

# The Power of College Counsel & How to Explain it to Leadership

Joan Liu

Second Chance at Higher Education

**“You Need Resources to  
do Good Work.”**

**-Jen Dewar, Duolingo**

# This talk:

1. Let's define college counseling
2. A Case Study
3. How to speak to Admin

# At the highest level:

- Art and a science
- Expertise
- Unpublished information
- Relationships and networks
- Mentorship



*What are your back-ups?*



*Oh, I don't need back-ups. I'm  
going to **FAN EXPO CHICAGO***





Paper Pusher

Letter Writer

Signer Off-er





KOÇ OKULU

STANBUL  
Y K V KOÇ ÖZEL  
ORTAOKULU

5



Knowledge Expert

Advocate

Mentor



UNITED WORLD COLLEGE OF SOUTH EA

SCIENCE

2020

# The University of Texas System, a UT campus and a \$1.7 million broken promise to admitted students



# These Nepali Students Saw Their Scholarships Fall Through. Then Came Hope, Doubt, and 'Admissions Hunger Games.'

By *Eric Hoover* | MAY 06, 2018



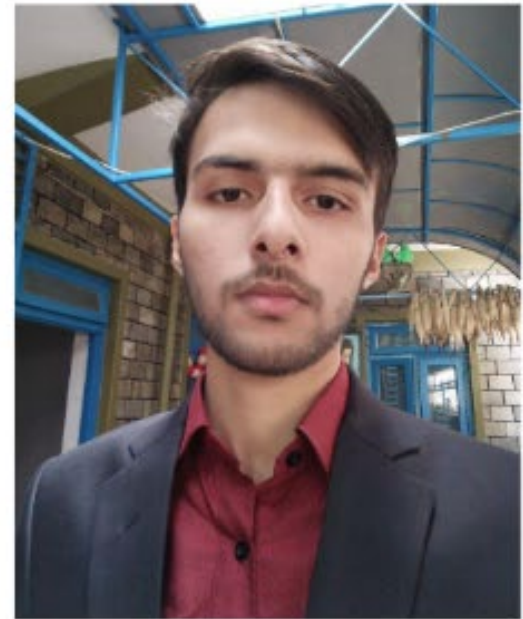
Courtesy of Archana Adhikari

NEWS



## A University in Texas Promised Full Scholarships to Dozens of Nepalese Students. Months Later, It Revoked the Offer.

By *Eric Hoover* | APRIL 29, 2018



COURTESY OF ROSHAN POUDEL

Roshan Poudel got a second full scholarship to attend a faraway college. But it was not from the country where he'd hoped to study.





#ACCESS  
#OneSmall Thing

#Justice League  
#Opportunity

NIT  
NIT

University of Kentucky

THANK YOU

#Change A Life

College of Idaho

CLASS OF 2022  
Susquehanna University

TRINITY  
Class of 2022

THANK YOU  
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

#Education USA

#Studying in the USA

#GATAR

QUEST

QUEST

QUEST

QUEST

QUEST

University of Texas Arlington

SUNY Korea

#Gratitude

#Moving Mountains

Drexel University

#Moving Mountains

Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you very much for changing our life

