

The Monthly Mentor

CREATING A CULTURE OF MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

By: The Mentor Year Committee

Yōkoso. Salut. Bienvenido. Willkommen. Bine ati venit. WELCOME!

Have we mentioned that we're glad you're here? Well - we are ultra pleased to welcome you - our Class of 2023 - to this community. The MYP operates from an "if you build it, they will come" mentality, and without YOU, this simply would not exist. While the foundation of this program will always be the 1:1 relationships, we want to encourage you to reach out and connect this year through other means and ways that the MYP offers.

Mark your calendars: December 1st and February 1st will be our all-group meetings; in collaboration with the IACAC Professional Development Committee we will be creating opportunities for several mini-PD sessions that speak to the items that the Mentees came here for and will provide Mentor-friendly topics, too.

RELATED: Please complete your Goals and Agreements forms (in the shared folder) by October 15th.

Shared resources: We ask that all mentors and mentees make use of the shared [Google Folder](#) that you can drop things into or find resources in. This is a collaborative location used to share ideas and ask questions. Have some helpful resources? Know of a great learning opportunity, etc? Let us know! We also created [this Jam Board](#) for you to post items as well: think of it as the group bulletin board.

The MYP Committee: Please reach out/connect. If you are working on something (skill-set, knowledge areas, PD, etc.) that cannot be best-served through your MYP match, please let us know and we will connect you within the community.

Most importantly, the focus of our time is meant to be transformational, not transactional. We all have a lot to learn from each other, so... let's do this, MYP Class of 2023.

- **The MYP Committee: Malissa, Wilson, Skyler, and Dan**



Email us:
mentoryearprogram@internationalacac.org



Links of interest:

NACAC - [Faculty-led Workshops](#)
Oct. 19 - Dec 7th
So many topics to explore --
Registration opens soon!

FORBES --
[Tips for Mentors and Mentees](#)

College Essay Guy - [2 upcoming webinars](#) on reducing bias in writing (HS, Oct. 6) and reading (Admissions, Oct. 27) letters of rec

HIGH SCHOOL
[10 Traits of Successful School Leaders](#)

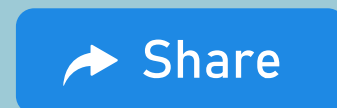
[NACAC \(article\)](#) on reducing gender and racial bias in rec letters

Kent and Levy - Class of 2025
[ED/RD Decision stats & financial aid](#)

UNIVERSITY Reps
[Effective Leadership in Higher Ed](#)

NACAC: Mid-Management Institute
Dec 1 & 2 - [info here](#)

INDEPENDENT COUNSELORS
IECA [Resource Library](#)
IECA [Fall Conference](#) - Nov 7-9



Please check out and use the shared resource spaces in our Google folder!

A WARM WELCOME FROM: KRISTOFFER TORIBIO

President, International Association of College Admission Counseling
Assistant Director, Global Engagement, Manager, International Admissions



"One of the most exciting things I am looking forward to in my tenure as President of International ACAC is supporting and elevating the Mentor Year Program (MYP). In its inaugural year, the MYP received the NACAC Rising Star Award which sends a message of two important things. 1) That mentorship and peer-to-peer connections are needed and critical in our field, provided through a program that reaches all corners of the globe, serving a diversity of student needs. And 2) that International ACAC is setting a precedent of what a mentorship program in college admission counseling can look like.

Mentorship captures the essence of International ACAC and what we as an organization can do best. I remember as a young professional, I had little resources from my former employer to access essential training and resources on international admission best practices, outreach strategies, credential evaluation, etc. and I had to look externally for support. International admission counseling is arguably the most collegial field in higher education, as it's built from a culture of sharing our expertise and insight. It takes only one interaction or one conversation to make an impact in someone's professional development and retention. In fact, it's the primary reason why, after 15 years, I am still in this field. It has not only made a difference in my professional growth, but personally as these meaningful interactions turned into some of the deepest friendships I ever made in life. The sheer fact that the Mentor Year Program is designed to facilitate those interactions to a whole new level, will transform the way we practice our craft - for the better.

To the Mentors: mahalo (thank you). Thank you for your commitment and kuleana (duty) to serve and pay it forward. To the Mentees: I also say mahalo to you, for taking the first step towards enhancing your professional development that will only better equip you to serve your community and students.

Lastly, as I have said this to the MYP leadership committee, my plans after my tenure on the Presidential Team are to be a mentor.

Please join me in sending well-wishes to the MYP as it enters its sophomore year!

International Association of College Admission Counseling

IACAC GEM Award Nominations: Open Until Oct 3! ([link here](#))
Membership renewal -- launching mid-October, stay tuned!
If any of your contact or school info has changed, please [update your profile here](#)



MENTOR SPOTLIGHT: Melanie Batey

University Advisor, Collège du Léman Sàrl, Switzerland

When I started my career in education, almost 20 years ago, I am not sure I fully grasped the journey ahead. During my 15-minute mandatory and only meeting with my guidance counselor in senior year, I remember asking her how she got into this field and what it would take for me to get there, too. Little did I know that eventually I would find myself in these shoes and what a great life-long journey it would be, fueled by many opportunities and responsibilities.

I felt incredibly grateful to learn alongside the amazing Margarita Mechkova for the first year of the MYP ran by IACAC. Working with people who ask you those tough questions really keeps you on your toes. I am hoping she has found some support through our regular conversations and some company along her journey; some of us can feel pretty isolated, particularly when working by oneself at a school. We may have to face conflict-heavy situations with our administration, colleagues (who, let's face it, don't really know what we do and why we get our own office!), as well as students and parents in ensuring they find great options. This is especially hard when all we really want to do is share the students' enthusiasm for entering their next big phase of life and help them to figure out how to get there.



The days go by and 200 transcripts and letters of recommendations later, we need to find ways to renew our enthusiasm for this very privileged role we play in our students' lives. Staying current, informed and at the top of our game when the world is constantly changing, options appear all the time and people always want more, can feel like a lonely journey. Thanks to IACAC and the MYP program, even after several years in the same role, we can find ways to RE-THINK, learn, grow and build deep connections with our peers.

Having had my first meeting with my new mentee just recently has made me feel relevant and overall enthusiastic about the year ahead. It is great to be able to support one another within this profession.



Big thank you and congratulations!
The Mentor Year Program
was presented with the
Rising Star Award at NACAC 2022!
This would not have been possible
without the incredible
participation of the Class of 2022
and the support of the
Leadership Team at IACAC

Dan Seneker, Malissa Takacs, Angel Pérez (NACAC CEO), Ffiona Rees (NACAC Immediate Past President), Wilson Lee

(Skyler could not be present due to birthday celebrations, but she was with us in spirit!)