

Guidelines for Taiwan Psychology Network (TPN) Mentoring Program

Guidelines for TPN Mentoring Blog

The TPN Mentoring Blog is maintained by the Taiwan Psychology Network (TPN) to provide a web-based interface to provide in-depth resources and information for TPN professionals and students. Topics may include issues concerning graduate school application, internship application, job search, research, practice, cultural adjustment, and/or other topics that serve the needs of TPN members. The TPN Mentoring Blog operates under the TPN Mentoring Program Guidelines, as well as the following guidelines:

- Blog will be maintained and facilitated by the professional development officer.
- Professional and student members interested in participating can send a request to the current professional development officer and be invited to join. People are asked to sign in and post with their full name.
- Since all postings required people's full name, confidentiality cannot be assured with Blog postings.
- The mentoring committee members will invite TPN members periodically to write articles about their experiences in regards with each chosen topic.
- The articles and comments posted on blog represent the views and opinions of that individual and do not necessarily reflect the position of TPN, its officers and chair, or other TPN members.
- The written articles and comments are set in a friendly and professional tone; personal attacks on others or institutions are discouraged and may be deleted by the blog facilitators.

Guidelines for Online Mentoring Conversation Hour

Online conversation hour is maintained by the Taiwan Psychology Network (TPN) to assist the interaction of members and provide a platform for mentors to share their experiences and answer questions raised by the mentees. Topics may include experiences related to APA internship application, job search, clinical practice, research and grant application, career development, relationship with advisor/supervisor, and/or other topics that serve the needs to TPN members. TPN Online Mentoring Conversation Hour operates under the TPN Mentoring Program Guidelines, as well as the following guidelines:

- The meetings are space limited. Each meeting is open to a maximum of 9 participants including 2 mentors and a facilitator.
- The Conversation Hour scheduled will be posted at the TPN listserv and Yahoo Group calendar. And people who are interested can sign up through the professional development officer.
- All participants are encouraged to take turns and actively participate during this process. The process will be monitored by a facilitator.
- Participants are expected to participate with respect and professional courtesy.
- Participants may argue facts or opinions, but personal attacks on other participants or institutions are not allowed.
- Comments by participants represent the views and opinions of that individual and do not necessarily reflect the position of TPN, its officers and chair, or other TPN members.
- Materials discussed (potential issues and words of wisdom from mentors) will be summarized by the facilitator of the meetings and minutes will be posted on the TPN yahoo group.
- The summarized materials will not include personal information (identification or background information) to protect confidentiality of participants.

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One-on-One mentoring

All mentoring participants who are interested in the one-on-one mentoring will complete a profile form. The responses will be used to guide the professional development officer in the matching process. The matching criteria are based on: similar interests, similar fields of study, and/or individual needs.

Confidentiality

In order to foster an open and trustworthy relationship and to ensure that members feel comfortable discussing important personal and professional issues, the discussions among the mentees and the mentors should remain confidential. The parameters of confidentiality should be discussed by the mentors and the mentees in order to address any concerns and limitations at the beginning of the relationship or as early as possible. For example, it must be affirmed that the student can share about her or his experiences in a program of studies without a fear that this information could be passed along to her or his faculty members.

Voluntary Relationship

- The mentoring relationship is completely voluntary and members could withdraw from the mentoring relationship at any time after consulting with the professional development officer.
- The mentors and mentees are encouraged to define the objectives and discuss their expectations for their mentoring relationship early in the mentoring process.
- The mentors and mentees are encouraged to keep regular contact, but also to be conscientious of one another's schedules and time.
- If the mentors and mentees encountered problems in the mentoring relationship, whenever possible, members should voice their concerns directly with each other first. If this is not possible, they are encouraged to seek consultation with the professional development officer and the TPN Chair. Please refer to the contact information about the committee members.

Modes of Communication

- Modes of communication and frequency of the contact should be discussed early in the mentoring relationships.
- Communication between the mentees and mentors will be predominantly conducted through e-mails. Phone conversations are also encouraged, especially for complicated issues.
- When possible, the mentors and the mentees are encouraged to meet in person (e.g., during a national conference).