TRINITY

PROUD TO BE WOLFGANGER

Thank you! WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

TRINITY

Drexel University

#Moving Mountains





Northwestern  
QATAR

Gate Openers

Destiny Benders

Trajectory Changers

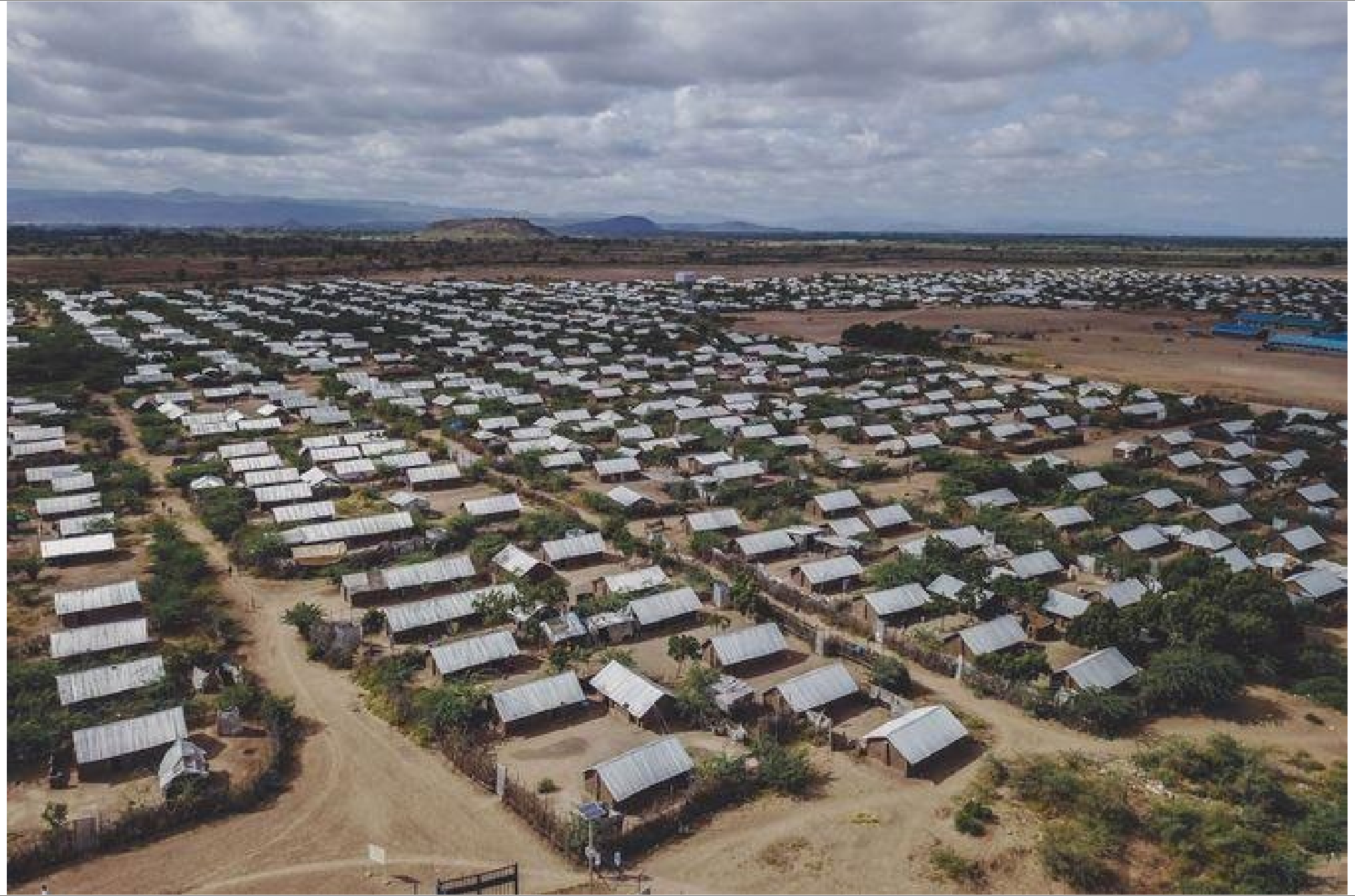
2022

# THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

A young man with short dark hair, wearing a dark grey t-shirt and patterned shorts, is sitting on a green plastic stool. He is holding an open book and looking down at it intently. The background consists of corrugated metal walls and a blue door, suggesting a makeshift shelter or a slum. The lighting is natural, coming from the right side, casting shadows on the wall behind him.

## Escaping Oblivion

A promising refugee dreams of college. He can't make it on his own.







----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Niki Dinsdale** <[ndi@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg](mailto:ndi@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg)>

Date: Tue, 20 Apr 2021 at 16:29

Subject: Nhial Deng

To: Joan <[jli@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg](mailto:jli@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg)>

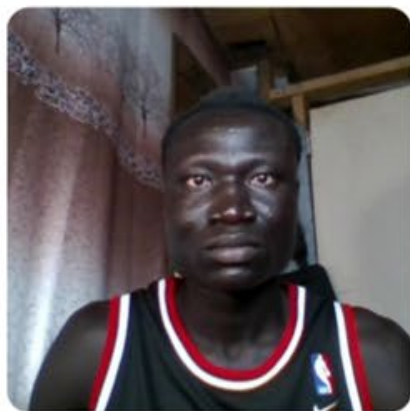
Hi Joan,

Here's the Berkeley kid's [LinkedIn profile](#) and his [Twitter feed](#).

He's from Ethiopia. I'll find out what he has applied for.

Niki

## CERTIFICATE



**DENG, NHIAL GATRIEK**

APRIL 26, 2021

Link to secure online certificate:

 [certs.duolingo.com/wkp998wt](https://certs.duolingo.com/wkp998wt)



**duolingo**  
english test

**135**

**Overall**

The test taker's ability to use English in a variety of modes and contexts.



