Vantage Peer Mentors position description

Role overview

The Vantage Peer Mentors are part of a peer-to-peer initiative that connects Vantage One alumni to current Vantage One students. This program offers Vantage Peer Mentors experiential learning opportunities to support the current Vantage One cohort, give back to their campus community, and develop valuable skills for future career opportunities.

Organizational Relationship

Faculty/department/unit

The Vantage Peer Mentor Team is a group of ten former Vantage College students who are invested in creating a sense of community within the current cohort of Vantage students. The Vantage Peer Mentors are advised by a staff advisor (Coordinator, Student Academic and Development Services, Vantage College) and work closely with the Vantage College Staff & Faculty.

Peer Programs Network

Peer Programs is a network of student teams that strive to improve the UBC student experience through programs and events in areas like academics, careers, and personal development. These teams are structured, advised, and supported by UBC staff and offer a great opportunity for students to build their own skills and experiences through training and program implementation while giving back to the campus community.

Primary Functions

Coordination and facilitation of student-focused events

- Organize and facilitate events throughout the academic year that connect both current and former Vantage One students.
- Apply a needs-based approach to envision, plan and implement various events geared towards supporting the current cohort of Vantage One students.
- Help expand new Vantage One students’ social networks through personal interactions and facilitating wider campus connections.
- Support, enhance and develop the academic and social experiences of peers and build a sense of community within Vantage College.
- Participate in other internationally focused student organizations or leadership organizations.
Engage in personal and professional skill development

- Develop tangible skills that can be used in both an academic and career environment such as teamwork, professional communication, conflict management, meeting planning and facilitation, and network building.
- Assist in the planning and facilitation of the recruitment, interview, and selection process for incoming Vantage Peer Mentors in January and February 2018, gaining a new perspective on interview practices and expectations.
- Actively participate in opportunities that are integrated into the curriculum of leadership development for UBC Peer Programs, which includes key training sessions in March, September and January.

Provide excellent service to students and partners

- Use personal experiences in the Vantage One program to support and encourage new Vantage One students.
- Introduce new Vantage One students to valuable campus resources and continue to build the current bank of resources.

Role model outstanding student leadership on campus

- Embrace the role as an ambassador for student leadership at UBC and as a representative of the Vantage Peer Mentors.
- Understand the role of a Vantage Peer Mentor and active participant in the Peer Programs Network plays within the community of leadership on the UBC-Vancouver campus.
- Uphold UBC’s Respectful Environment Statement as a responsible member and ambassador of the UBC community.

Time commitments

Important Dates

- Spring Welcome—March 24, 2018 (Full day)
- Peer Programs Launch and Learn – September 2, 2018 (Full day)

Regular Meetings

- Monthly online check-ins/assignments (May – August 2018)
- Weekly meetings – Tuesday 5:30-7:30pm (September – November 2018, January – March 2019)

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE TRAINING SESSIONS AND REGULAR MEETINGS ARE MANDATORY AND IF YOU ARE A SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO CLEAR YOUR SCHEDULE OF CLASSES OR OTHER COMMITMENTS DURING THIS TIME.
Weekly Commitment

Successful candidates are asked to attend all weekly meetings as indicated above. Additionally, the Vantage Peer Mentors coordinate and attend small group meetings related to their selected events and committees, and are expected to attend and help facilitate all Vantage Peer Mentor events throughout the year.

Desired skills and experience

- Be a previous student in the Vantage One Program, or scheduled for completion of program in July 2018.
- Knowledge and/or sensitivity to issues affecting Vantage One students and their transition to Canada and/or to UBC.
- Excellent organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- A desire for personal and professional development.
- A commitment to promoting an inclusive and welcoming environment, both within and outside of the Vantage One Program.
- Demonstrated ability to adapt to new and challenging experiences with positive mindset.
- Ability and willingness to work independently and as part of a team with students, volunteers, and staff.

Benefits of participating in this role

Develop professional skills

- Enhance leadership skills in the areas of communication, team-building, personal and professional growth, networking, and thoughtful inclusion of others
- Gain experience in identifying, organizing and facilitating events that effectively meet the needs and interests of a target audience
- Gain experience in hiring and recruitment best practices
- Sponsored registration for the 2019 Student Leadership Conference

Increased opportunity for partnerships with programs and peers across campus

- Participate in and contribute to a strong and dynamic culture of student leadership on campus
- Be a part of the broader Peer Programs Network, which engages both within and beyond the UBC campus community in support of and service to others.

Contact information for questions

Sarah Baik, Coordinator, Student Academic and Development Services, Vantage College
Sarah.baik@ubc.ca