# SEVP Conference Bulletin

## SEVP Attends 2015 NAFSA National Annual Conference & Expo

Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) representatives engaged with stakeholders in-person and virtually at the NAFSA Annual Conference & Expo in Boston from May 26 to 29, 2015. SEVP attended four NAFSA sessions throughout the week, sharing important program updates and answering stakeholder questions.

SEVP kicked off the week with a session titled, "Open Meeting, a Discussion with SEVP Director Lou Farrell." SEVP presenters also shared field representative-related information during a special session dedicated to this topic. Additionally, SEVP reviewed regulatory changes, upcoming enhancements to the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) and other hot topics during the session "SEVP and SEVIS: Current Issues." SEVP ended the week by providing English as a Second Language-focused updates during the "Immigration Update for Intensive English Programs."

Study in the States followed the event throughout the week and tweeted to conference attendees using #NAFSA15. Follow Study in the States on Twitter to review our messages from this year's conference.

Did you miss a NAFSA annual conference session? Watch the recently updated <a href="Spring/Summer 2015 Conference Presentation">Spring/Summer 2015 Conference Presentation</a> on <a href="Study in the States">Study in the States</a> for the latest program updates!

#### In the Know: SEVIS Updates

Designated school officials (DSOs) should be aware of upcoming SEVIS outages related to SEVIS release 6.21. SEVIS will be offline starting Friday, June 26 at 8 p.m. EDT and will remain offline through Sunday, June 28 at 8 p.m. EDT. The system outage may continue through Monday, June 29. Study in the States will provide guidance and resources, such as job aids, to help DSOs during the outage.

During the "SEVP and SEVIS, Current Issues" session at the NAFSA National Annual Conference & Expo, presenters debuted the new <u>SEVIS Help Hub</u> on Study in the States. The SEVIS Help Hub is the main location for all SEVIS resources, including the SEVIS Webinar Series, job aids, fact sheets and Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) guides. Visit the <u>SEVIS Help Hub</u> today to view the latest SEVIS resources.

## Process Change: Temporary Absences and Changes to Authorized Early Withdrawal Requests

In response to stakeholder feedback, as of June 12, 2015, DSOs can submit requests to change an F-1 student's SEVIS record to active up to 60 days in advance of the student's return from a temporary absence. The SEVP Response Center will now process requests up to 60 days before the student's session start date to allow for timely completion. Previously, DSOs could only make this request up to 30 days before the date the student intended to enroll in classes.

### **Contact Us**

If you have any questions or are interested in SEVP participating in your event, email your request to <u>SEVPOutreach@ice.dhs.gov</u>. Did you recently attend an SEVP conference or join in an online webinar? SEVP wants your feedback! Fill out the <u>Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey</u> on Study in the States to provide feedback on our outreach events.

### **SEVP Response Center**

703-603-3400 | <u>SEVP@ice.dhs.gov</u> 800-892-4829 | <u>SEVISHelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov</u>



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement



Be sure to follow SEVP on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> for the latest news impacting the international education community!



For more information on SEVP Conferences and Outreach initiatives, or to view the latest seasonal conference presentation, please visit the <u>Conferences and Outreach</u> page on Study in the States.