Overview of the 2016-17 APALSA Mentoring Program

Below please find some answers to frequently asked questions about the program.

**What is the APALSA Mentoring Program?**
The Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) Mentoring Program provides students with the tools to guide their legal career and to better connect them with the Chicago legal community. The APALSA Mentoring Program facilitates mentoring relationships between 1Ls and alumni by pairing Asian Pacific American law students with alumni mentors in the Chicago area. Such relationships are invaluable, particularly in the first year of law school, when students are required to start thinking about how they will develop their legal careers. Through group events and individual meetings throughout the school year, the APALSA Mentoring Program facilitates fruitful, sustainable, and meaningful mentor-mentee relationships for all participants.

**How can I get involved?**
We are recruiting two types of alumni volunteers: alumni mentors and program attendees.

**What is expected of me as a mentor?**
The mentoring program spans from the second quarter of 1L year to the beginning of 2L year. Therefore, we ask that mentors commit to being involved in the program from January 2017 until August 2017, though students may reach out in late November or early December for initial introductions.

Your level of involvement with your mentee is entirely up to you and your mentee. We are aware that your schedule is busy, and your time is valuable. We hope that at a minimum you will:

- Meet in person with your mentee once each quarter;
- Participate in one or more group events;
- Communicate with your mentee via email or phone periodically as agreed upon by you and your mentee; and
- Provide feedback, guidance, and encouragement to your mentee.

The APALSA Mentoring Program Student Board will provide mentees with direction throughout the program on how to maximize the value of the mentoring relationship.

**What is expected of me as a program attendee, if I am not an alumni mentor?**
Perhaps your schedule doesn’t allow for a mentoring relationship, but you'd like to be involved through program-sponsored events:

- Receive invitations from the Office of External Affairs to approximately 2-3 mentoring program events during the academic year;
- Meet, mingle, and network with fellow alumni and law students at mentoring program-related events.

**Important Dates:**
September 26 – First day of classes
October 28 – Deadline to sign up as a mentor
Mid-November – OEA will connect mentees and mentors via email so mentees can reach out to mentors
Early January – Kick-off Event

What are the program-sponsored events?
The program will include a Kick-Off reception in early January 2017 where mentees and mentors are able to meet. Other events will be scheduled throughout the academic year, as determined by the APALSA Student Board. We will also schedule small-group cohort events during the winter quarter. In addition to sponsored events, mentors and mentees will correspond throughout the year. To help guide the mentoring relationship, the Office of External Affairs and APALSA student board will reach out periodically.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?
Please feel free to reach out to the Office of External Affairs with any questions or concerns: Maggie Elmarakby, Assistant Director of Student and Young Alumni Engagement, melmarakby@uchicago.edu.

You can also reach the APALSA Student Board:
Carina Kan, Outreach Director, carinakan@uchicago.edu
Stephanie Xiao, Outreach Director, swxiao@uchicago.edu
Hannah Loo, President, hloo1@uchicago.edu