Intake Interviews:

Note: The content of this handout was generated by the Fall 07 mentors. The ideas here are meant to serve as a springboard rather than a script; use only those questions that suit your own ethos and objectives.

Some Purposes:
- develop rapport with students; demonstrate that you're accessible and that you care
- learn about students' backgrounds, interests, and goals (may help in finding future paper topics)
- show students where conferences will occur
- help students understand your role as a mentor and how to prepare for future conferences
- address any student concerns
- give you some ideas for how you might individualize instruction for each student

Some Possible Questions:
1. How was your first week of classes?
2. How is your class load this semester? What other classes are you taking than English 100?
3. What year are you in school?
4. Do you live in the dorms or off-campus? How long is your commute?
5. Do you have a job? If so, where? How many hours a week?
6. Where did you grow up?
7. What were your high school English classes like?
8. How did your high school English teacher work with your class?
9. Did you write much in high school? What kinds of writing assignments did you do? Did you write any research papers in high school? What kinds of writing do you like? Dislike? What are your favorite and least favorite things about writing?
10. Were you involved in any sports or clubs at your high school? Which ones?
11. Where did you go to high school? (As Kekoa pointed out, this may be a loaded question)
12. How many languages do you speak? Which ones?
13. What do you like to read? What kinds of music do you like?
14. What do you do in your free time? What are your interests?
15. Why did you choose to go to college at UH?
16. Do you have any relatives or high school friends at UH?
17. Do you know what you want to major in?
18. What do you hope to do after you graduate?
19. Is there anything else you want me to know about yourself?
20. Do you have any specific concerns about English 100? About college in general?
21. Do you have any questions for me?
22. What do you hope to get out of English 100?
23. What do you hope to get out of our mentoring sessions?
24. How can I best support you in achieving your goals?
25. Do my office hours work with your schedule? If not, what are some alternate times we could meet?

On Conference Logs:
Use the regular conference log to document your intake interviews. However, please note these two changes:
1) Under elements of student performance, please mark the box titled "Other" and specify "Intake Interview." Depending upon where your discussion takes you, it is possible you may check multiple boxes.
2) For the final question, please respond to the following prompts: "What are some specific ideas you have for working with this particular student throughout the semester? How might you help this student to engage meaningfully in English 100 and "The M_noa Experience." (see p. 7 of the following link: http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/wasc/proposal/Full_Proposal.pdf)