



OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



Mariko Fujiwara / Director
Office of International Education
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Mariko joined Kennedy Catholic after working for more than twenty years as Director of International Student Programs at Highline College. She is responsible for the oversight and development of the Office of International Education. She is originally from Ichinomiya City, in Aichi prefecture, Japan and came to the United States as a high school exchange student at the age of sixteen.

The Pennsylvania State Diversity Scholarship Award helped her earn a bachelor's degree in German secondary education and a master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) and as part of the undergraduate program, she studied at Duisburg-Essen University, Germany, for a year. She speaks German in addition to English and her native Japanese. She holds a Washington State K-12 Teaching Certificate in ESL, Japanese, and German.

Her first work experience was teaching at Eastlake High School in Redmond, WA. As an educator and former international student herself, she is passionate about international education, building international partnerships and globalizing the campus and community. She has an extensive network of foreign and domestic partners and agents in education. She hopes to provide great support and services to students, faculty and staff, alumni and the community through the Office of International Education. Mariko enjoys cycling, dancing and traveling around the world.



Danice Warnke / Associate Director
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Danice Warnke is responsible for international admissions and coordinates marketing and communications for the international department. She has ten years of experience supporting international students. Previously, Danice served in a variety of roles at the college level including immigration advising, accommodation services and academic advising. Danice taught ESL in Japan for a year in Funabashi, Chiba prefecture. She speaks French and spent a summer in Nantes, France as a high school exchange student.

Her expertise in sales and marketing took her to Germany, Vietnam and Taiwan when she represented Nalley Fine Foods as Assistant International Director of Sales and Marketing. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in communications as well as a minor in business administration from Washington State University. Danice enjoys spending time outdoors in the beautiful northwest with her husband and their son and daughter.



**Yang Suttell / Associate Director
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Yang is responsible for academic, immigration and visa status advising, and supporting students in their social and cultural adjustment. She will assist in creating education plans and personalized university transfer advising. She will support recruiting efforts and business partnerships in China. Yang was born and raised in Qingdao, China and graduated from Qingdao University with a bachelor's degree in international business. She received an associate's degree in business administration and accounting from Highline College.

Yang began her career at Highline College as a student where she worked for the International Student Programs (ISP) part-time while earning her associate's degree. After graduating, she moved with her family to San Francisco where she worked as a bookkeeper for a logistics and shipping company. In 2013, she moved back home to Washington state and returned to Highline College serving as a fiscal technician and eventually found her way back to the ISP Office as the International Admissions Coordinator.

Working with the international students is Yang's passion. Coming from China, enrolling, and graduating from an American college gives her a unique understanding of the struggles students deal with on a daily basis and she is always happy to help. Yang enjoys spending time with family, hiking, biking, and sightseeing on the local trails and parks.



**In Vilai / Associate Director
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In Vilai is responsible for the housing program, international alumni relations and student support services. She has a bachelor's degree in international studies from the University of Washington. She enjoys working with students and looks forward to using her abilities to help students in a meaningful way. She has experience in multi-cultural activities and knowledge of linguistics of the Asian communities. In speaks fluent Lao, Thai, and Chinese (Mandarin). As a first generation Southeast Asian-American woman, she knows what it feels like to find herself outside the dominant culture.

In's wealth of unique experiences allows her to engage with students, enriching their lives and expanding their horizons. In has a strong desire to assist international students, helping them to adjust to a new school environment and developing the skills necessary to succeed in school, career and future endeavors. Her awareness and appreciation of cross cultural understanding is continually growing.