



2024 Executive Board Election Candidate

Representative to the Executive Board

Name: Jim Crawley

Title: Director of Global Recruitment

Institution: Hope College

Location/Region: United States/Canada & U.S.

Member Group: Post-Secondary (College & University)

All Applicant Questions

Discuss your involvement with International ACAC, highlighting specific roles (with dates) and contributions made during your volunteer or leadership tenure.

I have attended numerous International ACAC conferences as an attendee. I have presented once, and also been on pre-conference faculty once (2023).

Identify and articulate a critical issue in college admissions for international students that you would like to or have championed, emphasizing its importance and potential impact on the community.

There are so many points that could, and should, be emphasized, but it is important to create goals that are attainable, or at least great strides can be made in achieving them. Personally, I think producing a comprehensive resource of majors offered, and scholarship possibilities is really needed. I know...there are an abundance of websites but frankly they fall out of date quickly and the vendors are always trying to upsell you to get your information seen. There must be a better way. I also think creating an awareness of how UG majors lead to specific careers or graduate degrees is needed. The challenge is HOW to get the information out and then

getting people to see it. I think there are great professional development opportunities for our secondary school counselors. What about a series of leadership/university prep day-long workshops for students that are offered in cities around the world. They need to be interactive and low-cost. U.S. reps could present, and it could even culminate with a college fair.

Detail additional experiences that have equipped you with skills and insights applicable to the position you're applying for, emphasizing transferable accomplishments.

I have been a board member of the Michigan Association of International Educators for almost 30 years. I present annually on admissions trends, hot topics, and a workshop for international recruitment beginners. I have been a member of NAFSA for the same amount of time, and I have held numerous leadership positions at the regional and national level including: NAFSA Region CV - IEM Chair, and Regional Chair; and NAFSA IEM Chair, Member Engagement Committee member. I have also served on public and private school boards for 15 years. I currently serve on our local educational foundation board.

Outline your comprehension of the role you are applying for, specifying changes you'd like to implement while acknowledging current practices or programs you feel are effective.

Since the Representatives to the Board do not have specific assigned responsibilities on the Board, I think this question is a little more challenging to answer, but I do feel that using my past experiences, I could be very supportive to whatever committee or event I am asked to contribute to. In general, I feel International ACAC is running very well and we, as an organization try to stay ahead of the game as much as possible, however, I have also found the organization to be very responsive to situations as well.

Describe your leadership philosophy and strategies for effectively managing and leading a volunteer committee, emphasizing communication, collaboration, and recognition.

I have been fortunate to have held numerous leadership positions, both in and outside of education. Although a leader is a necessary role in order to give direction and guidance to an organization, it is the whole organization, big or small, that works toward completion of the goals while keeping with the overall mission of the institution.

Explain how you would leverage the position to contribute to International ACAC's strategic plan, aligning your goals with the organization's three pillars: enhancing member experience globally, clarifying the international brand, and optimizing internal operations.

Quality professional development and the trusted support of colleagues is something that International ACAC is known for. It is important that the organization continue to offer quality programming not just based on "hot topics", but also by keeping fingers on the pulse of the membership. Are all members being served...both experienced as well as new to the field? What needs are NOT being met? How can we improve? Both secondary schools and higher education institutions sometime have tough decisions to make regarding paying for memberships. One challenge is making sure people understand the benefits of membership, beyond conference attendance, which then involved even more expenditure.

Share details about a notable contribution you have made in the field, underscoring its impact on the profession and industry. Highlight specific initiatives, programs, or leadership roles that showcase your commitment and expertise.

I value my many experiences, and I feel very fortunate to have been put in positions where I can both learn from colleagues, and share knowledge. My leadership experiences have been very enriching, and they are always learning experiences. My most impactful experiences, however, have been when I am presenting, especially to newcomers in the field. I enjoy sharing both factual and anecdotal information, and I also really enjoy engaging the participants in discussions about the real-life situations they are experiencing, and talking through solutions. In recognition for my years of contributions to Michigan, I was awarded the David Horner Award for Exceptional Service to the field of international education in Michigan. Outside of higher ed, I was named to the Allendale (Michigan) Public Schools Hall of Fame for significant contributions to the school district. It is the only award given to a non-alum of the district.

Share why you want to volunteer for a leadership role for International ACAC and why this particular position.

I do not currently have a NAFSA volunteer position, and I have the time to offer. I enjoy being able to share my knowledge and experiences, while continuing to learn

from others. I feel that being a delegate to the Board allows me to make use of my strengths in whatever way the Board may need.