

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

GLOBAL STRATEGIES and STUDIES International Student and Scholar Services

International Faculty Mentor Program

International faculty are considered J-1 Exchange Visitors (Professors, Research Scholars, and Short-Term Scholars), H-1B Visa Holders, O-1 Workers of Extraordinary Ability, and Treaty NAFTA Professionals.

Objectives

The International Faculty Friendship Program (IFFP) at the University of Houston (UH) is a resource for international faculty and their families to enrich their educational and cultural experiences. It assists them in their orientation to UH, classroom culture, and teaching and research resources.

The IFFP is voluntary for any international faculty and their families who would like to be matched with a UH faculty to facilitate his/her involvement with campus activities and adjustment to the Houston community.

Description

During the course of an academic year, international faculty and their families are invited to join the IFFP and hosted by a faculty member who provides guidance of varying degrees. Participation is needs based and optional. The IFFP is facilitated by International Student and Scholar Services.

Resources for Recruitment

The IFFP adds to the existing initiatives already in place by colleges and academic departments for assisting international faculty and their families.

Individual UH faculty and faculty members of the UH Delta Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Delta are also highly encouraged to participate in the IFFP for at least one semester. Phi Beta Delta is an honor society that promotes scholarship and bridges the cultures of faculty, staff, and students from all countries.

An IFFP volunteer will need to fill out the accompanying application form. An initial orientation will be conducted by International Student and Scholar Services to both the IFFP volunteer and the international faculty.

For additional information please contact Anita Gaines at: (713) 743-5071 or againes@uh.edu.