

ALUMNI-TO-ALUMNI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

AAPAAN is excited to expand and improve its mentorship program, launched during Fall 2005. In addition to our Alumni-to-Student mentorship programming, we are launching a new Alumni-to-Alumni mentorship program. We hope to pair Asian and Asian Pacific American (AAPA) alumni of the University of Virginia (UVA) who have less career experience with AAPA alumni who have more career experience. AAPA alumni starting a career often face similar obstacles, such as forging a professional path, seeking out career opportunities, sorting through a myriad of options upon graduation, and balancing a work and professional life. Additionally, AAPA alumni negotiate cultural issues and family expectations. These mentorship relationships aim to encourage networking and to provide career support and guidance for UVA AAPA alumni through the extensive and diverse experiences of their mentors. Moreover, the benefits of this relationship are mutual; mentors have the opportunity to give back to the University and its existing AAPA community.

Program Goals

- (1.) Build relationships and promote more collaboration between UVA AAPA alumni; and
- (2.) Create a mechanism for alumni to share their experience and expertise with other alumni who are still determining their future career paths and aspirations.

Who Can Participate?

We are seeking alumni mentors and alumni mentees who are sincerely interested in developing a mentoring relationship. Mentors and mentees need to commit to be in contact *at least once a month* over the course of an academic year. We also strongly encourage at least one face-to-face meeting during the year, if possible.

Time Commitment

Mentoring activities may include informal visits, phone calls, emails, professional society meetings, job shadowing, lectures, and conferences. Because a successful mentoring relationship requires active participation, we ask that mentors and mentees maintain communication with each other at least once-a-month.

Become Involved

Interested alumni mentors and mentees complete applications outlining their goals and expectations for participating in the program as well as background information. We will try our best to accommodate preferences for pairing, typically based primary on career field, but also considering geographic location and background information. Once a match is made, each participant receives a confirmation letter, and the mentor is expected to initiate the first contact with the mentee. Information, resources, and support for mentors will be provided by AAPAAN. We hope you will join us! For questions, please contact Bie Chu Lee at bie.chu.lee@gmail.com.