Greetings. On behalf of AIEA, I want to say how much we're looking forward to welcoming you soon to Washington, DC for the 30th Anniversary 2012 AIEA Conference, which will be the largest AIEA conference to date with over 700 in attendance from at least 37 different countries. We are very excited about all that will be offered during the conference, including thought-provoking plenary speakers, over 100 stimulating sessions, a unique Best Practices and Research Showcase, and special networking events (highlighted below). We are also glad to be collaborating with the American Council on Education on a pre-conference event on Saturday, Feb. 18, the ACE-AIEA Internationalization Collaborative. (To register and join in this event, email aiea@metroconnections.com).

You will find detailed information about the conference on the AIEA website at www.aieaworld.org. Below is some information as you prepare for the upcoming AIEA Conference:

1. Transportation from Airport to JW Marriott Hotel
   Transportation information from the airport to the JW Marriott Pennsylvania Avenue, the conference hotel, can be found at http://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/wasjw-jw-marriott-washington-dc/. Please note that the conference hotel is sold out; if you still need lodging, go to http://www.aieaworld.org/events/2012-conf-hotels.htm for information on nearby hotels.

2. Registration
   Registration will take place at the Capitol Registration desk on the Ballroom Level. Onsite registration is available for any colleagues who may not have registered online by the Feb. 13 cut-off date. (It's not too late for your colleagues to register for the conference at www.aieaworld.org). Below are the on-site registration hours:

   **Conference Registration Table Hours**
   Sunday, February 19: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
   Monday, February 20: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
   Tuesday, February 21: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
   Wednesday, February 22: 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
3. Schedule / Participants / Online Networking
Want to know the schedule or see who’s coming to the conference?
Schedule: http://aieaworld.org/events/2012-conf-schedule.htm
Participants (as of Jan. 30): http://aieaworld.org/events/conf2012.htm
A full participant list will be available at the conference.

New for this year! Want to start networking now? Be sure to join our online AIEA Annual Conference Community. All attendees have been sent an email with instructions on how to join. Connect with your colleagues in advance of the conference through this online community!
If you have any questions, contact rosemary.holland@duke.edu.

4. Pre-Conference Workshops
Limited space is still available in some of the pre-conference workshops on Sunday, Feb. 19 and Monday morning, Feb. 20, and there's still time to register for those through Feb. 13. Contact the registrar at aiea@metroconnections.com to add a workshop to your conference registration. Workshops cover topics such as leadership, internationalizing the curriculum, career development, and strategic/operational approaches. For detailed workshop descriptions, see http://www.aieaworld.org/events/2012-pre-conference-workshops_2.htm.

5. Newcomers
If this is your first time at the AIEA conference, you are warmly invited to attend the Newcomer Orientation on Monday, Feb. 20 from 11:00 am – noon in Salon I. This is an excellent way to get an overview of the conference, learn more about AIEA and meet some of the leaders in AIEA. Sponsored by EIKEN in partnership with Associates in Cultural Exchange.

6. Networking
Networking is one of the highlights of the conference and to that end, you are encouraged to take advantage of the following specific networking opportunities:

* AIEA Receptions
  - Monday evening Opening Reception at the National Press Club, 7:00-8:30 pm, sponsored by IDP Education.
  - Tuesday evening Networking Reception in Salon II, 6:30-8:00 pm, sponsored by Australia's Group of Eight.
  Be sure to wear your name badge since that will be your entrance ticket.

* Best Practices and Research Showcases
  Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 1:45-3:15 pm in Salons G and I. The Showcases provide an opportunity to connect informally with colleagues and to learn more about specific internationalization
efforts. Don't miss the Showcases!

* **Exhibit Hall**
Be sure to spend time with AIEA's exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall. Past participants have found that connections made in the Exhibit Hall prove to be invaluable in internationalization efforts. The Exhibit Hall will be **open from 10:15 am on Tuesday, Feb. 21 (don't miss the Opening Ceremony then!) through 6:00 pm and will re-open on Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 8:00 am - noon.** There will also be a bookstore featuring relevant international education books.

* **Networking and Awards Luncheon**
**Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 12:30 - 1:30pm** in Salon II. Network informally with colleagues over lunch, and don't miss the AIEA Award presentation when the Josephson, Rutenber and Klasek awards will be given. There will also be a special time of remembering our colleague Tony Adams. Sponsored by ELS Educational Services.

* **Women’s Networking Session**
**Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 5:30 - 6:30 pm** in Salon G. Sponsored by Georgetown University and The George Washington University.

**OTHER NOTES**
1. Conference participants are invited to attend the **AIEA Association Breakfast** on **Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 7:30-8:30 am** in Salon II. This is a great way to hear from leaders in AIEA and to learn more about this professional organization for senior leaders in international education, as well as to be inspired by our plenary speakers from Brazil. Sponsored by The Italian International Lorenzo de Medici Institute.

2. **Be sure to wear your name badge at all times** during the conference since this will be your ticket into the exhibit hall, sessions, and conference events. One-day registrants can only attend the events on that day of registration, as marked clearly on the nametag.

3. Watch for a link to the **post-conference evaluation** after the conference ends. Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to complete the online evaluation following the conference. Your feedback is invaluable for planning future conferences.

**AIEA Membership**
If you are not yet a member of AIEA, we would like to take this opportunity to invite you to join as a member for 2012. To join AIEA, go to [www.aieaworld.org](http://www.aieaworld.org). Joining takes only a few minutes online and the benefits are numerous (including access to an exclusive members-only listserv, online subscription to Journal of Studies in International Education and substantial discounts at AIEA conferences). We'd love to have you as an active member of AIEA this year!
If you have questions about membership in AIEA, be sure to speak to one of the AIEA leaders at the conference (especially those wearing special "Ask Me" buttons), or email aiea@duke.edu.

A special thanks to all who will be involved in the upcoming conference as presenters, exhibitors, sponsors, and volunteers. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Warm wishes for safe travels to Washington DC,
Darla

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