

EVC STAFF + STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

The staff in the International Programs and Services Office (IPSO) is dedicated to help you have a great experience at EVC. Our staff has traveled the world – we have lived, worked, and traveled in over 45 countries combined across the world. We know what it's like to be in unfamiliar surroundings and to experience a new culture. We are here to help you!



Octavio Cruz, *Dean of Enrollment Services, PDSO*

As the PDSO, Octavio has worked with many international students over the years from all over the globe. Since 2006, he has been working with immigration through issuing I-20s and is very familiar with USCIS and SEVIS regulations. He loves traveling and has been to Dubai, Costa Rica, Colombia, El Salvador, Argentina, Mexico, and the Philippines.



Liz Tyrrell, *Director*

Liz studied abroad during her college years in Aix-en-Provence, France. She had an amazing experience studying in a French University and has traveled extensively all around Europe, including: Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary, Denmark, and England. On additional trips she has visited: Morocco, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Tunisia, Kenya, Tanzania, Japan, Thailand, Guatemala, Belize, and Mexico. She has also worked in Ethiopia for a nongovernmental organization, during which time she was working closely with economically disadvantaged Ethiopian entrepreneurs. She has also worked with the Serbian Ministry of Education, and in Egypt doing an evaluation of a microfinance program. International travel is her passion and she loves to experience new people and cultures.



Alla Markevitch, *Program Coordinator*

Alla is from Russia on the southern border. She was planning to spend her life in Russia but she and her husband won the green card lottery and ended up coming to the United States. She has traveled to many of the former soviet countries. She has traveled to Ukraine, Belarus, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, and France. She loves to try new foods and talk to people from all over the world. She loves working with people from different cultures around the world.



Emmy Nguyen, *Program Specialist*

Emmy is from Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam and came to the United States in 1991 and has lived here ever since. She first moved to southern California and then to Florida, and came back to San Jose in 1997. She has worked for our college district since 2000. She loves living in the United States and loves helping people transition to living in the bay area and also getting accustomed to college at EVC.