

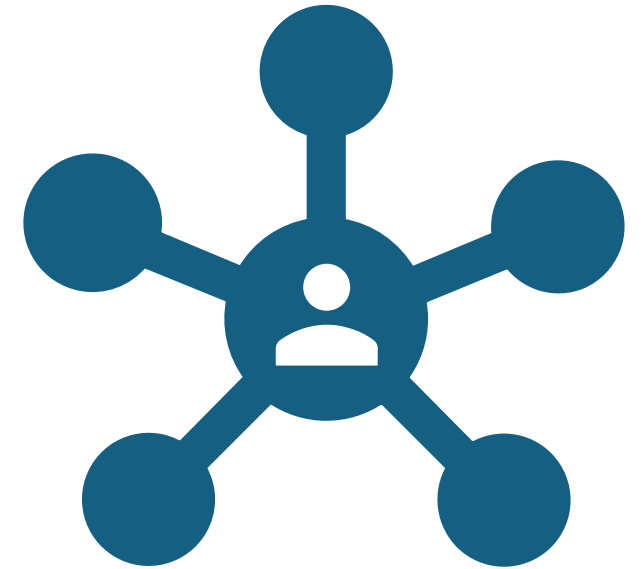
Mentor-Mentee Relationships

Effective Communication and
Aligning Expectations



Why would you cultivate these mentoring relationships?

What does a mentor get out of this relationship?



Effective Communication

In what ways and how often do you communicate with your mentor?



Effective Communication

How do you know
when communication
with your mentor is
good?





Effective Communication

What are some barriers or challenges to communicating effectively with your mentor?

Effective Communication

What are some
strategies for
overcoming
communication
challenges?



What Would You Do?

Your mentor wants an experiment done this week, but you do not have the time because of an upcoming exam in your graduate course and preparation for the presentation you are giving on Thursday.



Aligning Expectations

- Write out what roles you expect your bench mentor and/or faculty mentor to play in your training this summer. Think both broadly about roles that all mentors should play for all students, and also about roles that you specifically may need based on your unique situation. Write down your list.



Aligning Expectations

- Write out what expectations you think your mentor has of you this summer.




Aligning Expectations

How many of you have discussed your expectations for a mentor with a PI?

- a. What types of expectations have you discussed?
- b. Is a discussion necessary?

If not: how did you come to understand what the expectations are?



Come up with 2 or 3 strategies for discussing expectations with a bench mentor or PI who hasn't brought this topic up first. Include in your strategy when in the mentoring relationship you would have this conversation, what topics you would discuss, and whether you would use a written list or document.



Jamal has been doing research with a mentor for almost three weeks and is disappointed with his project so far. When he interviewed with Professor Stanley, she described a fascinating project that he would work on. However, so far Jamal doesn't feel like he's doing much of anything interesting. Other undergraduate students working with the mentor seem to be doing more engaging things and having a better experience. Jamal is getting frustrated, but doesn't want to complain or look ungrateful. What can he do?

To whom should Jamal go to discuss his frustration?

What strategies might he use to avoid appearing as though he is complaining?

How might establishing specific goals and expectations with his mentor help Jamal to avoid this situation?

