WHY SHOULD I BE A RAGIN’ PAL (RaP)

It will:

~ give you the opportunity to meet new students from across the globe.

~ help you understand their way of life.

~ award you with the chance to share a part of your culture with them.

~ create an avenue wherein life-long friendships can be formed.

~ be as fun as it will be rewarding!!

Office of International Affairs provides the following services:

- Immigration
- Administration of insurance
- International ID cards
- Full-time student letters
- General counseling
- Alumni recruiting

Phone: (337) 482-6819
E-mail: oia@louisiana.edu
URL: http://oia.louisiana.edu

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INTERNATIONAL RAGIN’ PAL PROGRAM

The Ragin’ Pal (RaP) Program is sponsored by the Office of International Affairs, and it provides international students with an opportunity to get an “inside view” of campus life and the American culture from knowledgeable peers. The program “matches” an incoming international student with a returning student who understands the culture and way of life here at UL Lafayette – the heart of Acadiana. The Ragin’ Pal personifies the warmth and spirit of the student body that makes us all Ragin’ Cajun proud!

At the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, we highly regard education – a process that takes place within the confines of academia. We also realize that this process is accompanied with lessons taught by the university of life. Some of an international student’s most rewarding and informative experiences in the USA will occur outside the classroom, and his or her Ragin’ Pal will serve as a helping hand.

The Coordinator-assigned Ragin’ Pal will meet with the incoming student and assess his/her needs. Spending time together on special holidays, birthdays, or during friendly informal visits will be a natural part of the activities that this program will offer the new student. Through this program, friendships are formed as continuous interaction will create an avenue for the students to learn more about each other’s way of life, food, music, art, culture and tradition, etc…

This form can also be downloaded at http://oia.louisiana.edu/.

THE RAGIN’ PAL

The Ragin’ Pal will act as a “big brother” or “big sister” to the incoming student. As a volunteer, the Ragin’ Pal will find great satisfaction in helping the new student adjust to life in Lafayette, and will be rewarded with cultural lessons that result from frequent peer-to-peer interaction. The program aims to create situations where both the Ragin’ Pal and the new student can broaden their perspectives and benefit from intercultural exchanges of insight, personal experiences and more…

Generally, you should not be expected to do the following:

- Put up student(s) for the night
- Lend money
- Find a place for the student(s) to live
- Help student(s) find a job
- Answer immigration questions or handle immigration problems

HOW DO I JOIN?

Please fill out the attached application and either drop it off at 413 Brook Avenue, send it to the Office of International Affairs, call the IFP Coordinator at (337) 482-6819, or e-mail to oia@louisiana.edu. The Coordinator will then arrange a meeting between you and the American families.