

As the Peter Hauet Lifetime Achievement Award states, contributing to the profession in a lasting manner is exactly what Ellyn has done. She is among the few original international college counselors in Switzerland, raising the profile of our profession and service within the Swiss Group of International Schools, the Council of International Schools, and International ACAC communities.

**International ACAC is proud to award Ellyn the Peter Hauet Lifetime Achievement Award!**