

The Associated Colleges of Illinois' (ACI) *Mentor Online* Program:
www.aciteachers.org
Beginning Teacher Mentoring and Support Initiative

Purpose of the Program

ACI *Mentor Online* will provide an immediate-access, on-line venue through which beginning teachers working in high need schools will be able to:

- obtain ideas regarding classroom management, lesson planning and delivery, and teaching-related issues such as preparing for conferences, assessing student performance, working with parents, working with classroom aides, etc.;
- seek advice regarding actual or anticipated challenges;
- share teaching-related successes; and
- receive information and tips of help to beginning teachers.

Participants

Graduates/candidates to be served are:

- Participants in ACI induction programs (teachers who have completed teacher preparation programs at ACI schools and are working in high need school districts)
- Members of the secondary math/science alternative path cohorts, and
- Summer, 2004, ACI member institution inner city practicum candidates.

Listserves as of Fall, 2005, are (* pilot groups from spring, 2005):

- Arts (art, music, theater, dance – K-12) – **NEW RECRUITING MENTORS!!**
- Bi-lingual Education – **NEW RECRUITING MENTORS!!**
- Mathematics – secondary education (6-12)*
- Physical Education/Health (K-12) – **NEW RECRUITING MENTORS!!**
- Reading, literacy, language arts – elementary education (K-9)*
- Science – secondary education (6-12)*
- Social Studies – secondary education (6-12) – **NEW RECRUITING MENTORS!!**
- Special Education (K-12) – **NEW RECRUITING MENTORS!!**
- Classroom management, technology, and announcements – all participants*

The Mentors' Role (Mentors are paid an honorarium of \$350 for the AY (late August to mid-June):

- Check email several times per week-when in town/have access to the Internet.
- Post to the list serv at least once a week.
- Affirm wherever possible and redirect where necessary.
- Provide information and direction to resources.
- Give counsel and advice when asked to do so by participant(s).
- Accept differences of opinion (more than one right way to do things).
- Respond one-on-one if a situation warrants but most discussion will be open.
- Work with identified listserv moderator to address needs of participants.
- Communicate with ACI program coordinator(s), Subject Area Moderators, and ACI *Mentor Online* colleagues to share experiences with the on-line process.
- Attend 1-2 in-person meetings per year to interact with mentees in person, meet other mentors, and begin working with the mentoring text materials.

Interested in becoming a mentor?

Please contact Lidia Han, The Associated Colleges of Illinois, at Lidia.han@acifund.org or (312) 263-2391 ext. 38.