



**Association of International Education Administrators**  
*Leaders in International Higher Education*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Santiago Castiello-Gutiérrez and Kirsten Davis Receive AIEA's Harold Josephson Award for Professional Promise in International Education**

San Francisco, CA (January 22, 2019)—At its 2019 Annual Conference, the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) recognized Santiago Castiello-Gutiérrez and Kirsten Davis as the recipients of the Harold Josephson Award for Professional Promise in International Education.

The Josephson Award honors the memory of Dr. Harold Josephson, a long-time leader in AIEA who passed away in 1998. Josephson also served as Associate Vice Chancellor of International Programs at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The award recognizes two deserving graduate students for outstanding contributions to the field of international education.

The 2019 Josephson Award for Student, Professional Category is presented to Santiago Castiello-Gutiérrez from the University of Arizona.

Castiello-Gutiérrez is a PhD student and a professional of international education. He is preparing his PhD at the Centre for the Study of Higher Education (CSHE) at the University of Arizona. At the same time, he works as Mobility Programs Coordinator for the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC), a leading international exchange and collaboration network of approximately 180 institutions of higher education in Canada, the United States and Mexico, as well as a select group of institutions from other parts of the world.

Made possible by a highly competitive CONACyT scholarship, Castiello-Gutiérrez's doctoral research examines what drives higher education institutions to engage in internationalization activities and with how can these purposes be better aligned with institutional missions towards the public good.

He has already left a positive footprint in the area of international higher education. He is the author of numerous publications and a co-author of a major global study examining the strategic plans of 78 institutions across 33 countries.



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He is also a member of the research team evaluating the University of Arizona's innovative micro-campus initiative. He has presented and co-authored numerous papers on this transnational education model, both conceptually and empirically. Through each of these studies, Castiello-Gutiérrez addresses leading issues regarding the operation of higher education institutions and systems within the global sphere.

Castiello-Gutiérrez expects to complete his degree in May 2019.

As a professional, he is currently the Mobility Programs Coordinator for the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC). He oversees its growing international Student Exchange Program, which facilitates semester-long international experiences for students at over 90 participating higher education institutions in 15 countries. He also oversees CONAHEC's faculty exchange program that supports professors involved in international research, curriculum development, online collaboration and mobility programs.

AIEA is pleased to recognize Santiago Castiello-Gutiérrez as an emerging leader in International education.

The 2019 Josephson Award, Student Category is presented to Kirsten Davis from Virginia Tech.

Davis is doctoral candidate in Engineering Education at Virginia Tech. Throughout her graduate career, she has been recognized as a strong international education advocate and researcher. Her supervisor calls her "one of our top graduate students who has the potential to be successful in any position that she chooses in the future."

For her research, Davis is interested in how and why engineering students and professionals develop global competency and actively seek creative ways to offer a suite of internationally focused experiences for students throughout their curriculum. Her dissertation focuses on how students compare to professionals in terms of global competency; how international context matters for skills, outcomes, and experiences in study abroad; and how students develop over the course of their study abroad experiences.

She has already made a name for herself in this space, with multiple journal articles published or in press as well as several peer reviewed conference proceedings. One of her papers was nominated for the conference best paper award at the *Frontiers in Education Conference*, another product received second prize from the International Forum at the American Society of Engineering Education annual meeting, and a third co-authored paper won Best Paper from the International Division of the American Society of Engineering Education.



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Davis expects to complete her degree in May 2020.

AIEA welcomes Kirsten Davis as one of this year's Josephson Awardees.

*About AIEA:*

**The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA)**, a membership organization formed in November 1982, is composed of institutional leaders engaged in advancing the international dimensions of higher education. The purposes of the Association are to:

- Provide an effective voice on significant issues within international education at all levels,
- Improve and promote international education programming and administration within institutions of higher education,
- Establish and maintain a professional network among international education institutional leaders,
- Cooperate in appropriate ways with other national and international groups having similar interests.

For additional information, visit [www.aieaworld.org](http://www.aieaworld.org) or contact AIEA at [secretariat@aieaworld.org](mailto:secretariat@aieaworld.org) or +1 (919) 893- 4980.

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