The UAB International Mentoring Program  
*Lending a Welcoming Hand*

The UAB mentoring program is a service provided by the International Scholar and Student Services and The Office of Student Life. Its purpose is to provide international students with a network devoted to the best possible adjustment to life at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the United States, while encouraging a cross-cultural educational experience that promotes individual growth.

The program is comprised of fourteen students from various backgrounds selected to work with a group of incoming international students. The mentors begin their training with a series of workshops, which are designed to help them understand some of the unique challenges that face international students. Once they have completed the workshops, they are randomly assigned a group of international students. They stay with this group for the remainder of the semester to guide and help the students feel comfortable in their new environment.

Mentors have the unique opportunity to help bridge the gap between student and staff. Several international students have stated that they enjoyed being paired with a student whose main goal is to help them make a smooth transition into American life and provide practical help.

**Program Requirements**

Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible to apply for this program;

- Minimum GPA of 2.5
- Must be a UAB undergraduate or graduate student
- Must have one term competed by the time of Mentor service
- Available to serve a one academic year commitment
- Attend one of the following interest sessions listed below
- Complete interview process
- Complete mandatory Leadership Retreat
- Complete training sessions

**Applications**

- 2006-2007 applications are available on-line now. Application packets will be available January 3, 2006 at the International Scholar and Student Services office at HUC 250 or at the Smolian International House at 1600 10th Ave. South.

**Interest Sessions**

- Attendance at one of the following interest sessions is mandatory.
  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 18th</td>
<td>International Mentor Interest Meeting</td>
<td>I-house</td>
<td>2:00 PM – 2:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20th</td>
<td>International Mentor Interest Meeting</td>
<td>I-house</td>
<td>12:00 PM – 12:30 PM</td>
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<td>January 24th</td>
<td>International Mentor Interest Meeting</td>
<td>I-house</td>
<td>10:00 AM – 10:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26th</td>
<td>International Mentor Interest Meeting</td>
<td>I-house</td>
<td>4:00 PM – 4:30 PM</td>
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**How to Apply**

- Attend one of the above listed interest sessions
- Provide two letters of recommendation (from UAB faculty/staff or other professional)
- Turn in complete application to the Smolian International House at 1600 10th Ave. South by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, February 1, 2006
- Interview with committee at assigned time. Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th, 2006 at the Smolian International House

**Questions**

- For more information please call 934-3328 or email isss@uab.edu.

UAB/ISSS  
5/13/08