



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



L to R: Camille Kesler and Irene Wong

Atlanta, March 12, 2025 – The Atlanta Ministry with International Students (AMIS Atlanta) Board of Directors is pleased to announce a significant addition to its executive team. Camille Kesler has been appointed as the new Executive Director, beginning April 1, and she will play a pivotal role in driving the organization’s strategic initiatives and fostering continued growth.

Camille Kesler brings a wealth of nonprofit experience and expertise to AMIS Atlanta. Having formerly served as executive director of Rebuilding Together Atlanta and as president of the Junior League of Atlanta, Atlanta Symphony Associates, and the National Charity League Peachtree Paces chapter, Camille also brings nearly two decades of personal experience volunteering directly with AMIS. Camille’s extensive governance background

serving on more than ten nonprofit boards over the years and her entrepreneurial experience as a former small business owner positions her as an invaluable asset to the organization.

“We are thrilled to welcome Camille Kesler to our executive team,” said Zebekiah Bortner, AMIS Board chairman. “Her enthusiasm for AMIS is evident in her 18 years of volunteer service with our international students and scholars. She has a clear vision for the organization, a strategic mindset, and passion for cultural exchanges and friendship that aligns with AMIS’s core values.”

In her new role, Camille will be responsible for securing and strengthening AMIS’s development function, especially as AMIS prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2028. Camille has expressed enthusiasm about joining AMIS. “After volunteering and meeting so many incredible students from all over the world through AMIS the past 18 years, I am thrilled to be an official part of the team and look forward to contributing to many more years of positive, memorable international student encounters and friendships,” Camille stated. “I love AMIS’s mission and its motto to ‘*Walk together, talk together, all you nations in the world. Only then shall we have peace,*’ an ancient Sanskrit proverb. I am confident that together, we can achieve peace within our own communities and all over the world through international friendships, like the ones AMIS helps to foster.”

Camille Kesler will be taking over the role of Executive Director from Rev. Irene Wong who has held this position since 2017. Everyone at AMIS holds Irene in great regard and appreciates her lengthy service, especially for her steadfast leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. Irene

leaves AMIS to organize the Asian American Christian Network of Atlanta (AACNA) and said, "It's been an honor and privilege to have led AMIS for eight years. AMIS is a wonderful community of international students, volunteers, and partners who have enriched my life and been a blessing to my family. I am proud of the impact that we made together in supporting international students and creating a culture of friendship and hospitality for them in Atlanta. I will be forever grateful for the experiences I had with AMIS. I echo Zebekiah in welcoming Camille to the team. She brings much needed skills, expertise and passion for our mission which will move AMIS forward and continue our important work of fostering global understanding and cultural exchange."

The Executive Director announcement will be revealed at the 2nd annual AMIS International Tea fundraiser held on Saturday, March 29th at 2:00 PM at North Avenue Presbyterian Church. The AMIS Afternoon of International Tea brings the AMIS community together with new and old friends to exchange stories of international friendship and crossing cultures, while enjoying a sampling of international beverages and refreshments from across the globe. The event is open to the public. Ticket and sponsorship information on this annual event may be found at www.amisatlanta.org/tea.

Media and industry professionals interested in learning more about Camille Kesler and/or AMIS are encouraged to contact AMIS Communications and Program Director Emily Spears at emily@amisatlanta.org or (860) 944-8707.

About AMIS Atlanta:

Since 1978, AMIS Atlanta has promoted cultural and global understanding through friendship and hospitality with international students and scholars in the greater Atlanta area through connections with local families and individuals. Our international students come from over 90 different nations and attend Georgia Tech, Georgia State, Emory, Columbia Theological Seminary, Agnes Scott, Kennesaw State, Morehouse College, Oglethorpe University, Beulah Heights, Atlanta Technical College, Chattahoochee Technical College, Mercer, SCAD, and others.

AMIS Atlanta strives for a more peaceful, welcoming, and connected world through international friendship. For more information on AMIS and its leadership, programs or ways to support the organization, visit www.amisatlanta.org.

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