



**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
PROGRAM CONFERENCE**



## 2021 Presenters

### **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 31 years. In 2010, Mrs. Bennett founded the International Program at Linfield Christian School. Throughout the past six years, over 450+ international students from 10 different countries of origin have moved through the program, many graduating with honors to attend top American universities.

### **James Brannon**

James Brannon serves as the Director of Student Recruitment for WA Global Network. Upon completing his undergrad at Biola University (B.S., Biochemistry), James adjusted his focus to developing international student exchange programs for high schools and organizations in Southern California. Before joining WA Global Network, James played a key role in the development of exchange programs hosting nearly 1,000 international students from various provinces of China. James oversees our social media reach in China and helps counsel parents and recruiting partners on education choices in America.

### **Pam Bult**

Pamela Bult is a licensed clinical social worker, working in private practice in the Chicago suburbs for the last ten years. She has had the privilege of partnering with hundreds of individuals - from teen to older adult - and has developed expertise in the treatment of trauma, mood disorders, and relational distress. She is passionate about bringing together the truths of scripture and the best that psychology has to offer to foster healing and growth in individuals and families. Pam also enjoys speaking to church and community groups. Occasionally, she serves as an adjunct faculty member at Aurora University.

### **Jim Crawley**

Jim Crawley has been working in international education for over 25 years, with experience at both public universities, and private colleges, as well as a global English language provider. Jim is the Director of Global Recruitment at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. He actively recruits primarily in SE Asia, and Latin/South America. He presents regularly at the state, regional, and national level on topics related to international recruitment and admissions.

### **Matt Dominguez**

Matthew Dominguez has been teaching the Kingdom Fellowship model for over 25 years in his classrooms, at conferences, in schools, and on his adventure trips across the globe. Wheaton Academy, where he worked for 20 years, has recently adopted Kingdom Community language school wide. Matthew Dominguez has a passion for Christ-centered discipleship and worldview, empowering others in creating and sustaining Kingdom fellowship, and for equipping leaders and educators with life-giving principles for Christ-centered leadership, discipleship, and transformation. For free resources, videos, and to learn more about professional development sessions and his growing organization, In The True Myth Ministries, visit his website: [www.InTheTrueMyth.org](http://www.InTheTrueMyth.org).

### **Julie Grant**

Julie Grant, RN, BSN is the International Host Family and Student Coordinator. She attended Wheaton College and Rush University where she got her degree in nursing. She works closely with our school counselor attending to our international students medical and emotional needs. She also coordinates our host families.

**Kori Hockett**

Kori Hockett serves as the Principal of Wheaton Academy and has always been in the world of education. Both of her parents' work in teaching and school administration, have inspired her in her quest to equip young people to be who Christ 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 fourteen 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 joined SEVP as a member of the third class of field representatives and serves the far southside of Chicago, outlying suburbs and the greater Illinois territory. Prior to joining SEVP, Ms. Hofman worked as P/DSO for 20 years at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, DePaul University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. She holds bachelor's degrees in international studies and French from Miami University of Ohio, and a master's degree in multicultural communication from DePaul University.

**Bryant Kong**

Bryant Kong is the Director of Global Engagement - Asia Pacific for Wheaton College. With over 10 years of experience in this sector, Bryant is specialized in developing Global initiatives for institutions. His previous post includes: Executive Director -Christian College Consulting – Asia; Director of International Admissions – California Baptist University; Director of Boarding School – Linden Educational Services.

**Lorenzo Pablo**

Lorenzo Pablo serves as the International Student Program Director at Wheaton Academy and the Executive Director for WA Global Network. He graduated from Scarborough College with a B.A. in Humanities and received an Advanced M.Div. with a concentration in International Church Planting from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Lorenzo and his family served as missionaries through the International Mission Board from 2014-2018 in East Africa ministering to university students. He has also worked with and consulted non-profit organizations that served refugees and underemployed families by developing innovative programs to help alleviate poverty. Originally from Texas, Lorenzo and his family moved to Wheaton in 2018 to work at Wheaton College as the Director of Academic Partnerships for the graduate school of Mission, Ministry, and Leadership.

**Mary Perley**

Mary Perley is the International Student Program Director and ELL Coordinator at Timothy Christian High School in Elmhurst, Illinois. Holding an M.A. in TESOL & Intercultural Studies from Wheaton College, Mary seventeen years of teaching experience in a wide variety of contexts, including K-12, higher education, and teacher training. She enjoys spending her summers traveling the world and often teaches overseas in places such as Lithuania, China, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic.

**Naomi Peyton**

Naomi Peyton is the International Student Program Director at Calvary Christian Academy in Fort Lauderdale, Florida since 2012. Since 1992 she has: Taught English & Speech/Debate in Public & Private schools, served as Assistant Principal, MS Principal, Accreditation Director, and during the last 10 years, she's served to create and establish CCA's Int'l Student Program. CCA's ISP has served over 70 students from over 14 nations, and it is a covenant program. Naomi earned a BA in English Education from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida, and earned her Master's in Leadership at Nova Southeastern University. She is a certified Florida educator/principal and ACSI certified administrator that engages in frequently assessing schools as part of accreditation teams. Naomi also teaches a weekly Bible Study online that exists to encourage women to know Christ more deeply, and live fully in His call for their lives. As a first generation American, whose parents and ancestry derive from Cuba, she counts it a privilege to help foreign students relish the freedoms provided in the United States. She is grateful for all God has done, and is doing as a part of the ISP Community and ongoing participant of Wheaton's annual symposiums.

**David Rivera**

David Rivera joined Wheaton Academy after 7 years working in government and politics and currently serves as a social studies teacher and international student college counselor. He loves to use his highly relational background to connect with and find common ground with students from all around the globe.

**Rochelle Yang**

Rochelle Yang has worked at Wheaton Academy for 4 years and currently teaches Chinese and Math at WA. She also provides parents support for 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.