



2024 NACAC International Universities Fair – Vancouver

Workshop Schedule

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Vancouver Convention Centre

1055 Canada Place

Vancouver, BC V6C 0C3, Canada

West Meeting Room – 109, 110, 111

West Meeting Room – 109

1:30pm – 2:20pm

Canadian Admission: Who Gets In? The Truths and Myths of How Canadian Universities Make Admission Decisions

Session Description: *Grade 11 and 12 grades, self-reporting, personal statements, short answer questions, extra-curricular activities, and applicant interviews; there is a great deal of information that can go into admission decisions. This begs a question: how do Canadian universities use all this information to determine who gets in? This presentation will provide an overview of the rationales and decision-making process Canadian universities often use to make admission decisions. We will also dispel the myths and rumours that often surround the admission process; expect an interactive and lively discussion!*

Speakers:

Sam Saini, University of British Columbia, Associate Registrar, Undergraduate Admissions and Student Recruitment & Advising

Ann MacDonald, Dalhousie University, Associate Registrar and Director of Student Recruitment and Undergraduate Admissions

Anne Rose, University of Toronto, Associate Director, University Student Recruitment

2:30pm – 3:15pm

US Admission: What Students Should Know When Applying To US Universities

Session Description: *Applying to colleges and universities in the United States may seem daunting. While the Common Application has simplified the process, there are still critical components that need extra attention. Grades and test scores are important and speak for themselves. Even more important in the holistic admissions process are the essays, recommendation letters, and extracurricular activities. This workshop will help students with the application process by clarifying what US institutions are looking for.*

Speaker:

Dr. Douglas Christiansen, Vanderbilt University, Vice Provost for University Enrollment Affairs and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid



3:30pm – 4:20pm

Essay Writing: How to Write a Winning Essay

Session Description: *A college essay can be a stressful task, and students often feel that choosing a topic is next to impossible. The reality is that the “what” of an essay is much less important than the “how.” The approach of the writer takes communicates much more about themselves than the general topic itself. This session will include brainstorming for meaningful essay topics, best practices for effective essay writing, and case studies using real essay examples.*

Speakers:

Justin Wilson, Washington University in St. Louis, Associate Director, Undergraduate Admissions
Radia Alouche, Loyola Marymount University, Senior Director, Undergraduate Admission
Lisa Przekop, University of California Santa Barbara, Director of Admissions

West Meeting Room – 110

1:30pm – 2:15pm

Student Athletes: How to navigate the NCAA and U Sports recruitment process and play varsity sport

Session Description: *Are you interested in playing high level sports when you go to university? This session will provide insight on how to navigate this recruitment process in both Canada and the USA. You will also learn about the benefits of participating in varsity sports.*

Speakers:

Ashlee Fulop, University of Oregon, International Admissions Counselor
Joni Gauthier, University of New Brunswick, Recruitment Officer

2:30pm – 3:15pm

Medical Panel: What it Takes to Become a Medical Doctor in Canada

Session Description: *Becoming a physician requires a certain personality and a long list of abilities by which a successful doctor can effectively meet the health care needs of the people they serve. These characteristics are often wisely and indirectly probed during admission interviews to medical programs across the world. This session will focus on the personal and professional universal characteristics of a physician and the panel will shed more light on some of these characteristics by sharing from their personal experiences.*

Speakers:

Dr. Janet Ip MD, CCFP, FCFP
Dr. Edward Mills PhD, FRCP
Ava Aminbakhsh, UBC Medical Student



3:30pm – 4:15pm

Engineering Panel: Exploring Engineering Opportunities

Session Description: Discover more about engineering degrees on both sides of the Atlantic. Prospective engineering students have a world of options available to them after high school. Join admissions representatives from Imperial College London, Northeastern and the University of Waterloo to find out more about studying at and applying to engineering programs in Canada, the UK and USA. The session will highlight the range of degree programs and cover the learning experience and opportunities, career paths and the global portability of an engineering degree. We'll also cover admission procedures, including hints and tips on how to make a strong application to competitive programs.

