

## 2019 Presenters

### **Cyndi Adair**

Cyndi Adair teaches ESL, Writing, and English at Eastern Christian High School in North Haledon, NJ, where she has taught for over 25 years. She earned a BA in English from The King's College, an MEd in English from Penn State, and ESL certification from William Paterson University. She enjoys helping international students navigate the educational, cultural, emotional, and spiritual challenges of attending a Christian high school in the USA as well as encouraging faculty members as they work with these amazing young people.

### **Hollee Ball**

Hollee Ball is the Student Services Counselor and international student host parent at Wheaton Academy.

### **Gay Bennett**

Gay Bennett is the Vice Principal & International Program Director at Linfield Christian School in Temecula, California. Mrs. Bennett is an educational veteran, having worked in the public and private school sector for the past 28 years. In 2011, Mrs. Bennett founded the International Program at Linfield Christian School. Throughout the past six years, over 300 international students from 10 different countries of origin have moved through the program, many graduating with honors to attend top American universities.

### **Shelby Carr**

Shelby Carr is the regional travel consultant for Joshua Expeditions. Shelby started her professional career in K12 Education and recently transitioned to Joshua Expeditions to connect her love for students, missions, travel and education. She interfaces with Christian School clients to craft curriculum based programs that enhance Christian education through global missions and educational travel. Shelby has traveled extensively throughout the world and enjoys creating those life-changing opportunities for students. She is married to Dave Carr who is a dynamic student Pastor at a mega-church in Atlanta and spends much of her free time hiking, reading and exploring new places! She holds a B.Ed. degree from The University of Akron.

### **Daniel Cho**

Daniel Cho is a JBU graduate and currently a Ph.D. student in computer science at Iowa State University. Daniel is experienced in Christian higher education as an international student and has been awarded a full scholarship for his Ph.D. studies.

### **Matt Dominguez**

Matt Dominguez is a veteran teacher of Philosophy, English, and Bible with over 15 years of experience teaching at Wheaton Academy. Matt also leads the Adventure Club and Poetry Club at Wheaton Academy. He is passionate about adventure and the exciting journey of equipping students to make their faith their own by not only knowing what they believe but why they believe it. Matt has invested over 10 years developing the unique and powerful "Faith Island" and "Trust List" approach to philosophy and Theology.

**Benjamin Euler**

Benjamin serves as COO and SEI Director at WA Global Network, responsible for the marketing, development, and day-to-day operations of WA Global Network, the ISP Conference, and the Summer English Institute. Benjamin has worked for WA Global Network since 2011 and lives and works from Temecula, California. He enjoys spending time with his wife Hannah and young daughter, trail running, the California sunshine, biking, and traveling.

**Julie Grant**

Julie Grant is a certified nurse, earning her B.S., R.N. from Rush University Chicago. Julie serves as the school nurse at Wheaton Academy as well as a host parent of international students at Wheaton Academy.

**Brittany Goodman**

As a Business Development Manager for ICEF USA team, Brittany's goal is to provide best practices and support clients to effectively work with Agents to maximize international student recruitment. Having worked with the international education space for the past decade, Brittany brings a practiced expertise in best practices for international recruitment, case development, implementation for an admission cycle and strategic client support.

**Bucky Hempen**

Bucky Hempen is the Outreach Coordinator for My International Family. He has a background in education, having served 15 years as a teacher and school administrator. He has also played "host dad" to 10 international students over the years. Additionally, Bucky is a graduate from the Moody Theological Seminary and serves as an Associate Pastor for The Northside Community Church in Rogers Park, Chicago.

**Kori Hockett**

Kori Hockett serves as Principal of Wheaton Academy and has always been in the world of education. Both of her parent's work in teaching and school administration, have inspired her in her quest to equip young people to be who Christ has created them to be. Kori has been at Wheaton Academy since 2000 and began her career teaching social studies. She majored in political science at Wheaton College and went on to earn her master's degree in teaching and her principal's certificate from Aurora University. For the last thirteen years Kori has worked in administration, focusing on curriculum, faculty development, and student life at Wheaton Academy, while also leading change like implementing an advisory program and spearheading the college readiness initiative among other things.

**Saskia Hofman**

Saskia Hofman is a member of the third class of field representatives and serves the Chicago suburbs and Illinois territory. Prior to joining SEVP, Ms. Hofman worked as PDSO at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a DSO at DePaul University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. She has a bachelor's degree in international studies and French from Miami University of Ohio, and a master's degree in multicultural communication from DePaul University.

**Elizabeth Kotlarczyk**

Elizabeth Kotlarczyk has served as a Homestay Coordinator at My International Family for six years. She grew up in Japan and has spent most of her life abroad. From a young age she worked alongside her parents at an English camp in the suburbs of Tokyo where she eventually oversaw the kids' summer camps program and taught English. After finishing her studies in Florence, Italy, Elizabeth moved to Chicago to work at MIF. She is responsible for overseeing placements in MIF's eastern region and has provided support to over 400 students and their host parents.

