Building a Culture of Mentoring at Texas A&M University

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Excellence



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Building a Culture of Mentoring at Texas A&M University

Learning Outcomes:

- 1. Define mentorship and the importance of mentoring
- 2. Describe research surrounding mentoring
- 3. Explore opportunities through Mentoring Academies at Texas A&M University
- 4. Discuss how we can all work to build a culture of mentoring at Texas A&M University

Definition of Mentorship

Mentorship is a professional, working alliance in which individuals work together over time to support the personal and professional growth, development, and success of the relational partners through the provision of career and psychosocial support.

The Science of Effective Mentorship in STEMM, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2019. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. https://doi.org/10.17226/25568



Why is Mentoring Important?

- Impact on Mentees?
- Impact on Mentors?



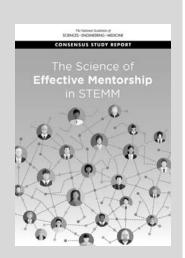
Why is Mentoring Important?

Potential for TRANSFORMATION!



Science of Effective Mentoring

- National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine.
 2019. The Science of Effective Mentorship in STEMM.
 Washington DC: The National Academies Press.
 https://doi.org/10.17226/25568
- Mentoring experiences can be transformative (p. 15)
- Despite its important place in the academic culture, mentorship rarely receives the focused attention, evaluation, and recognition of other aspects of the professional development process, such as teaching and research. (p. 16)
- Online Guide: <u>https://www.nap.edu/resource/25568/interactive/</u>

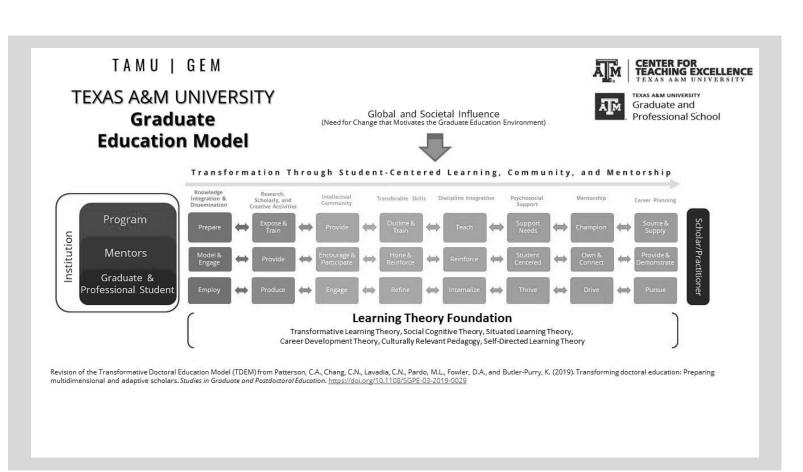


Center for the Improvement of Mentored Experiences in Research (CIMER)

CIMER Mission - Improve the research mentoring relationships for mentees and mentors at all career stages and disciplines through the development, implementation, and study of evidence-based and culturally-responsive interventions.

CIMER History - A UW-Madison team led by Dr. Christine Pfund established CIMER in 2015 with support from the Wisconsin Center for Educational Research to begin the work of expanding efforts to implement and investigate ways to improve research mentoring relationships in higher education settings.





A Culture of Mentoring at Texas A&M University

Center for Teaching Excellence

- Faculty Mentoring Academy
- Departmental Mentoring Plans
- Department Head Trainings
- Graduate and Professional School
 - Graduate Mentoring Academy
- Vice President for Research
 - RCR Core Training includes mentoring competency







TAMU Mentoring Academy Competencies

Seven evidenced-based competencies

- Maintaining Effective Communication
- Aligning Expectations
- Assessing Understanding
- Fostering Independence
- Promoting Professional Development
- Addressing Equity and Inclusion
- Articulating Your Mentoring Plan and Philosophy

TAMU Mentoring Academy Opportunities

Faculty Mentoring Academy

- Goal: Improve Faculty
 Mentoring Experiences
- Target Audience: Faculty
- Format: Virtual Sessions

Both efforts work to "improve research mentoring relationships for mentees and mentors..."

(CIMER)

Graduate Mentoring Academy

- Goal: Improve Graduate
 Mentoring Experiences
- Target Audiences:
 Graduate and Professional
 Students, Faculty, and Staff
- Format: Virtual and Face-to-Face Sessions

TAMU Mentoring Academy Engagement As of today, 100 completed!

- 37 Faculty
- 40 Doctoral
- 13 Masters
- 10 Staff

Engagement



- ~300 in Faculty Mentoring Academy
- ~200 in Graduate Mentoring Academy
- 18/28 facilitators with experience

BECOME A

TAMU MENTORING ACADEMY FELLOW!

- Complete all seven competencies and earn a certificate and a door placard
 - Faculty also receive letter of completion
- Attend the Train the Trainer workshop and become a TAMU Mentoring Academy Facilitator

Register for GMA: http://tx.ag/TAMUGMAregister

Register for FMA: http://tx.ag/TAMUFMAregister

Building a Culture of Mentoring

- Consider using these opportunities to support Federal
 Training grants (NIH, NSF, USDA, Dept. Ed, etc.)
- Research shows a distinct disconnect between how well faculty mentors perceive they are mentoring and how mentees believe they are mentoring
- Even the best mentors improve when they invest in mentor development
- Together, we can all work to build a culture of mentoring that supports our students, post-docs, and faculty colleagues

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Thank you!



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