

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 3-4 December 2019

#### From Zero to Hero: A non-traditional university's journey into the USA

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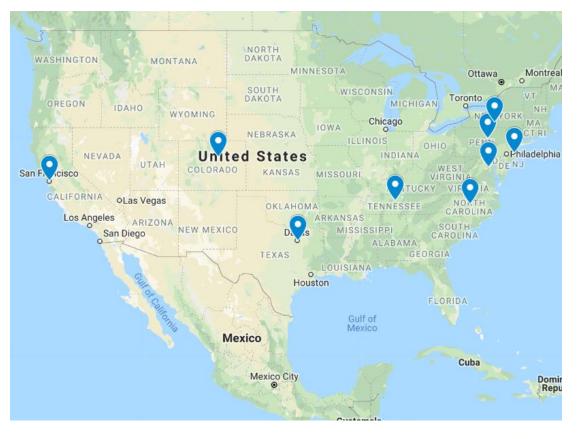
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## Sannam S4 in the US

2016 – opened office4 UK clients7 states and DC

Publication with ACE, 2017 NAFSA NACAC WIEC CBIE AIRC AIEA



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### **Domestic Policy**

• Varsity Blues – a very public spotlight

"Society is looking at various types of privilege, whether that be white privilege, financial privilege or the privilege to have access to information about how college admissions works." IHE, Sept 2019

Loan debt – a top tier issue

Education debt in the U.S. has eclipsed credit card and auto debt.

• NACAC CEPP – balancing fairness and ethics

### • Fairs – generalist v specialist

Increasing competition means ...

- ... Understanding the states ... Finding the niches
- ... Getting off the beaten track

#### **Applicants**

Long lead times and increased applications mean...

...Thorough nurture tracks ... Audience-specific collateral

### Stakeholder engagement

Staying fresh means...

... Collaboration between colleges ... Squeezing networks

- ... Looking for tiny gaps

### **Marketing v Sales**

UK as recruiters, US as marketers

How does this change the dynamic?

## **The Strategy**

Finding the right fit:

- People
- Partnerships
- Personalisation

**Enabling Factors** 

Building Capacity:

• Staff

- Targeting:
  - Geographic

• Partners

Market segmentation

• Alumni

Study Abroad

#### What's it like out there?



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## **Successes to date**

- Over 50 full degree recruitment events attended
- Over 700 personal engagements with prospective full degree students
- 6% increase in autumn enrolments 2017/18 2018/19 after May start
- 12.5% increase in offer acceptance for spring entry
- 11% increase in offers to date for autumn 2020/21 entry (compared to entire of last year)

## **Lessons Learned**

Have a clear plan

Ask partners what they want

Take time to do it right

Grow with your infrastructure:

- Admissions
- Visa compliance
- Accommodation





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# Thank you!

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