

The roles of international student advisors: Opportunities and challenges

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International student advisers (ISAs) in New Zealand work with a unique group of students. On the one hand, their sojourners' status bestows upon them an exciting opportunity to develop and grow as individuals. On the other hand, their academic and personal growth comes with challenges which they must overcome in order to achieve their goals. This essay argues for the need for specific university pastoral care personnel to help meet the needs of these students, in addition to traditional university counselling services. It examines the role of the international student adviser (ISA) and the challenges that arise in attempts to address the distinctive needs of international students within these institutions.