

Hello Rebekah,

I hope you are enjoying the last week of the semester! The following email will list the contact information for your international PAL(s) and also describe a little bit more in depth what the PAL program wishes from you. Please contact your student(s) as soon as possible, as many of them may be leaving their home countries within the next few weeks and would probably love to hear from you.

Your international student PAL is:

Name: Ms. Straaten

Email: xxxxxx@gmail.com

Home Country: South Africa

Major: Dance

Please remember that the international students should be arriving in Greensboro on or near January 3 to attend International Student Orientation Week. If you are able to help out during the week of Orientation, please email your incoming study abroad adviser as soon as possible. There will be a mandatory training for volunteers on December 13 from 3:30-5pm in Foust 208. **RSVP for this event is required.** You may also wish to informally greet your PAL at the airport upon their arrival. Please be aware that there will also be official greeters at the airport to do a formal check-in process. Due to liability concerns, **we recommend that you do not transport your PAL from the airport on the day of their arrival.**

I encourage you to email your student(s) with a brief introduction about yourself (your hometown, major, hobbies, interests, travel experience/plans, or anything else you'd like to share to help your students get to know you). The incoming students may not know that they will have a PAL so you also should include a sentence about why you are writing and brief description of the PAL program.

We encourage you to be sensitive to what the first few weeks may be like for an international student and hope that you will make being a PAL a rich experience for both you and your PAL. Getting used to a new campus, city and courses is quite a challenge! Any guidance you can offer that will help your students feel comfortable and settled will make a huge difference in their adjustment. In the past, UNCG PALs have helped international students get around Greensboro, get acquainted with the UNCG campus and have included them in social activities.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 8 (the day before classes start) which will be the official **Meet Your PAL Day**. We will be holding many more events during orientation week and during the semester; I will be sending out a list of those events that you may want to attend with your PALs. These activities would be great opportunities for you to meet up with other internationals and their PALs for a chance to experience UNCG student life and to get acquainted with one another.

Thanks in advance for all your efforts. With your help, we make UNCG a wonderful destination for international students!

Warm regards,