 Seat

 Scholarship

 Student Visa

**Thursday, April 29, 2021**

**Joan Liu & Niki Dinsdale & Nhial**

**Minutes:**

- Niki acknowledged how Nhial must be feeling - re news from Berkeley.
- Discussion of other options -
  - Showed him the list of options going forward
  - Discussed Qatar, Canada, Netherlands, US
  - Asked permission for us to advocate on his behalf
- Told Nhial to:
  - Get Common App in order - move content from UCB's app to this one
  - Get GoFundMe in order - work with Alan Davidson from KenSAP on this
  - Send us all the recommendations he has
  - Get on Concourse
  - Interview with Eric Hoover
  - Fill out the IFAFSA
- Notes:
  - Nhial is understandably devastated. He said he has felt a lot of emotions.
  - It was hard for him to speak to us but he managed to get through the call
- Action items moving forward:
  - Call NW Qatar - he expressed interest in this
  - Check with UNHCR about asylum in Qatar
  - Call Kim at Utrecht in the Netherlands, check visa requirements
  - Call Moustafa at Huron U in Canada, check visa requirements



Niki Dinsdale



Joan Liu



Alan J. Davidson



Robert Penman (He/Him)



Olufemi Ogundele



**Joan Liu**

May 4, 2021 · 🌐



To: HEI Colleagues

From: Joan Liu, Niki Dinsdale (UWCSEA), Alan Davidson (KenSAP)

I write on behalf of several of us from United World College, UNHCR, KenSAP, and Amala, who have recently had a chance to work with an extraordinary student, Nhial D. ... **See more**



### Nhial D - South Sudanese refugee admitted to UC Berkeley now seeks admission to new university.

Thank you for your interest in Nhial Deng as a possible candidate for admission and scholarship to your institution at this late date. Nhial was admitted to UC Berkeley and was eager to attend, when he learned that UC Berkeley offered no financial aid to international students. He is thus looking for a new university to attend.

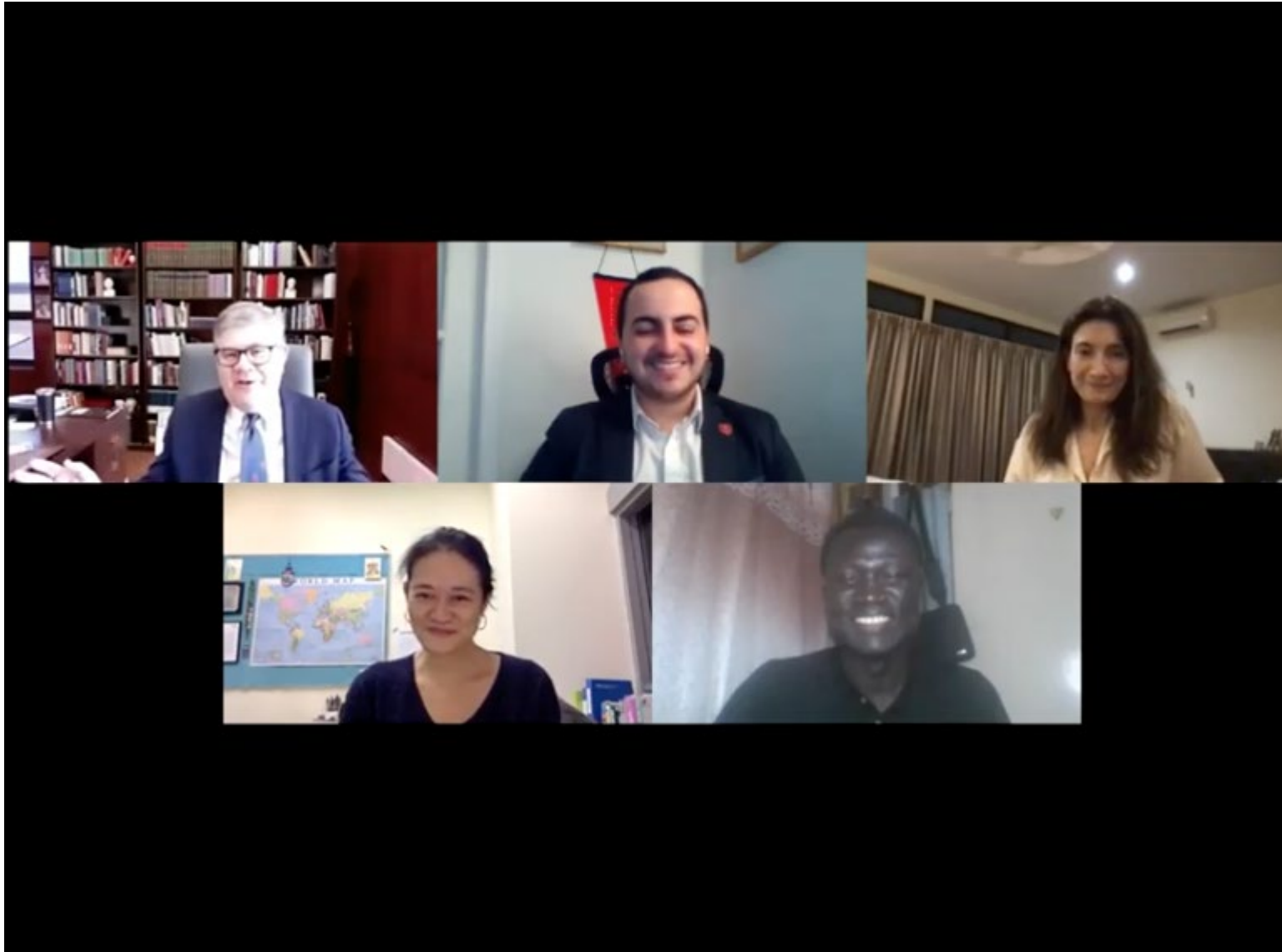
Ideally, Nhial would like to matriculate at university this Fall 2021.

