



2020 International ACAC Annual Awards

Distinguished Service Award

Kristoffer Toribio

**Assistant Director of International Admissions and Recruitment
Orange Coast Community College**

Members who nominated Kris for the Distinguished Service Award shared these comments:

Kris was born and raised on the island of Kaua'i and is a proud graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. He has worked in international undergraduate admissions for nearly a decade and has traveled to nearly 40 countries, bringing a unique global point of view to his work, having been raised in a state that is both part of, but physically outside of, the United States.

Kris is a passionate spokesperson for community colleges, changing perceptions and conquering myths about them and through his work elevating them in our larger ecosystem. His ability to create connections has allowed him to be seen as a torchbearer for the larger US university landscape, especially in emerging markets. He must have a passport the size of *War and Peace* and a heart two times that.

Kris' work in the international education field exemplifies service. What he does goes beyond the call of duty, and he serves as an example of how to be an admissions officer, while serving students whom one cannot necessarily admit, because of the limitations of one's institution. Kris does a lot of behind-the-scenes work, and he cares enormously about students. When he meets students on the road who cannot afford his institution, he reaches out to his network, and asks: what other options might this individual have? Kris's communication skills on topics ranging from the use of agents to the importance of finding a college fit, are authentic, reliable and well-thought-out. His credibility is consistent. He is omnipotent. Whether he is online extolling the excellence of OCC or guiding others in their travels and educational partnerships, he is one of the most dependable, accessible mentors in our field.

**International ACAC congratulates Kris on being recognized with the
2020 Annual Distinguished Service Award!**