

‘Successful Settlement Aids International Relations and International Student Success – Community connections that enhance educational and lifestyle outcomes for international students.’

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‘Successful settlement aids international relations and international student success – community connections that enhance educational and lifestyle outcomes for international students.’ A workshop

Moving from one country to another, one culture to another, one climate to another, and one community to another all impose added difficulties for international students who are coping with transition from one educational environment to another. Add to this second language issues and the contributory mix imposes many pressures on an international student. International student support services in tertiary and secondary education environments can make their job easier, more cost-effective and less demanding of emotional and physical energy of staff if a good program of settlement within the wider community as well as educational environment happens.

International students who have good settlement experiences are better able to focus and succeed in their studies as well as build good connections beneficial for long-term relationships with the country in which they study. Jane Jensen (1998) the Canadian sociologist identified five themes for good settlement outcomes, namely: belonging, participation, inclusion, recognition and legitimacy. Programmes that seek to aid settlement of international students in the wider community and the educational environment need to consider these themes in planning and implementation.

This workshop will focus on how to develop practical programmes that ensure these themes are addressed in the process of helping students to successful settlement and lifestyle that enhances their academic outcomes. A range of practical examples will be provided to show how successful settlement can be initiated. In addition strategies for involving the educational institutional community as well as the wider community to be involved and assist with your students will be explored. The workshop will cover the particular needs of young single international students as well as mature international students who may be accompanied by their families and the issues that imposes. Theoretical underpinnings for mentioned above and how they affect thinking when planning programs; how to plan programmes and involve education institution and wider community and examples of successful programmes as to how they developed and evolved to be successful.

Key Words

International relations, settlement, academic success, Community connections