

Katherine Knight (she/her)

EXPERIENCE

Senior Immigration Advisor (DSO/ARO)- Dartmouth College, Office of Visa & Immigration Services | *Hanover, NH*

MAY 2020- PRESENT

- Certified by the Department of Homeland Security to advise nonimmigrant visa holders on a wide range of complex U.S. immigration topics
- Team lead for employment of F-1 alumni utilizing practical training programs (OPT and STEM OPT)
- Support campus employees and academic visitors with J-1 immigration sponsorship, orientation & onboarding, and coordination with host department across campus
- Ensure compliance with federal reporting via oversight of SEVIS database, detailed institutional recordkeeping, and submission of required information
- Represent OVIS interests to the Council on Graduate Studies and the Student Group Health Insurance committee

Immigration Compliance Specialist (DSO/ARO)- Montana State University, Office of International Programs | *Bozeman, MT*

SEPT 2018- MAY 2020

- Provided immigration and cultural advising for 600+ nonimmigrant students on F-1 and J-1 visas, plus alumni on practical training programs nationwide
- Served as institutional lead for faculty immigration, including H-1B, O-1, and TN visas, as well as permanent residency cases in coordination with outside counsel
- Elected representative to the MSU All Staff Council and a voting member of the University Budget Council

Professional Exchange Program Associate (ARO)- Pan Atlantic Exchanges | *Portland, ME*

MAY 2017- AUG 2018

- Provided pre- and post-arrival support to J-1 Intern & Trainee participants on professional exchange programs.
- Coordinated with host company HR counterparts to assist development of sustainable, educational, and legally compliant training rotations

Postgraduate Researcher- Queen's University Belfast, Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security, and Justice | *Belfast, Northern Ireland*

SEPT 2016- DEC 2016

- Researched forced migration and utilization of social media networks as part of the Leverhulme Interdisciplinary Network on Cybersecurity and Society

Study Abroad Advisor- Council on International Educational Exchange, Enrollment Department | *Portland, ME*

JULY 2014- SEPT 2016

- Oversaw lead nurturing, applicant recruitment, admission, enrollment, and pre-departure advising for a diverse portfolio of academic year, semester, and short-term programs in 20+ countries (university level)
- Specialized in health, safety and security advising for non-traditional destinations, as well as complex outbound immigration processes
- Key member of the Program Development and Redevelopment committee
- Co-chair of the Professional Development & Training committee

Survivors of Torture Case Manager- Catholic Charities Refugee & Immigration Services | *Portland, ME*

JAN 2014- JULY 2014 and SEPT 2011- SEPT 2012

EDUCATION

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Comparative Ethnic Conflict

Queen's University Belfast | Belfast, Northern Ireland

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in International Relations

Boston University | Boston, Massachusetts

CERTIFICATIONS

Diversity & Inclusion Specialist | American School Counselor Association,

February 2021

Getting Talent Back to Work |

SHRM Foundation, December 2021

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

F-1 Advising for Beginners |

NAFSA Core Education Program, February 2022

Heartburn to Burnout: Team Care in the Pandemic Era |

NAFSA All-Region Conference, October 2021

Beyond Burnout: What International Educators Must Know About Secondary Trauma |

NAFSA Annual Conference 2021, June 2021.

No Passport Required: Statelessness & Study Abroad |

Montana International Educators Conference, June 2019.

Deliberating Duress Defenses: Refugee Exclusion in the Era of Counterterrorism |

Queen's University Belfast (unpublished M.A. dissertation), Dec 2013

US Refugee Exclusion

Practices | Forced Migration Review 54, 52-53. (2017)
<<https://www.fmreview.org/resettlement/knight>>

- Connected refugee and asylee clients with legal, medical, and psychosocial support through compassionate, comprehensive case management
- Managed client budgets and related federal/state reporting during initial resettlement period
- Established relationships with adjacent community organizations to educate on the needs of resettled populations, increase cooperation, and share services

Student Services Assistant- INTO Queen's University Belfast | *Belfast Northern Ireland*

MAR 2013- JAN 2014

- Provided cultural programming and front-line advising for international students on academic ESL pathway programs
- Assisted admissions by providing immigration support, agent familiarization trip engagement, and inquiry management

VOLUNTARY LEADERSHIP

NAFSA Trainer Corps | Core Education Program Trainer, 2021-2024 (term)

- Designated to deliver workshops in the following areas:
 - Student Health and Safety Abroad
 - A Primer on U.S. Immigration Concepts
 - U.S. Visa and Entry Process for Students & Scholars
 - F-1 Student Advising for Beginners
 - F-1 Student Advising: Intermediate
 - J-1 Advising for Beginners
 - Strategies for International Student and Scholar Advising

Gallatin Refugee Connections | Coordinating Committee Member, 2019-2020

- Served on the board of a local nonprofit aimed at educating the community about forced migration and refugee resettlement in Montana and beyond

F2 Solutions | Grant Reviewer | 2015

- Reviewed applications to the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement's 2015 Direct Services to Survivors of Torture Program, which awarded a total of \$10 million dollars in funding to organizations serving this population.
- Rigorously evaluated applications to ensure they met detailed award criteria and discussed organizational merits in a collaborative process with peers across the field of refugee services. Made formal recommendations to ORR regarding award of funds

SKILLS

- Learning Management Systems (Canvas, D2L, Blackboard)
- Customer Relations Management Systems (Salesforce, Oracle NetSuite)
- Qualitative research design

INTERESTS

- Climbing (ice & rock)
- Hiking & mountaineering
- Language study (Arabic, Hebrew, Irish, Spanish)