Mentoring Makes A Difference

Research shows that personalizing a campus encourages a person to feel part of the community. When a person is connected with a mentor, s/he is more likely to seek answers and resources and students who are more engaged in their education are more likely to persist and graduate.

Mentees participate because they recognize the value of connecting with a support person. Many first-year students say they only see a “sea of faces” when they step on campus and they want a one-to-one connection. They may have had a mentor who supported, challenged and made a difference for them already and they understand the value of a mentor. For others this will be a new experience. You and your mentee, with the support of this program, will need to decide together what your relationship will look like and how it evolves.

Mentoring Benefits Mentors
Mentoring not only connects your mentee to the COB and CSU, it keeps you connected as well. Mentors report that they not only help connect their mentees to people and resources; but that their mentees keep them connected with events and happenings on campus. Guest speakers and monthly program events within the Mentoring Program are also designed to help you make professional connections and further develop your communication and leadership skills. As a result, mentors often have more positive attitudes towards school and a stronger investment in their performance knowing that someone is looking to them for direction.

As a mentor, you’re at the front and center making a difference. This is often referred to as “leadership through service.” It’s built on the belief that the capacity for leadership is inherent in all students and can be developed and enhanced through mentoring. When you’re a mentor, you’re a role model – what you do demonstrates the steps students can take to achieve a successful future. You also play a role in shaping the overall mentoring program, which encourages others to get involved and grow through the experience. From earning better grades to connecting with campus organizations to becoming prepared to lead others, you’ll be able to look back at your mentee’s college experience and know that you played a vital role in their success. Additionally, volunteering to serve others increases your communication skills, self-confidence and your ability to work with different people: all of which are beneficial to you as you move into the business world.

Finally, many mentors mention a desire to “give back” to CSU and the COB as reason for applying to be mentors because they felt that they gained a lot through their undergraduate education.

Mentoring allows you an opportunity to give back by helping a new student be successful in the College, and ultimately at CSU.