

The Monthly Mentor

CREATING A CULTURE OF MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

By: The Mentor Year Committee

And just like that.... the last newsletter of the inaugural Mentor Year Program, 2021-22 Cohort! Cue: all the feelings. We each wanted to share a note of gratitude and inspiration as we prepare to "graduate" you and gear up to welcome our new incoming cohort!

Dan: It is hard to believe that we've made it this far and that the inaugural year is coming to an end. What a journey! What started as an idea and a hope, has brought together nearly 90 individuals from around the world to collaborate, learn, teach, and begin new friendships. My lasting impression continues to be a bit of FOMO.... I wish I had this kind of support and network when I was starting in the industry, but I'm thankful that I could be part of what will hopefully be a lasting IACAC legacy.

Malissa: I've estimated that our Mentees and Mentors and committee members, guest speakers and newsletter contributors have invested well over 2500 human hours into this year's Mentor Year Program! I am humbled and impressed beyond measure. The relationships formed and the work you've done has surpassed any expectation I had. Thank you for your willingness (and patience) to walk alongside us as we built this program in its very first year. Thank you, THANK you, thank YOU!

Skyler: What an absolute pleasure it has been to support the first MYP cohort. By reflecting on best practices, exchanging inspirational ideas and offering encouraging words - your guidance and ongoing commitment is truly commendable. We could not have asked for a better crew to launch this initiative. Thanks to everyone for this meaningful collaboration, for selflessly giving back to your profession, and for making the MYP such a success!

Wilson: Back in the winter of 2020, our conversations about supporting our membership through a mentor program were unbelievably exciting. It was something our membership has been requesting for some time; however, launching this program was no small task. It required the support of our Executive Board, the unbelievable diligence of Malissa, Dan, and Skyler, but most importantly, brave and committed mentors and mentees who were willing to learn and eager to share. Having finally reached the end of this first year, my heart is unbelievably full as the work that we have all done has been so meaningful. To all our mentors and mentees: thank you for your dedication and steadfast commitment in making this inaugural year such a success. We are a better organization because of it.

As you head into summer - we wish you all the best. We hope to see as many of you as possible in New Mexico. **Please encourage your colleagues to apply by June 15th. Mentees - please note that you can apply to be a Mentor (nudge).**

Until we meet again - The MYP Committee (Dan, Malissa, Skyler, and Wilson)



Links of interest:

**NACAC Annual Conference
Registration Open!
Sept. 22 - 24, in Houston (TX)**

Looking to expand your knowledge? Don't forget [NACAC's suite of E-Learning courses](#) and check out their certificate programs, too.

Links on Leadership for All Sides of the Desk

[Becoming a Self-Aware Leader](#)

[The Basics of Managing as a Leader](#)

[Next-Level Leadership](#)

[Building a Strong Team Culture](#)

Rather Listen than Read?

Admissions Decoded (special addition on Next Gen Admissions (on balance, values and self-actualization))

You are Invited!

MYP Conference Meet-up
July 11th, 5:00 pm
Apothecary Lounge
Hotel Parq Central
806 Central Ave SE
Sponsored by: Bishop's University



MENTOR/MENTEE SPOTLIGHT:

José Hanani Juma - External Engagement Officer, Amsterdam School of International Business (Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences)

Kim Zwitserloot - International Student Recruitment/Assistant, Professor/Tutor, University College Utrecht, the Netherlands

"If you cannot see where you are going, ask someone who has been there before." – J Loren Norris

It has been a privilege being part of the IACAC MYP that allowed me to get connected with Kim. Given the fact that I am new to the industry when it comes down to counsellor engagement, it has been extremely helpful to have had a knowledgeable and amazing mentor like Kim. The above quote accurately summarizes the journey so far, especially in the first weeks, I was a bit clueless and didn't know where to start to get counsellor engagement up and running. Kim taught me a lot about what counsellors' needs are, their role in the student's decision-making process and important channels on where to connect with counsellors.

Now that there are only a few months left of the MYP, it is time for some reflection. When I started my role which was at the same time as when the MYP started, there was no overview and minimum engagement with counsellors. Now, after a while, the counsellor portfolio has been growing. Also, last year, together with two counsellors, I co-organized a series of webinars for counsellors. Kim gave me good advice on how to best share these webinars with counsellors and what type of terminology to use. I am delighted to be attending the IACAC conference in July in New Mexico for the first time and hence very much look forward to meeting you. Kim has helped me tremendously with preparing for the conference in different ways. To conclude, Kim is a wonderful mentor, an individual who is easily reachable, always interested in giving a hand, an amazing professional who knows how to share knowledge and is willing to meet to check how things are going. **Thank you Kim for your continuous and pleasant support, it has been a great experience learning from such a professional!**



"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." -

Marcel Proust

When you have been doing a job for a while it is so easy to get caught up in the daily grind, to lose overview of the big picture and just to do things the way you always do them without thinking why you do it that way. Working with José has been a great way to stand still and reflect.

Our conversations have been wonderful, covering everything from how HE in the Netherlands works and how to explain that, to how to reach the groups you want to reach and how to explain what you do to your colleagues and boss to make sure you have the tools you need to do your job well. José asks the best questions to get you thinking. We were lucky to have been able to meet online as well as in person, in spite of the many buses and trains we had to take to get there. Nothing beats that in person conversation with a likeminded person. It is wonderful to see him so dedicated and motivated. Seeing him turn his enthusiasm into action has been inspirational. It is awe-inspiring to see what he has already achieved in such a short time and I can assure you, you will hear much more from him.



I am looking forward to toasting to a successful MYP by sharing a drink during IACAC!



A WARM GREETING FROM: ANGEL B. PÉREZ, PHD (HE/HIM/HIS)

Chief Executive Officer, National Association for College Admission Counseling

"A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself."

-Oprah Winfrey

I am a firm believer that if it weren't for the mentors I've had in the college admissions profession, I would not be NACAC's CEO today. Throughout my entire career, I've been fortunate to have mentors (many of whom are International ACAC members) who encouraged me to dream bigger, do more, and to work in service of others. I migrated to America from the island of Puerto Rico, grew up low-income, and was the first in my family to attend college. That transformative experience is why I decided to enter this profession, but you can't help but have imposter syndrome when you come from this background. I still remember being a young admissions counselor and asking myself "Can I really do this work? Am I qualified enough? Do I have the right skills?"

Yet many college counselors and admission officers put their hands over my shoulders and showed me how to be a great professional. They are the reason I succeeded, but they are also the reason why I stayed. They saw greater things for me when I could not see it for myself, and I still call upon many of those mentors today when I face doubts or challenges.

I want to congratulate the inaugural cohort of the International ACAC mentorship program. I was thrilled when I learned of its implementation, but more importantly it's incredible success. Years from now I know many of the mentees will be leading figures in our field, and I know this program will have contributed.

My only ask is that you pay it forward. Poet Maya Angelou says, "When you learn, teach, when you get, give." Continue to tap your colleagues on the shoulder to encourage them to serve them as mentors.

Your kindness, dedication, and knowledge will have an impact on others for decades to come.

Onward!

Angel B. Pérez, PhD

International ACAC - What's on for May/June

Annual Conference mode continues! [CONFERENCE SCHEDULE DETAILS](#)

Delegate Elections/Voting -- coming in May!

Don't forget: Virtual Pre-Conference events start July 6th.

