

The Monthly Mentor

Creating a Culture of Members Helping Members

By: the MYP Committee

Happy New Year Mentors & Mentees

Welcome to 2024 and if you are celebrating Chinese New Year in February, we look forward to welcoming the Year of the Wood Dragon – predicted to be a year of new opportunities and profound transformations! If you are making resolutions this month, we hope one of them will be setting aside time for your well-being. Our careers are very time-consuming, and we need to protect ourselves from ‘burn-out’. A great way to do this is through the MYP, developing relationships and supporting one another in our vast community.

As counselors successfully made it through the bulk of their annual application submissions and our admissions reps navigate the reading season ... we hope the pace is less frantic for you over the next few months. There is a lot to look forward to this month with our All Group Meeting on January 30th (9 am Eastern/NY time start) incorporating 3 “strands” – one with ‘The Bright Side Coaching & Training’, a session on Ethics, and a session for the high-school side on post-Jan 1st planning. Finally, we hope you have managed to schedule time to meet your Mentee/Mentor this month.

We look forward to seeing you on the 30th of January. If you have any issues in the meantime, please reach out to the MYP committee.

Zoë Williams, on behalf of the MYP Committee

Next All Group Meeting

Jan 30, 2024 - 9:00 am Eastern/NYC

Calendar invite/zoom link have been sent!

The meeting will feature 3 PD strands:

- 1). Coaching Skills in Mentoring
- 2). Ethics Update
- 3). Jan 1 - Now What? High school side updates and making the most of Q1 for 2024!



Links of interest

Webinars -

National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)
(nacacnet.org)

International ACAC Counselor & University Support Database
Counselor & University

Support Database

15 Best Counseling Podcasts

You Must Follow in 2024

(feedspot.com)

IECA Regional Symposium -

(iecaonline.com)

GUCC Conference (Singapore)

May 3-4 [info here](#)

Admissions Articles You May Have Missed!

[How will this year's big admissions changes shape 2024?](#) (insidehighered.com)

[5 Higher Education Trends To Watch For In 2024](#) (forbes.com)

[Is AI Affecting College Admissions?](#) | Best Colleges | U.S. News (usnews.com)

MENTOR/MENTEE SPOTLIGHT:

Mentee: Ozgun Kizilkaya, International Recruitment Advisor MENA and South Asia, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia Canada

Mentor: Dan Seneker, AVP Enrolment and University Registrar, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia Canada

My name is Ozgun Kizilkaya, and I am the International Recruitment Advisor in Middle East, Africa, and South Asia at Acadia University. I was lucky to match with my mentor Dan Seneker, Associate Vice-President of Enrolment & University Registrar, at Saint Mary's University. Before our MYP match-up, Dan and I first met in the Fall of 2022 in Greece where I travelled with Dan briefly and was impressed with his knowledge and passion for student recruitment.



Ozgun Kizilkaya

Mentor Year Program (MYP) had a great impact on my personal development as an international recruiter. During my first meetings with Dan, we focused on identifying and improving on areas of growth. Dan helped me improve my presentation and management skills and stressed the importance of a healthy work life balance.

Having the support of your co-workers, family, and friends is wonderful, however learning from and receiving support from someone with 20 years of experience in the same field is invaluable. Dan was able to understand my worries and stressors. He helped me keep a level head and address problems I faced for the first time.

To get the most out of your time in the MYP program, be open to constructive criticism, accepting feedback, and keep open communication with your mentor. Everyone is busy with their work and personal life, so do your best to stay consistent. Even a quick, 15-minute meeting can be extremely beneficial.



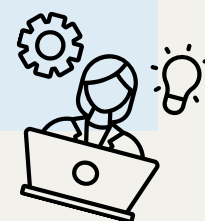
Dan Seneker

I definitely suggest the MYP program for anyone who is looking to improve themselves in the international recruitment industry.



Congratulations and Thank you!

To the nearly 30 of you who applied for the International ACAC PD funds. We were able to choose only 12 recipients and tried to spread the \$\$ between Mentors and Mentees and across various PD opportunities, conferences, trainings, and educational sessions. We look forward to sharing the outcome of those activities!



**A WARM MESSAGE FROM: LIAM MCCARTNEY - BOSTON UNIVERSITY
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS
CO-VP FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD (INT ACAC)**



When I sat down to consider the role that mentorship has played in my professional life, I realized that it has been there since the very beginning of my 10+ years working in university admissions.

My journey into admissions at a U.S. institution started in a common way: I was a tour guide at my alma mater, the University of Delaware (Go Blue Hens!). As a student worker for four years, I learned the importance of connection – both with prospective students and with the admissions counselors at UD.

When graduation was approaching, I was encouraged by the admissions counselors, who provided insight into their work and informed me of the challenges that might await me if I pursued a job in university admissions. When I started working at Boston University, I never imagined that this “first job after Uni” would blossom into a career that I’d still be enjoying over a decade later.

I’m positive that my time in admissions and my passion for this career have been due in large part to the mentorship that I have received. My mentors include folks who I work (or worked) alongside at Boston University, those I’ve met through International ACAC, and those who work in similar fields and can relate to the work that we do.

Good mentors ask you thought-provoking questions and help you decide your next steps or troubleshoot challenging situations. They can serve as a great sounding board when you’re looking to make a tough decision, or simply someone you can vent your frustrations to. Mentors can help connect you with new opportunities, new experiences, or people who can assist in your career growth and expansion. The mentor/mentee relationship allows us to breathe new life into our work or provide a fresh approach, ultimately benefiting the students and institutions that we all serve.

Remember: mentorship can be formal or informal, it can come from inside or outside of your organization, and it can be lifelong or exist even within a single, brief interaction. As the world continues to turn and shift, we know that this will change our work in the future. I know we can tackle these changes together using connection, communication, and mentorship. The Mentor Year Program through International ACAC is a powerful tool for members to utilize, and I hope to see this program continue to grow and succeed in the years ahead.

International Association for College Admission Counseling -- LINKS

- **ANNUAL CONFERENCE (JULY) #WelcomeHome**
 - Updates and need to know info found [on the website!](#)
- 2024 Committee Applications -- open now! Deadline is Feb 8th - [INFO HERE](#)
- 2024 Executive Board Elections - open now! Deadline is Feb 8th - [INFO HERE](#)
- **UPCOMING WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS - Jan 17/Jan 31**