**Katelyn Johnson**

Katelyn Johnson teaches Science at Wheaton Academy and has been a sought after teacher at WA Global Network's Summer English Institute for hundreds of international students over the past 8 years.

**Kiernan Mack**

Kiernan Mack teaches advanced and AP Chemistry at Wheaton Academy and is a favorite teacher of many international students. Kiernan traveled to several major Chinese cities last winter to better understand Chinese culture and how to support the international students in his class. He made several connections with Chinese chemistry teachers, visited public and private Chinese schools and enjoyed dinners with Chinese parents during his travels.

### **Mary Perley**

Mary Perley (M.A. TESOL, Wheaton College) has fifteen years of teaching experience in a wide variety of contexts, including K-12, higher education, and teacher training. She is currently the ELL Coordinator at Timothy Christian High School in Elmhurst, Illinois, and also works as an adjunct instructor in the Adult ESL program at College of DuPage. She enjoys spending her summers traveling the world and often teaches overseas in places such as Lithuania, China, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic.

### **Kelly Pilleux-Petronia**

Kelly Pilleux-Petronia joined SEVP as a member of the first class of field representatives and serves the Chicago, IL territory. She previously spent 14 years working within international departments of varying institutions where she served as a P/DSO for nine years. She received her B.A. in Spanish and her M.A. in linguistics from Ohio University.

### **Charity Moon**

Charity Moon has been teaching English to international students for the past 8 years, and for the past 3 years has served as the ELL Coordinator and International Student Advisor at Wheaton Academy. One year after graduating from Dallas Baptist University with a BAS in Sociology, Charity moved to China to teach with English Language Institute China. During her five years in China, she taught EFL both to primary and college students at a variety of language levels. In 2013, she completed her MA in TESOL/Intercultural Studies at Wheaton College and moved from Dallas, TX to teach at Wheaton Academy. She loves interacting with international students and learning more about different cultures.

### **Dr. Ted Junseok Song**

Dr. Ted Song is Associate Professor of Engineering at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Song grew up both in the U.S. and Korea, While conducting research projects in his graduate school, he worked at various engineering companies and organizations including Samsung Electronics (Tangjeong, Korea), UNIDO-ICHET (Istanbul, Turkey), and NEC Laboratories America (Cupertino, CA). He also taught calculus at the University of Texas at Austin and received the 2012 Texas Exes Teaching Award and is the recipient of the 2018 JBU Faculty Excellence Award. Dr. Song and his wife, Michelle, live in Siloam Springs, AR, and have two daughters. They are members at Siloam Springs Bible Church where Dr. Song leads College Ministry and serves as an elder.

### **Paul Theule**

As a teacher, administrator, mentor, parent of 5 third-culture kids, and now grandparent of 11 (7 of which are bilingual), Paul speaks from extensive international and cross-cultural experience and study, having lived in Nigeria, Liberia, Japan, Central America, Calgary, Gallup New Mexico, Los Angeles, and China. He has also taught 10 summers in Lithuania, and has twice led seminars in both Ukraine and Siberia Russia. Often, students and others have lived with him and his family, and he continues to walk with several via WeChat, Messenger, and travel.

### **Dr. Brenda Vishanoff**

Dr. Brenda Vishanoff has worked at Wheaton Academy for 23 years and currently serves in the roles of Wheaton Academy Vice Principal and WA Global Network Executive Director. Dr. Vishanoff holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Johns Hopkins University, master's degrees from Northwestern University and Aurora University, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Northern Illinois University. Brenda has a passion for school leadership, specifically in the area of school governance, developing staff, and caring for students in a cross cultural setting. She enjoys speaking at residence life and global conferences. Brenda and her husband, Bob, their three children and two international students live in West Chicago, IL.

### **Dr. Erin Wilcox**

Dr. Erin Wilcox is the Assistant Vice President for Academic Services at the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Her areas of responsibility include accreditation, certification, and international students. She started her career in public schools in Illinois, in special education. She served in international Christian schools in Ecuador and Malaysia for 13 years, teaching primarily special education and computers. For 20 years, she was at Colorado Springs Christian

Schools serving as technology coordinator, middle school principal, and Associate Superintendent as well as overseeing the International Student Program.

**Rochelle Yang**

Rochelle Yang has worked at Wheaton Academy for 4 years and currently teaches Chinese and Math at WA. She is also providing Chinese parents support at the International Students Program. Rochelle Yang holds undergraduate degree from Sanda University in Shanghai and a Master degree on Math Education at Illinois Institute of Technology.

**Rebecca Yoon**

Rebecca Yoon is the director of the International Student Program at Orangewood Christian School in Maitland, Florida. Together with her husband Joe, she is passionate about using her talents in cross-cultural ministry. Missionary, recruiter, supporter, teacher, leader, and host mom are some of the hats she's worn. Rebecca has undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Central Florida and Reformed Theological Seminary.