Please fill out the following information so that we are able to send you Nhial's profile for your consideration. Your support could mean a destiny-bending, life-changing opportunity for both Nhial and your institution.



DOCS.GOOGLE.COM

**Nhial D - South Sudanese refugee admitted to UC Berkeley now seeks admission new university.**



- ✓ Seat
- ✓ Scholarship
- ☐ **Student Visa**





Ethiopia

South Sudan

Central African Republic

Juba

Kakuma

Uganda

Kenya

Somalia

Mogadishu

مقديشو

13 hr  
794 km

Nairobi

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Rwanda

Burundi

Malindi

Mombasa

Tanzania

Dar es Salaam

Google



# From Kakuma refugee camp to Huron Uni in Canada



**\$9,560** USD raised of \$7,000 goal

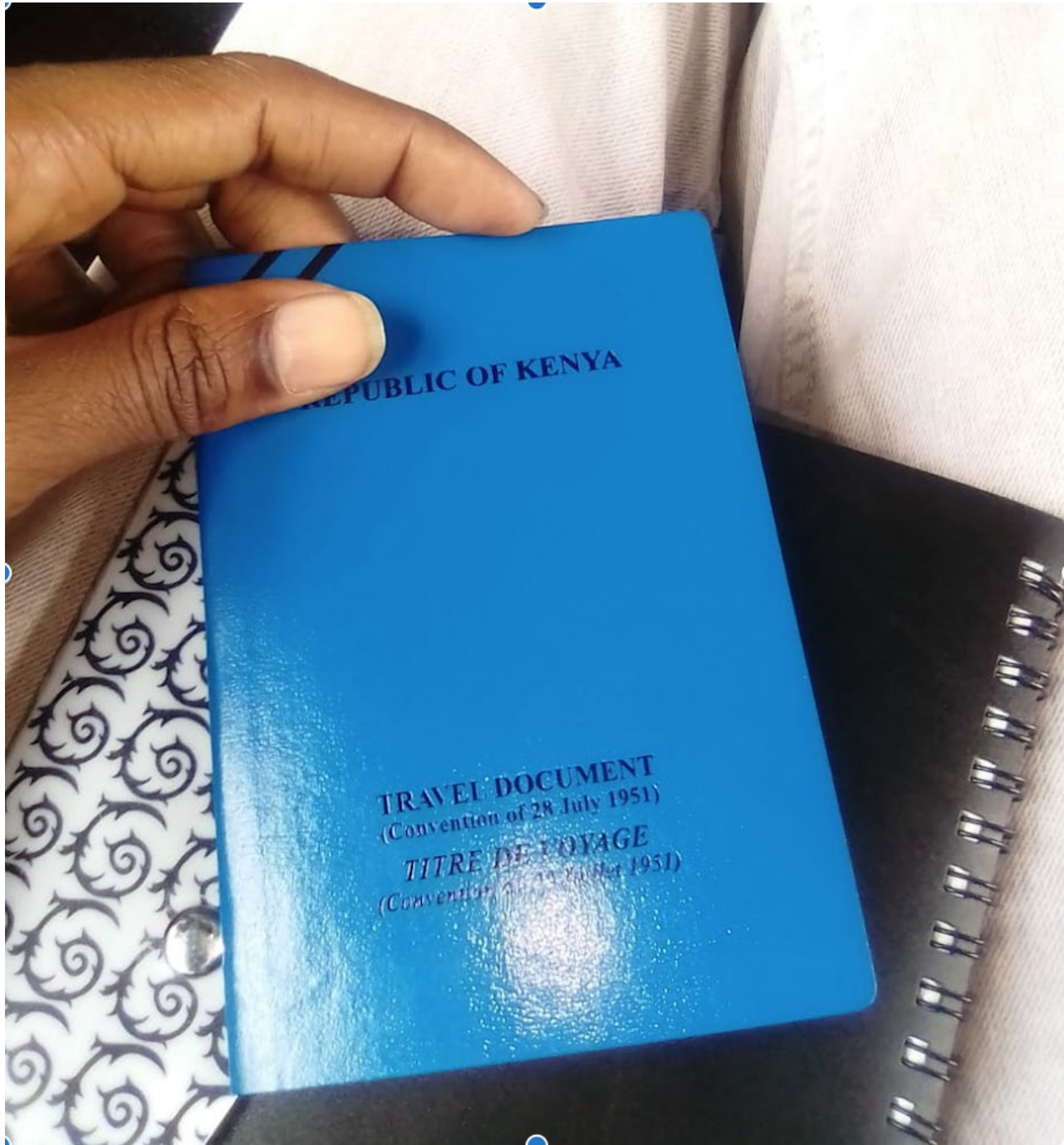
94 donations

Share

Donate now

Anonymous





REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TRAVEL DOCUMENT  
(Convention of 28 July 1951)  
TITRE DE VOYAGE  
(Convention de 28 juillet 1951)







de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединённых Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للترقية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

UNESCO  
NHIAL DENG

UNESCO  
PATRIZIO BIANCHI

MA



# UNITED NATIONS TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SUMMIT 2022



Via Skype

London, Canada

12:34 PM



**THE EXCHANGE**

**LIVE**

## AFGHAN REFUGEES FACE LONG ROAD AHEAD IN RESETTLING

Tens of thousands being processed in makeshift camps on U.S. military bases

**CNN**

12:34 PM CET

OR CONFERENCE IN GENEVA AIMING TO RAISE SOME \$600 MILLION FOR HU @ZainAsher



**GLOBAL  
TEACHER  
PRIZE**  
VARKEY FOUNDATION

[GLOBAL TEACHER PRIZE](#)

[GLOBAL STUDENT PRIZE](#)

[NATIONAL TEACHER PRIZES](#)

[COMMUNITIES](#)

[NEWS](#)



# Nhial Deng 2023

Unpublished Information  
Robust Network  
Iteration & Negotiation

