

**Millersville Mentoring Alliance Program  
Student Forum  
Wednesday, February 25, 2006  
6:30pm, Student Memorial Center Room 43**

*Advisory Council Members Present:* Kelsey Backels, Minor Redmond, Judson McCune, Eugene Shawaryn, Kenneth Kwiat, Mary Schoppy, Stacy Denlinger, Karen Bain

*Students Present:* Shannah Troncone, Alden Stowe, Bikiltu Guja, Nijah DeBrest, Devon Jacques, Shiomara Rodriguez, Eduardo Almodovar, Nehemias Arocho, Candice Zablin, Danielle Evans, Jaime Warner, Jasmyne King

**Forum Questions and Responses**

1. *What were (are) your impressions of the MMAP prior to being involved?*  
Students not involved in the MMAP – Never heard of it, heard of it but did not know much about it  
Students involved in the MMAP – It took a long time to be matched with a mentor, thought matches only met twice each semester, thought it would be helpful to have someone check up on her, thought a mentor would help to make the most of the college experience
2. *How did you find out about the MMAP?*  
New student orientation (3), MMAP website (1), happened to pass by the MMAP office (1), from a friend (5), Lancaster Partnership Program (3), Mass email (1), Community and Academic Partnerships Office (1), Never heard of it (1)
3. *Describe a student who would benefit from a mentor.*  
Juniors and seniors would be interested to help with transition to career field, freshmen to adapt to college, students who need help in their major, students looking for tutoring
4. *What should a mentor “do”?*  
Show careers “first hand”, help plan students’ futures, be knowledgeable about existing resources on campus, be a friend, be more than just an academic advisor, encourage students to get involved, facilitate mutual trust and respect, assist students in how to make the most of the college experience and life in general through a personal relationship
5. *How can we best get the word out to students about the MMAP?*  
Advertising through posters, flyers, and the Snapper, Partnering with campus organizations, professors, academic advisors, Residential Assistants in housing, information table with person near dining areas, My ‘Ville, Registration, Mass emails, flat screen television in the Student Memorial Center, flyers on trays in dining halls
6. *How can the MMAP best partner with other offices/organizations on campus:*  
Link with academic advisors through dialog with chairs and new faculty/staff orientations, centralize mentoring across campus, link with AIM for Success (“dropped” into general MU pool after 2<sup>nd</sup> year) and other programs, get involved with summer programming, Link with the Freshmen Year Experience and freshmen peer mentoring, advertise at freshmen orientation by focusing on what a mentor is and the benefits of having one

7. *How can we better communicate the benefits of mentoring to students?*

Orientation leaders, make it “cool” by showing specific examples, get students in the program to spread the word, “centralize” mentoring on campus

8. *What should be the role of the MMAP in established mentoring relationships?*

At the first meeting the expectations need to be defined and mentor/mentee pairs should hold each other accountable, option of guided or mediated first meeting between match, ask about “level” of mentoring desired (how much time in relationship), ask more specific questions on the application, possibly require documentation from mentors regarding contact with mentees, set ground rules up front, send more specific emails (mentors only, PFMI only, etc.)

**Follow-Up**

The MMAP office will establish a “to do list” based on student comments to present at the next Advisory Council Meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006.