INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMS
International and Missionary Student Peer Advisors

PEER ADVISOR REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

Requirements
1. All prospective peer advisors must be a returning student preparing to enter their sophomore, junior, or senior year at the Grantham campus for the upcoming fall semester.
2. Must have a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.8.
3. Must be able to attend a one-hour information session during the current spring semester.
4. Must be able to arrive back to campus early for a one-day training session prior to the start of the Fall International Student Orientation.
5. Must be able to participate in all orientation events.
6. Must be able to serve as a peer advisor for the entire upcoming fall semester.
7. Must be willing to attend annual ISA/MuKappa Fall Retreat (cost subsidized by IMPA)
8. Applicants cannot be on probation of any kind (chapel, academic, disciplinary, etc.).

Expectations

Essential functions of a peer advisor
• Offer support and advice—academic, spiritual and emotional.
• Submit timely reports on progress of mentees, maintaining confidentiality at all times, sharing relevant information and concerns only with program supervisor.
• Encourage mentees to join clubs and attend events that may be beneficial to their adjustment to Messiah College.
• Be available to mentees when necessary and appropriate.
• Organize at least one event (coffee/tea meeting, movie/game night, dinner) with mentees each month throughout the fall semester.

Knowledge and critical skills
• Must display positive leadership, as well as good interpersonal and communication skills.
• Compassion, empathy, patience, and understanding are very important in this position.
• Must be open-minded, responsible, approachable, energetic, and creative.
• Must have basic level knowledge of support services at Messiah College and/or be able to refer students to someone who can assist them.

Benefits
• Enhance résumé and build references
• Receive peer mentor training certificate
• Serve as an ambassador for Messiah College’s International Student Programs
• Get official IMPA gear (e.g. t-shirt, etc.)
• Cost of annual ISA fall retreat covered
• Return to campus early
• Build long-lasting relationships and gain a broader understanding and appreciation of other cultures, a vital skillset in our increasingly globally-connected society

Important Dates
Mark your calendars
• Application Deadline: February 27, 2015
• Spring Informational Session: April (exact date TBD), 2015
• Peer advisor training/retreat: August 21, 2015
• Fall International Student Orientation: August 22–27, 2015
• ISA/MuKappa Retreat: TBD (Fall 2015)