

CONGRATULATIONS TO CATHERINE A. GORMAN

IMA Consultant Certification Recipient

The International Mentor Association is proud to announce that IMA Consultant Certification has been awarded to Catherine A. Gorman of Florida Gulf Coast University. Ms. Gorman is the Mentoring and Special Programs Coordinator for the Office of Undergraduate Studies (UGS). Through a comprehensive analysis of Ms. Gorman's work in developing the mentor program at Florida Gulf Coast University, the IMA Board of Directors has recognized her outstanding commitment to the growth of the program at her institution and the field of mentoring as a primary professional goal. In adding the IMA Consultant Certificate to her resume, her professional opportunities will grow. Ms. Gorman's skills, talents, and capacity in supporting mentoring to the students at Florida Gulf Coast University are supported and recognized by our Association through this certification process.

Ms. Gorman's program at FGCU has greatly benefited the new higher education students, the mentors who serve them, and the university staff in creating a culture based on student needs and support. The relationships that are built provide a safe environment for the students to acclimate to their new surroundings with a focus on academic success. In addition, Ms. Gorman has been able to develop eight additional programs at FGCU based on her success of the Honors Mentor Program.

Florida Gulf Coast University Program

Ms. Gorman founded the FGCU Honors Mentor Program in Fall 2011. From 2007 to 2010, the program grew from 86 students to nearly 250. This rapid growth required adjustments and improvements for the students and for the program overall. Prior to the founding of the Honors Mentor Program, there was an informal "cohort" system in which students would casually meet other students within their major prior to the start of classes. Before Ms. Gorman formalized the Honors Mentor Program, it had very broad and ill-defined goals. Catherine sought to clarify the expected goals and outcomes of the program, which were not in place prior. She developed a mission statement and composed a necessary handbook for mentors.

The structure of the program proved so effective, that the Honors Mentor Program received the College Reading & Learning Association, International Training

Program Certification, Level I and Level II. The expected outcomes of the FGCU Honors Mentor Program include collaborative learning of solution-oriented techniques, the building of communication skills, and execution of conflict-management skills. Ms. Gorman has institutionalized an excellent program that will be highlighted in future IMA publications and activities.

IMA Consultant Certification

The International Mentoring Association (IMA) provides Consultant Certification to individuals who meet rigorous mentoring standards. IMA Certification confers recognition that the individual has demonstrated a commitment to excellence, to long-term improvement, and to professional goals. The consultant process represents a significant opportunity for leadership to strengthen and enhance mentoring programs through a self-assessment of program design, implementation, and success. More information on the IMA Consultant Certification and application process can be accessed on the IMA website, www.mentoringassociation.org. The International Mentoring Association also awards accreditation to effective, well-designed mentor programs through a comprehensive review process. Email accreditation@mentoringassociation.org for more information.



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