Mentoring Discussion Topics and Activities

Discussion Topics

- Mentee’s Individual Mentoring Plan (IDP)
- The culture of the department, college, and/or university related to research, teaching, and service
- Understanding pre-tenure review, promotion and tenure; mentor tells about their experience
- Understanding the Red Binder
- Review CV and provide feedback
- Best practices for laboratory management
- How to be assertive and heard in meetings
- When to accept invitations for service and strategic choices for where to serve (committees, departmental, etc.)
- Navigating research collaborations
- Teaching, advising, and relating to students
- Balancing personal and professional life
- Difficult people
- Difficult conversations

Activities

- Review manuscripts and grant applications
- Introduce mentees to other faculty with similar research interests or life circumstances
- Attend a campus event together
- Watch a NCFDD webinar together (https://www.facultydiversity.org)
- Attend a session of each other’s class
- Tour each other’s laboratory
- Take mentee to learn about new part of campus that they haven’t visited (library, faculty club, lagoon path, Cheadle Hall, UCEN and bookstore, organized research unit)
- Meet for lunch at an undergraduate dormitory cafeteria