Millersville Mentoring Alliance Program (MMAP)
Advisory Council Meeting

September 22nd, 2004
3:00 – 4:30 PM
Lyle Hall Room 5

Minutes

Members Present

Dr. Kelsey Backels, Director of Counseling Center
Ms. Karen Bain, MMAP Graduate Assistant Coordinator
Dr. John Bello-Ogunu, Assistant Provost, Office of Academic Services
Ms. Stacy Denlinger, Administrative Assistant, Office of Academic Services
Ms. Diane Fleishman, Director of Community and Academic Partnerships
Mr. Luis Garcia, Assistant Director of Admissions
Mr. Minor Redmond, Director of Lancaster Partnership Program
Dr. Gordon Nesbitt, Director of Intramurals and Recreation
Ms. Kristie Overly, Associate Director of Alumni Services
Mr. Herb Watson, Community Mentor (Co-Chair)

Members Absent

Dr. Steven Miller, Director of Honors Program
Ms. Aida Ceara, Director of AIM for Success
Rev. Louis Butcher, Jr., CEO, Brightside Opportunities Center
Dr. Kevin Bailey, Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs
Ms. Kristin Albright, Student Senate President (Co-Chair)
Ms. Christina Wood, Peer Mentor

Welcome and Introductions

Herb Watson began the meeting and welcomed all members. Dr. Bello-Ogunu formally introduced Minor Redmond and Karen Bain to the council as new members and each member introduced themselves for the benefit of the new members.

Approval of Minutes from 6/23/04 Meeting

Minutes from 6/23/04 meeting were reviewed. Kristie Overly noted that her title should read “Associate Director of Alumni Services.” A motion was made to approve the minutes with the noted change, and the council agreed.

Update on MMAP Program

Karen Bain provided the council with MMAP updates:

MMAP posters are now displayed on every dorm through the Residential Assistants and are also posted in various high student traffic locations on campus.
MMAP has ordered acquired mentoring books that focus on assessment. These may prove to be helpful in the future for measuring the success of the program.

Mentee and mentor orientations and the MMAP Newsletter are now available online through the MMAP website.

MMAP can now track mentees’ grade point averages through the BANNER system.

An article requesting mentor participation was submitted to the Alumni Association for use in a future publication.

The MMAP welcome back picnic was held on September 21st; it was a great time for fun and socializing. However, there was not a high rate of participation. Suggestions were made to have future picnics on campus to encourage more student involvement and bypass transportation difficulties.

Minor Redmond explained the new Partnership Freshman Mentoring Initiative (PFMI) component of the MMAP. PFMI is a structured mentoring program that serves freshman students at MU who recently graduated from the Lancaster Partnership Program. Students and mentors will meet for the first time at the PFMI group meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 23rd.

**Discussion of Assessment Subcommittee**

Dr. Bello-Ogunu informed the council that David Wimer, the former chair of the assessment subcommittee has resigned his position because a change in career is taking him out of the Millersville area. Dr. Bello-Ogunu requested suggestions from the council for a follow-up course of action. The council reached a consensus that the Advisory Council should be responsible for assessment, therefore eliminating the need for a separate assessment subcommittee. It was suggested that one Advisory Council meeting be dedicated to assessment. At this meeting, we will set goals for what we want to measure and develop survey questions based on those goals. The result will be sent to Dan Weinstein for him to review. Brainstorming should be done in advance, and all ideas sent to Karen Bain before the meeting. After a survey is finalized, a script may be developed for the purpose of calling MMAP participants and conducting the survey by telephone.

**Additional Discussion**

It was brought to the attention of the council that a form of follow-up with mentor/mentee pairs after being matched would be helpful. If a match does not directly communicate with the MMAP office, we cannot confirm that they are actively involved in a mentoring relationship. A consensus was reached that the total number of mentors in MMAP would be divided among willing Advisory Council members and each member would be responsible for calling their assigned mentors to inquire about the status of mentoring relationships. Kristie Overly suggested using the MU phone-a-thon room to contact each mentor and offered to provide refreshments.

The fact that response rates for surveys needs to be improved was also addressed. One way to do this would be to request coupons as incentives from Student Services. Conducting the surveys over the telephone would also likely improve the response rate.

Kristie Overly invited the MMAP office to participate in the Graduate Festivals on October 4th and February 21st from 12:00-6:00pm in the multi-purpose room of the Student Memorial Center. It would be a good opportunity to recruit alumni mentors.

**Next Meeting**

Herb Watson adjourned the meeting and informed members that the next meeting is planned for Tuesday November 16th, from 2:30-4:00pm in Room 5 of Lyle Hall.