

Discussion Starters for Mentorsⁱ

Instructions: As you begin to think about your role as a mentor, it may assist you to identify topics about which you would be willing to be the primary mentor during the next year and activities that might support that topic.

Topics I Am Willing and Able to Discuss with a Mentee (Check all that apply)

- Expectations for reappointment, promotion and tenure
- Early career – ways to produce a strong portfolio for tenure review
- Issues in classroom teaching: Specify
- Issues in laboratory instruction: Specify
- Issues in clinical teaching: Specify
- Issues in online instruction and hybrid courses: Specify
- Issues in teaching one-on-one instruction: Specify
- Issues in teaching graduate students: Specify
- Issues in supervising doctoral students: Specify
- Issues in teaching undergraduate students: Specify
- Issues in research: Specify
- Issues in creative endeavor or performance: Specify
- Issues in leadership: Specify
- Issues in outreach and engagement: Specify
- Issues relevant to the discipline or sub-discipline: Specify
- Supervising teaching assistants: Specify
- Supervising research assistants: Specify
- Using your start up package fully and wisely
- Setting up a lab: Specify
- Managing a lab: Specify
- Developing productive collaborations
- Understanding the university: Specify
- Understanding the college: Specify
- Understanding the department/school: Specify
- Understanding the program
- Navigating a joint appointment (indicate which units are involved):
- Career planning: Specify
- Balancing work and life beyond work, including family: Specify
- Living in the surrounding area: Specify
- Networking with others: Specify
- Other:

Activities I Am Willing and Able to Pursue with a Mentee

- Meet at regular intervals (bi-weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, once a semester)
- Review syllabi, assignments, and assessments
- Review websites or other uses of instructional technology
- Observe me teaching in a classroom, lab, clinical, field or other setting. Specify
- Review a grant proposal or request for funding
- Review a manuscript for publication
- Review a book proposal or book or performance contract
- Review a reappointment, promotion or tenure dossier
- Provide feedback on a run-through of a conference presentation
- Observe mentee at a professional meeting or conference
- Collaborate on a project or research
- Introduce mentee to colleagues with relevant expertise: Specify
- Attend national meetings with the mentee
- Attend cultural events or social gatherings together
- Other:

Topics I Would Like to Learn More About:

ⁱ Originally prepared in 2011 by Deborah DeZure, Michigan State University.