

# MENTORING AT MU

Volume 1, Issue 2

June 2004

## MILLERSVILLE MENTORING ALLIANCE PROGRAM

Greetings from the desk of the coordinator. It may be summer, but the MMAP office is still hard at work. We have officially launched our website—www.millersville.edu/~mmap. The spring semester saw the completion of all four components of the MMAP—faculty/staff, peer, alumni and community mentoring. We are continually working to recruit new mentees and mentors, and to make the program as comprehensive as possible. To this end, we are working with our advisory council to develop a strategic plan for the upcoming year.

There will now be mentor meetings held every month. These meetings are designed to be both a forum for mentors to share their experiences, as well as an educational opportunity for them to learn best practices in mentoring. Past guests have in-

cluded Deb Harrison, Director of Lancaster Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Dr. Kelsey Backels, Director of the Counseling Center, and Mr. Herb Watson, former National Director of Youth Motivation Task Force.

The calendar for the 2004-2005 year is complete and can be accessed on our website. We have many exciting and fun events planned for both mentors and mentees.

Check out this issue of the newsletter for advice on staying in touch over the summer and communicating with your mentor, and to read contributions from both mentors and mentees.

Sarah Martin  
MMAP Coordinator

## MENTOR/MENTEE ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following peer mentors and mentees who were Spring 2004 graduates!

Lisa Correale, Tony Dickey, Elissa Dunston, Brianna Glenn, Tiffany

Harris, Shelby Jackson, Laura Krisa, Hope Seymour, Iris White and Que Zleh.



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### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Sept. 8th—Mentor Monthly Meeting, 12-1pm, Lyle Hall Parlor
- ◆ Sept. 14th—Orientation Meetings, 6-8pm, SMC 44
- ◆ Sept. 15th, Advisory Council Meeting, 2:30-4pm, Lyle Rm. 5
- ◆ Sept. 23rd, Welcome Back Reception, 6-8pm, Lyle Hall Parlor

# MENTOR'S PAGE

## What's in it for the mentor?

Theoretically, there are a number of possible benefits to becoming a mentor (Goodlad, 1995). These include:

### Potential Benefits for Mentors

- commitment: mentors learn the value of committing themselves to a student in need;
- initiative: mentors learn how and when to take initiative, tailored to the student they are helping;
- cooperation: mentors learn to develop skills that

increase the probability of cooperation from the student they are mentoring;

- communication: mentors enhance their communication skills;
- responsibility: mentors develop a sense of responsibility to another person;
- impact: mentors can observe the impact of their efforts, and see the usefulness of their activities;
- difference: mentors are exposed to differences in background and learning style of those they are mentoring;
- self-confidence: mentors gain in self-confidence as they help others to learn;

Adapted from <http://www.counselling.net/peers/p2-1.html>

## STAYING IN CONTACT

Summer is here! For many people, this means a more relaxed schedule and vacations. However, don't let the summer months go by without investing valuable time in your mentoring relationship. With both you and especially your mentee having a lighter workload, there may be more time to get to know each other. Even if your mentee is not in the area, you can still stay in touch by email or phone. Or, better yet, send your mentee a letter/postcard!

Some ideas of topics to discuss:

1. Your mentee's summer plans
2. Review the past school year with your mentee—what went well, what didn't

3. Hash out goals for the coming year
4. Decide on a meeting schedule before the fall semester starts

Remember, the summer months can be a great time to get refreshed and to plan for the upcoming year!



## COLLEGIATE OUTREACH MENTORING

The MMAP office is currently in the process of developing a collegiate outreach mentoring program. This program will focus on providing mentors for high school junior and senior students who are involved in the Lancaster Partnership Program (LPP), in hopes of increasing both the pursuit of college entrance and the retention of these students.

MMAP will be partnering with the Community and Academic Partnership (CAP) office, as

well as the LPP, to provide a comprehensive mentoring program for these students.

In addition, MMAP will provide mentoring for incoming freshmen who are from the LPP, by incorporating them into our existing mentoring program, while at the same time providing a more structured type of mentoring arrangement.



# MENTEE'S PAGE

## Mentor Appreciation

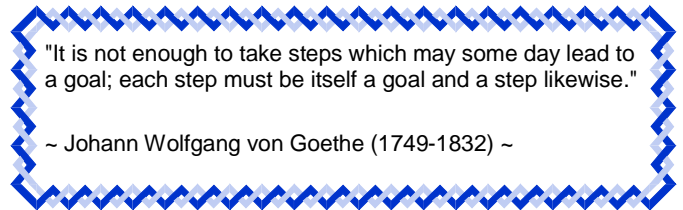
Wondering how to show your mentor how much you appreciate their dedication and willingness to help? Take a look at the following suggestions:

1. Thank them verbally or with a card. A sincere expression of your gratitude can go a long way in renewing both your and your mentor's interest in mentoring.
2. Take them out to lunch, dinner, or ice cream! Offer to pick up the check.
3. Write a brief editorial about your mentor for the MMAP newsletter.
4. Remember and celebrate important events in their lives—ex. their birthday.

