



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Saher Ahmed Receives AIEA's 2024 Harold Josephson Award for Professional Promise in International Education

Washington D.C. (February 20, 2024)— The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is pleased to announce Saher Ahmed, Manager of International Student Advising and Intercultural Programming in the Global Engagement Office (GEO) at the University of British Columbia's (UBC) Okanagan campus and a Ph.D. candidate at the University of British Columbia, as the recipient of the 2024 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 served as Associate Vice Chancellor of International Programs at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The award recognizes deserving graduate students for outstanding contributions to the field of international education.

Ahmed is a leader as well as a key innovator and advocate, and has made significant contributions to international education in Canada, both in her professional role, but also as a Ph.D. candidate at the UBC.

Currently, Ahmed is the Manager of International Student Advising and Intercultural Programming in the Global Engagement Office (GEO), where she leads the international ISA's and intercultural programming teams. In her position, she is responsible for advancing the University's goals regarding the retention, learning, and well-being of international students at UBC's Okanagan campus.

Ahmed is a passionate advocate for social justice and intercultural programming support for students on her campus and in international education more broadly. She has created many new opportunities to support all students on campus through the intercultural programming activities



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that she facilitates, and brings international, indigenous, and domestic students from a wide array of backgrounds and lived experiences, together for workshops, events, and activities focused on social justice and intercultural programming.

In addition to her outstanding professional work, Ahmed excels academically, bringing together her passion for international education and supporting students through her innovative research. Her doctoral studies focus on the administrative processing of migrants and the impact that these processes have on migrants and their mobility.

Ahmed is a mentor and model citizen for the international education community across Canada. Throughout her time in the field of international education, her commitment to collaboration, volunteerism, mentorship, and good citizenship has been steadfast. AIEA Executive Director Dr. Darla K. Deardorff remarked, “Saher Ahmed epitomizes the spirit of the Josephson Award and AIEA is excited about her tremendous professional promise in our field.”

AIEA congratulates Saher Ahmed as this year’s Josephson Award recipient.

About AIEA:

The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is a member organization that equips leaders to shape the future of higher education in a global context.

AIEA advances strategic transformational approaches to internationalization of higher education; empowers those who lead such efforts; convenes global conversation on key issues; and partners with other organizations around the world to develop sustainable, forward-looking perspectives.