

The Monthly Mentor

Creating a Culture of Members Helping Members

By: the MYP Committee

Dear Mentors & Mentees --

Welcome to the first newsletter of MYP, 2024-25 --

As we are already fully immersed in another admissions cycle filled with college fairs, school visits, and student application support, I am positive that each of us is maintaining a full and challenging schedule. Yet, amidst the busyness, I'm thrilled that our program has grown to new heights with over 130 mentor-mentee pairs—a true testament to your commitment to creating partnerships within our global community of admission counseling professionals.

This program thrives because of your dedication to nurturing meaningful mentorship relationships, sharing insights, and helping one another navigate the ever-evolving admissions landscape. Each of you brings invaluable experience, creativity, and resilience to the table, and we're grateful for your involvement. By generously sharing your knowledge, you're shaping not only individual careers but even the broader field of college counseling.

Throughout the year, I encourage you to take the time to connect 1:1 with your mentor or mentee. Share your unique perspectives, discuss challenges, and celebrate successes, big and small. These relationships are more than just professional support; they are a chance to create lifelong connections that enrich and sustain.

Thank you for your enthusiasm, time, and dedication to this community. Here's to a successful, inspiring year ahead in the Mentor Year Program!

Malissa Takacs, Chair of the Mentor Year Program



Links of interest

[NACAC - Continuing Education and PD Events](#)

[FOR COUNSELORS/IECS](#)

[Times Higher Ed](#)

[Counsellor Resources](#)

[College Board - Upcoming events and PD offerings](#)

[FOR UNIVERSITY REPS](#)

[Upcoming Events & Webinars](#)

[Inside Higher Ed](#)

[BMI/Times Higher Ed](#)

[Recruiting Resources](#)

Planning Ahead? Don't forget one of our favorite SE Asian Conferences:

[GUCC \(Singapore\) May 9/10 2025](#)



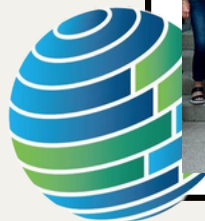
NEXT MYP ALL GROUP MEETING:

JAN 28, 2025

9:00 am Eastern Standard



GREAT SEEING SO MANY OF YOU AT WESTERN IN JULY! LOOKING FORWARD TO BOSTON REUNION 2025!



**A WARM MESSAGE FROM: MARSHA OSHIMA
VP FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, IACAC
COUNSELOR, INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF GENEVA**

Greetings from Switzerland!

I am honored and tickled to be invited to contribute to your mentorship year first newsletter.

As a brief introduction, I am currently a university counselor at the International School of Geneva, La Grande Boissière campus. This is my 11th year as a counselor, but I have been in international education for over 25 years, working for many years at the Institute of International Education on a variety of exchange and scholarship programs before life took an unexpected turn and my spouse transferred to Switzerland.



Full confession, I have only been an official mentor once in the first year of the MYP and I have never had a formal mentor. But I feel that my career path has been full of mentors. I have experienced mentorship in different ways: through previous supervisors and senior staff, through peers and in reverse from those I have supervised. As a new counselor in 2013, the generosity of my colleague in the office and others in the counseling network was definitely mentorship that built my skills. It's a two way exchange, with the mentor role opening the door, while the mentee needs to be proactive in asking questions and making first attempts to upskill.

The adage of learning to fish rather than being given the fish is how I view a successful mentoring experience. Another way to seek informal mentorship is by volunteering with International ACAC. Just because you may be newish to the field does not mean you cannot get involved. For example, you can organize a conference panel proposal based on a topic you want to learn about, be the moderator and approach experts (who may become potential mentors!) to serve as the speakers. Apply to join a committee where you will work with a great cross-section of members. Even a few hours volunteering at a college fair can help make those first introductions that lead to more meaningful exchanges.

Final thought is to **be mindful of paying it forward**. Seeing the number of MYP mentees who then become mentors is a wonderful example. Small gestures can have a big impact: the friendly message to a new colleague at a nearby school, grabbing a coffee with someone who approaches you after a presentation, or exchanging contact info with someone who asked a thought provoking question during a webinar. All of these could be the start of an incredible mentoring relationship.

International Association for College Admission Counseling -- LINKS

- **EVENTS CALENDAR:** [Check it out here](#) -- upcoming Webinar Wednesdays and a Town Hall Meeting on Nov. 1 - [register here](#)
- **CHECK YOUR EMAILS!** Membership renewals were sent in October; renew by Dec. 1 and gain early access to Annual Conference information.
- **2025 - REGIONAL INSTITUTES INFORMATION HERE**