1. Assess the student's chances
2. Evaluate student's transcript
3. Call DET
4. Prepare to build a team to support Nhial
5. Get Nhial to let go of UC Berkeley
  
6. Run a social media campaign to find a new seat
7. Reach out to networks
8. Call admissions in the Netherlands, Qatar, Canada, US
9. Help Nhial to fill out Concourse profile
10. Send profile to Cornell College (USA)
11. Send profile to Huron University (Canada)
  
12. Support Nhial through the visa process
13. Advise Nhial on passport and CTD issues
14. Help Nhial get to Nairobi to meet High Commissioner
15. Call LK to ask for housing / travel for Nhial while he's in Nairobi
16. Run a fundraiser for 10K
17. Get Nhial on a flight to Canada

Help your Admin Understand  
What it is You Do

**Time, Resources, Compensation**

- What do you care about?
- What does your admin care about?

- What do you care about?
- What does your admin care about?



# When asking for Professional Development

- Frame it in terms of what your admin cares about
- Example: A colleague working in S Africa
- It's time away, not 'time off'.
- Invest in yourself

# When asking for compensation:

- Leverage your peer data set
- Ask for non-financial compensation, too
- Ask for resources (ex: Naviance & associate director)

# When asking for compensation:

- Leverage your peer data set
- Include conferences / PD in your contract
- Ask for non-financial compensation, too
  - release from ECAs, early leave, time
- Ask for resources (ex: Naviance, staff)

# How to do get what you need, regard

- Go to dinners, get yourself on a fly in
- Bookend that fly-in with school visits (conference + Upstate NY Tour)
- Do an event at your school, invite others
- Facebook groups
- PD peer exchange
- Local counselor groups - whatsapp, etc.

“You Need Resources to  
do Good Work.”

-Jen Dewar, Duolingo

