

Name of organizer: Teeba Alsafar
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Title of workshop: Federal policy, provincial needs, university responsibility?
Format: Roundtable
Theme: Economic and labour market integration

Name of co-organizer: Sonja Knutson
Organization: Memorial University of Newfoundland

Name of first presenter: Sophia Lowe
E-mail address:
Organisation: World Education Services
Theme of presentation: The overall context

Name of second presenter: Susan Anderson
E-mail address:
Organisation: Queen's University
Theme of presentation: Perspectives of a midsize Anglophone university

Name of third presenter: Mathieu Wade and Chedly Belkhdja
E-mail address:
Organisation: University De Moncton
Theme of presentation: Perspectives of Francophone universities

Name of fourth presenter: Jorge Aceytuno
E-mail address:
Organisation: CIC - Immigration Branch
Theme of presentation: Government perspectives on policy changes

Name of fifth presenter: Diana Ning
E-mail address:
Organisation: Ryerson University
Theme of presentation: Perspective of a large Anglophone university

Resume:

This roundtable will look at immigration policy changes towards the retention of international students and how universities are reacting to these changes. The perspectives of the federal government as well as variously sized universities will share their best practices and how they are adapting the way they develop their programs.

Abstract:

Through recent initiatives, Canada's federal and provincial governments have made it clear that international students have an important place in our local workplaces. There is new attention to international student retention and to their (not without controversy) transition to becoming "designer immigrants". Universities are reacting to these immigration policy changes in different ways and adapting the way they advise their students. This roundtable will focus on the various perspectives of how these changes have affected international students' transition. Adapted best practices around the successes and challenges of designing and implementing support programs for student transition will also be discussed.

The roundtable discussion will focus on multiple perspectives such as:

- The overall context and potential concerns of these policy changes
- Why the policy changes were implemented and what future changes are anticipated
- The perspectives of Francophone universities
- The perspectives of midsize and large Anglophone university
- The perspective of a small center Anglophone university