Programs designed to support integration of international graduate students

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Association of International Education Administrators
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The Penn student body

- Full-time students: 21,344
- Full-time graduate/professional: 11,025
- International grad/professional: 2,996
Needs of grad students vs. undergrads

- Housing
- Family support
- Academic support
- Health & Wellness
- Life skills
Need for better integration and support of international students

Survey of all international students showed:

› Overall welcoming environment
› Satisfied with quality of life
› Not connecting with domestic students
› Not getting involved in student government or organizations
› Some difficulty adapting to education system
Programs and initiatives to address these needs:

- Online Info Sessions for incoming international grad students
- Intercultural Leadership Program
- Leadership Training for grad student groups
- Intercultural Roundtables
- Lang Chats/Family Center English lessons
- CAPS partnerships
Online Info Sessions for incoming grad students

- Students can participate from anywhere in the world; offered multiple times to accommodate different time zones

- Topics:
  - Housing
  - Incoming International Student Info Session
  - Health Insurance
  - Academic Success (academic integrity)

- On-campus session on intercultural competency to be added in 2014
Intercultural Leadership Program

- Application open to first-year undergraduate & graduate students.
- Weekend program focused on intercultural skills development
- Small group participation in a project/organization
- Follow-up support sessions
- Final presentations
- Now looking for ways to keep ILP students connected
Leadership Training for grad student groups

- Decision Making
- Run Effective Meetings
- Event Planning
- Team Building & Group Dynamics
- Presentation skills
- Intercultural Development Inventory
- Future session on how to get involved
Intercultural Programming

- Intercultural Roundtables:
  - Intercultural Game Night
  - Discussion on Sochi Olympics
  - Intercultural Dating & Relationships
  - Belief Holding & Spiritual Curiosity
  - Small Talk across Social Contexts

- Intercultural buddies program
  - Groups of 3-4 students from various countries
  - Orientation, suggested activities and get-togethers
Language Chats

- Family Center English lessons for spouses/partners
- Grad Center Chats: Arabic, Cantonese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese
- Food-related celebrations
Helping international students connect with Counseling

Counseling & Psychological Services works with other campus partners:

- Stress management with academic support programs at the Grad Center
- Workshops with Learning Resources Center
- Intercultural discussions with International Student & Scholar Services