

# 3 X 3

## DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LEADERS WITH CULTURAL WISDOM

### 3 THINGS TO KNOW

- 1 International students have much to contribute and need space to grow in leadership.
- 2 They have unique obstacles to overcome as they consider exercising leadership. For example: time, language, new culture, and dishonoring family by neglecting studies
- 3 Cultural values and communication patterns affect one's understanding of what a leader is and does.



### X THINGS TO AVOID

- 1 Don't misinterpret lack of confidence and/or limited language proficiency to mean lack of leadership skills.
- 2 Don't assume internationals are not interested in being a leader if they do not respond initially.
  - Invite them in
  - Be encouraging
  - Be persistent - but not forceful
- 3 Don't wait until leadership selection time to give responsibility.



### 3 THINGS TO TRY

- 1 Create a sense of family and belonging. International students are motivated by relationships and needs of the community.
- 2 Give international students incremental responsibility, slow invites along the way, from little responsibilities to bigger roles.
- 3 Try to have students lead in teams/groups or pair them with a seasoned leader/big bro/sis.

