Faculty Mentoring Workshop

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What can you learn from mentor(s)?

• Why are we here?
  • Excellence in research
  • Excellence in teaching
  • Service to university and research community

• Balance - teaching/research/service

• Don’t wait for your mentor to mentor you...
Research

• Research: don’t confuse process and purpose - make a difference

• Proposal writing
  • NSF Career, Young Investigator, NSF/NIH/DOD, Private Foundations
  • Get early feedback on proposals (and examples of winning proposals)
  • Targeted vs. shotgun approach?

• Students and postdocs
  • Advising students can be difficult – chose wisely
  • Don’t grow your program too quickly ... or too slowly (think about what stage your students will be at when you come up for tenure)

• Use your start-up funds as the the name suggests
• Give talks – conferences, workshops, other universities (invite yourself)
• If you think you are good nominee society award/recognition, suggest it
Teaching

• Teaching is important - take it seriously
  • We’re responsible for educating next generations of leaders in engineering
  • It pays the bills
  • Tenure decisions are affected by your teaching record

• Seek out good teachers in your department
  • Sit in on lectures, borrow course materials
  • Respect your students
  • Timeliness is key
  • Hold regular office hours
  • Use Piazza!
  • Listen to your students – take teaching evaluations seriously
Service

• Not too much.... Not too little
• Good: seminar series, conference program committees, associate editor, course development
• Maybe not so good: conference chair, ABET, editor-in-chief, space committee....
• Participate in department activities: seminars, faculty search/interviews, PhD student recruiting
Mentoring

• Be sure to meet with your faculty mentor at least once a semester
• Discuss progress towards tenure
• Also seek advice from your chair and other faculty