

The Monthly Mentor

Creating a Culture of Members Helping Members By: the MYP Committee

Did you know that January is officially National Mentoring Month?! If President Biden says it is, we're here for it. Politics aside, the MYP mentors and mentees have been up to some incredible things and we are sharing some clips for some new year, National Mentoring Month inspiration.

As we enter 2023, it's an ideal time to reflect on your accomplishments in 2022, while setting attainable goals for the year ahead. For many of you, a new year comes with new beginnings. You may be working on current objectives, preparing for a different role in your organization, or even making the leap to a new field of work. As each of you embark on the next phase of your professional journey, we are delighted to support you, and we look forward to celebrating your success in the months (and years) to come! We reached out to a few of our participants to receive some motivational words for the new year and here's what they had to say:

"My mentor has a wealth of experience, and I have gained many nuggets of priceless information. Having a mentor has helped grow my confidence and feel like I might actually know what I am doing! I recommend that anyone just starting out in this role applies for the mentor scheme - it is a fantastic way to grow your network, and for your own professional development." - Ruth Davis, Head of Universities and Careers, Tonbridge School, England

"Coaching my mentee as she settles into a new office with a more global set of students has helped me re-evaluate my own practice. Our conversations energize and give me things to think about. Being a mentor has given me a fresh perspective and has reinvigorated me as I work with my own students." - Heather Thompson Cavalli, Head of College Counselling, Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz, Switzerland

**At International ACAC, thanks to your efforts,
EVERY MONTH is Mentoring Month!**

In gratitude, MYP Committee

**Malissa Takacs, Wilson Lee, Dan Senekar,
and Skyler Bentley-Hall**



Links of interest:

[Join NACAC's Virtual College Fairs](#)
February 19th, March 19th, and April 23rd to learn about various colleges and universities. #collegeadmissions

Don't forget to renew your NACAC and International ACAC membership for 2023. If you could benefit from a Dues Waiver, please [fill out an application](#).

Hear from NACAC's CE, Dr. Angel Pérez, about the impact of leadership in our industry
[Check out the podcast here](#)

MENTORS (article):
[How Mentoring can help your communication skills](#)

From the Kellogg School of Management (Northwestern)
[What's the Secret Ingredient to Great Mentorship?](#)

DATE CHANGE!!

**Feb. 1 All Group Meeting
changed to March 1st Zoom
invite coming your way!**

[Share](#)

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



A WARM WELCOME FROM: MICHELLE CHOW-LIU INTERNATIONAL ACAC PRESIDENT-ELECT 22-23

I believe we have all received mentorship in our life or have been mentors in our life. Mentorship is the most natural form of relationship building; in this field, relationships are the crux and staple of our association. I want to share a personal story with you – this experience is not something I share often.

High school, for me, was easy – I figured out how to be successful with minimal effort. Once university came around, that was a different experience. After three semesters of a low GPA, I was RTW (Required to Withdraw). These dreaded three letters to any student, let alone a student to immigrant parents, were UNBEARABLE. That feeling of failure still gives me goosebumps. Long story short, I went to community college (best experience ever!) and returned to university with a renewed sense of confidence, energy, and purpose for higher education.

My good high school friend supported me throughout this journey. She was a year above me in university by the time I returned. She had experience in the second-year course I had to take, and we would discuss the difference in the offered psychology courses. She would offer her advice on the subjects she knew I would love; she became my trusted adviser through my second go at university. Her guidance and belief in me made me who I am today.

We come across many individuals in our lives, and I believe that mentors are those individuals that not only provide guidance, motivation, emotional support, and role modeling but they also have your back. They are the ones that tell you the truth, look out for you, and become your confidant.

Within our field, we are blessed to have a camaraderie in this profession that is unmatched by any other. With the core belief of guiding the next generation and supporting students' higher education plans, we give and share knowledge openly with each other. Mentoring is at the root of who we are. As our Mentor Year Program (MYP) is in its second year, I want to thank those who have taken part in this program. I know we all agree that it is an important and rewarding way of getting involved and giving back to our community.

Michelle Chow-Liu

Western Academy of Beijing, Head of High School Counseling

International Association of College Admission Counseling

2023 Conference Reminders (#familystyle)

- Applications for session proposals are now open until February 15!
- January 18 -- Proposal Writing Webinar, 7 am ET
- **More info in the email sent Dec. 10**



MENTOR/MENTEE SPOTLIGHT:

Andre Baesa, M.S.Ed. | International Admissions Coordinator, Baylor University (TX)

Amanda Chiarot, (former) Senior Associate Director for International Recruitment, Binghamton University (NY)

I have been extremely fortunate to have Amanda as my mentor. She has provided a wealth of knowledge and guidance and has been an invaluable resource for me, especially when it comes to transcripts and recruitment in Asia. The experiences and lessons she's learned over her years in the field combined with the latest data, trends, and news has helped me to navigate the ins and outs of the recruitment process.

One of the things I have appreciated most about working with Amanda is the different perspective she has brought to my work. As our institutions are different, she has helped me see things in new ways and has offered valuable insights based on her own experiences. I have also appreciated the time she has generously taken out of her busy schedule to meet with me and discuss my work. She has also given me great advice on how to read and analyze reports, queries, and statistics, which has helped me improve my skills in these areas. Despite her many years in the field, she continues to have an open mind and is always willing to learn from others, including those who are newer to the profession like me.

Amanda has truly been a wonderful mentor, who has been gracious and generous with the knowledge, information, and resources she has shared with me. She has been patient and kind, even when I have asked silly or simple questions. She has helped increase my confidence in my role and has affirmed me in my abilities, which has been incredibly helpful. I have learned more of what it means to be a leader from listening to her and from her experiences. Even though I am not a part of her team, she has made me feel like one through her care, empathy, and accountability.

With the New Year comes new beginnings and, Amanda, unfortunately, has left her role as Senior Associate Director for International Recruitment at Binghamton University, but is very excited to start her role as Contracts Manager of the 777x program for BAE Systems. However, I am grateful for the opportunity to have Amanda as my mentor and for all that she does to support me. I am thankful for her guidance and the invaluable knowledge and resources she has shared with me. Although she has left her role in International Admissions, I am excited to continue meeting with her throughout this year and to continue learning from her!



Andre Baesa

I've really appreciated being in the mentorship program and am looking forward to talking to Andre about how things are going as I learn as well as lead in my new post. Andre's insights and experiences help me reflect on my style and impact. With the transition back to BAE Systems, I am excited about going back to my roots and working with knowledgeable colleagues I haven't seen for a decade. I'm also excited that I'm helping to get the most efficient commercial plane into service to take IACAC members around the world to recruit the class of 2029.

--Amanda Chiarot