Speakers:

Jeremy Caldwell, Northeastern University, Assistant Director of Admissions

Michelle Coulombe, University of Waterloo, Director, Undergraduate Operations, Faculty of Engineering,

Catherine Eames, Imperial College London, International Student Recruitment Manager

West Meeting Room – 111

1:30pm – 2:15pm

Australia/NZ: Studying in Australia & New Zealand

Session Description: *Prestigious universities. Direct entry programs to Medicine, Vet Medicine, Dentistry, Law, etc. Wonderful climate. For students, Australia and New Zealand have it all. Australia boasts nine of the world's top 100 universities and all of New Zealand's eight universities are in the top 100 worldwide (QS World University Rankings 2024), all of them well known for their incredible facilities, innovative programs, and intensive research. Come to this session to explore options down under.*

Speakers:

Natasha Racco, Bond University, International Regional Manager

Kelsey Jackson, Victoria University of Wellington, International Recruitment Manager

Ashley Monaghan, University of Auckland, Regional Manager

Shelby Feldman, Macquarie University, Senior Country Manager (North America)

2:30pm – 3:15pm

Canadian Best Fit: Finding Your Best Fit Canadian University

Session Description: *Designed to help high school students navigate the task of choosing the most suitable Canadian university, this session will provide valuable guidance in exploring various aspects of university selection, including academic programs, campus culture, extracurricular activities, and support services. Students will learn strategies to confidently navigate the application process and ensure they find their ideal fit for a successful, fulfilling educational journey in Canada.*

Speakers:

Debbie Eperjesi, McGill University, Associate Director of Admissions

Meagan Vande Vooren, Huron University College, Associate Vice President of Admissions & Institutional Systems



3:30pm – 4:15pm

UK Panel: Many of the top ranked universities are in the UK; shouldn't you know more about studying there?

Session Description: *Studying in the UK offers students an opportunity to travel abroad and attend some of the world's best universities at the same time. Whatever degree you are interested in studying, the UK has something for everyone. In this workshop, we will provide applicants with a robust toolkit to successfully navigate the UCAS application form. Students will learn what makes a good personal statement and some of the pitfalls to avoid as well as what universities (especially the good ones) are looking for in applicants.*

Speakers:

Jo Turner, UCL, Liaison & Recruitment Manager

Amy Roberson, University of Cambridge, Regional Manager

Bill Hoare, University of Glasgow, International Recruitment Manager

Clare Coyle, Queen's University Belfast, International Officer

Learning Hub

**Back of Exhibit Hall A*

1:30pm – 2:10pm

European Consortium: A World of Choices

Session Description: *Meet representatives from a variety of universities in Europe and learn more about the unique programs and specialties available to international students like you! From business, to engineering and hospitality management, Europe offers a range of opportunities to engage in experiential learning and dynamic research.*

Speakers:

Loretta Ontko, IE University, Associate Director, Undergraduate Programs, Canada

Dr. Eimear Spain, University of Limerick, Senior Lecturer in Health Law

Kenley Jones, Franklin University Switzerland, Assistant Director

Amanda Carroll, American University of Paris, Assistant Director of Admissions

2:30pm – 3:10pm

Indigenous Opportunities: Pathways to Post-secondary: University opportunities for Indigenous Students

Session Description: *Admission pathways, funding opportunities and community connections that universities can offer Indigenous students*

Speaker:

Madison Chad, Simon Fraser University, Indigenous Student Recruitment Liaison Coordinator



3:20pm – 4:00pm

Creative Arts: What is a Creative Career?

Session Description: *Do you love fine arts, making movies, fashion design, building websites, then this is session for you! Come and meet the experts to learn more about careers in creative industries and the university programs that will lead you there. Representatives from a variety of post-secondary institutions will be on hand to share insights into academic programs that encourage creative thought, collaboration, and entrepreneurship.*

Speaker:

Ana de Miguel, Norwich University of the Arts, International Officer
Jess Gill, University of the Arts London, Country Manager – Canada
Kate Halliday, Concordia University, Student Recruiter