5. Send a letter to their supervisor highlighting their contribution to your career path.

Above all, showing a genuine interest in the relationship and backing that interest up with punctuality and good communication will let your mentor know that you are grateful for what they have to offer.

Adapted from "The Value of Mentoring" by Katharine Hansen, [http://www.quintcareers.com/mentor\\_value.html](http://www.quintcareers.com/mentor_value.html)



## COMMUNICATION TIPS

### COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR MENTOR



1. Be clear and specific about your respective needs.
2. Be open and honest about your feelings.
3. Recognize that each individual sees things from a different point of view.
4. Accept and respect the difference in opinions.
5. Maintain eye contact when meeting in person.
6. Listen and learn.

7. Allow time to talk with your mentor without interruptions.
8. Show an interest in what he or she has to say.
9. Ask questions!
10. Listen for feeling and tone in speech, not just the words.
11. Do not cancel appointments without notice.

Adapted from [http://www.alumni.berkeley.edu/Students/Mentorship/FAQs\\_and\\_Tips.asp#mentees](http://www.alumni.berkeley.edu/Students/Mentorship/FAQs_and_Tips.asp#mentees)

## A MENTEE'S PERSPECTIVE...

"The Millersville Mentoring Alliance Program has benefited me in a variety of ways. My mentors, both peer and faculty, have shown a genuine interest in my academic progress. The way the MMAP has matched me with mentors that have or show interest in social gatherings is great. Besides academic learning, my mentors and I engage in social gatherings in which I feel a close connection towards them. When it came time for registration and I could not get into my classes, my faculty mentor spoke to the professor and she opened the class up for me to register."

"My mentoring relationships were great all throughout the semester. When I could not make it to my faculty mentor's

office hours, we kept in touch via e-mail and telephone conversations. When it seemed that the semester was getting hectic and very busy, I was able to speak to my mentors, who reassured me that as long as I work hard, the reward will be great. Joining the MMAP was the best organization that I have ever joined at Millersville University because it matches the mentee with mentors who show a genuine interest in my scholastic endeavors. I am glad that I joined the MMAP program and have recommended the program to others."

Contributed by MMAP mentee Samirah Billips

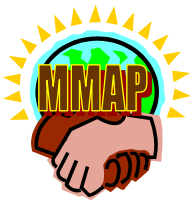
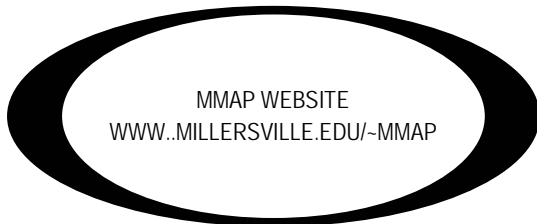
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Brought to you by the Office of Academic Services, Division of Academic Support Programs and Learning Services,  
Dr. Bello-Ogunu, Assistant Provost for Academic Services

Contact MMAP today and get on the road to graduation!



*The Millersville Mentoring Alliance Program (MMAP) was established in Fall 2002. The mission of MMAP is to provide academic, social, and personal support to all students, with a special focus on students of color, incoming freshman, first-time transfer students, and non-traditional students at Millersville University. The MMAP brings together MU faculty, staff, peers, alumni, and community members from a variety of backgrounds to provide student mentees with intellectual stimulation, academic support, career guidance, and the college-life skills they need to successfully navigate the maze of challenges, expectations, and confusions that are often associated with college life experience. Through sustained, supportive, and nurturing mentor-mentee relationships, the program strives to enhance the learning and holistic development of Millersville University students.*

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

The following poem was written by Dr. Carol Welsh to her mentee, Antonio Dickey '04.

From you I have learned  
To describe the stars,  
To see into people's hearts,  
To put pressure on the system  
When it needs to be pressured.  
And to accept with grace  
The life I have.

When the surgery didn't go as  
It was supposed to go  
On your baby eyes  
You became a sociologist -

But you are a teacher when you sing.

From you Tony  
I have learned to be a professor.  
I have learned that students like you  
Need a village.  
You have mentored me well  
You will always be a guide for me.



Thank you Tony  
Carol Welsh, Ph.D.

*MMAP wants to hear from you! Please send your contributions, i.e. information on achievements, articles, upcoming events that mentees/mentors might benefit from, etc., to [mmap@millersville.edu](mailto:mmap@millersville.edu).*