

NOTE--This mentoring program for new international students was developed by the internationalization and multicultural education committee at Park University, and approved in the spring of 2008. It will go into effect in August, 2008.

GLOBAL MATCH: A FACULTY/STAFF MENTORING PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Program Concept:

This program would pair a faculty or staff member with an incoming international student. The pair would meet 2 times a month for 30 minutes. The mentor would be a resource and a friend to the student.

The pair can:

- talk
- go to lunch
- plan to attend an athletic event together
- plan to attend a talk, play, recital, presentation at Park
- attend International Speakers Club presentations
- attend events during International Education week
- attend Coming to America events

Goals:

- To give international students a personal contact with a faculty/staff on campus;
- To encourage interaction between fac/staff and international students;
- To enhance/promote intercultural experiences for fac/staff;
- To enhance/promote intercultural communication for fac/staff;
- Provide a less formal environment for the student to ask questions and seek help outside the classroom/office

Direct benefits for students:

- Better acclimation;
- Better informed;
- Improved cross-cultural communication;
- Friendship;
- Sense of belonging;
- Increased involvement in Park community/activities/events;
- Increased knowledge about Park;

Direct benefits for fac/staff:

- Improved cross-cultural communication;
- Friendship;
- Better informed;
- Sense of belonging;
- Increased involvement in Park community/activities/events;

- Increased awareness of the world/knowledge about other cultures;
- Use as professional development participation in annual/periodic performance reviews

Indirect benefits for Park:

- Increased attendance at events;
- Better community;
- Retention of students;
- Students better served;

Implementation/Procedure:

- Finalize program;
- Advertise by poster and e-mail;
- Interested individuals fill out application;
- Match fac/staff to student;
- Meet at orientation dinner;
- Distribute guidelines for mentors and students;
- Sign a mentoring contract;
- Share contact information;
- Meet monthly;
- Have an end of the year event;
- Collect feedback via questionnaire;
- Develop criteria for “Mentoring/Student Awards”