

Networking with Other Ministries

Advanced Level – Campus Staff

International Students, Inc.

Module Description and Purpose

If we are to reach every international student in the cities where God has placed us, it will likely be through networking and partnership with other ministries. Whether it's sharing vision and training a group that has never focused on international student ministry or working with a group that already shares our vision, this is a critical part of the expansion of your ministry. As Campus Staff, you will participate in this process with the Campus Director.

Delivery Method

This module is best done in the context of a team strategizing for expansion and saturation.

If you have questions regarding this module, please email your questions to ISI's [Training Department](#).

Assumptions

It is assumed that individuals beginning this module have already:

1. Completed the support development process and been assigned a ministry position.
2. Been assigned to work with a team and are coordinating with the other ISI staff regarding the expansion of your city or campus ministry.

Topics and Objectives

Module Overview – this module is divided into three (3) segments, or “units,” which include the following learning objectives and tasks:

- Researching current and needed outreach to international students in your area or campus
- Strategizing as to opportunities for partnership
- Recruiting, training, and evaluating progress

Materials Needed:

- This module
- Speaker phone for conference call or video call capability
- Flip chart for sharing of ideas

Unit One – Research

1. Thoroughly research which ministries to international students are already available in your area or on your campus.
2. Contact ISI's [Training Department](#) for our recommendation of a field expert and interview him/her as a group via conference or video call regarding how he/she networked to reach entire cities/areas.
3. Assign various team members to meet with staff from other organizations to survey what they are doing with international student ministry. Do they reach just one ethnic group? Do they have a specialty ministry (e.g. conversational English, wives ministry)? What are their similarities to ISI? What do they offer that's unique? What is their attitude toward cooperation as several groups to reach international students?
4. How many students are there?
5. What needs of students are not currently being met or could be enhanced for more effective outreach?
6. Who's doing what well?

Unit Two – Strategizing

If no one else is taking the lead on networking, we encourage you as ISI team members to do so. Evaluate your research and determine:

- Who are the current leaders?
- Which groups do you want to recruit?
- What is a project on which you could easily partner/collaborate?
- What might you initiate for ministry in upcoming semesters for partnership?
- Who might take what role? (For example, if one group is doing an Easter event, they might lead and the ISI team join in and recruit others. Meanwhile, ISI might have a strong returnee training to which they could send their students. Or you might decide an airport pick-up program is needed which all groups could do together.)
- Strategize for reaching an additional 10% of the international students each year.

Unit Three – Recruiting, Training, & Evaluating

1. Determine with which groups you'd like to network and invite them to a joint meeting.
2. Share backgrounds/passions and discuss current ministry to international students that each are doing.
3. Brainstorm ideas that you could do jointly. Start with one event/program per year or perhaps one each semester.
4. Determine who is best equipped to do any needed training for this particular event.

5. After the event, evaluate what went well, what could be improved, what you might want to do for next year, and other ministries/events you could do jointly.
6. Always focus on how you can reach more students and then how you can take those contacts to increasingly deeper levels of relationship.