

Assessing Mentoring: Example External Resources and References

This document was adapted from resources collated by the Mechanical Engineering Departmental Action Team (Jean Hertzberg, Daniel Knight, and Baowen Li) in collaboration with the Teaching Quality Framework Initiative (<https://www.colorado.edu/teaching-quality-framework/>).

Resources for assessing the mentoring relationship

Survey (Likert-type or checklist style)

- Mentee evaluating mentor
 - Center for Clinical and Translational Science Mentor Evaluation Form (UC Davis), <https://ictr.wisc.edu/documents/uc-davis-mentor-evaluation-form/> [*Intellectual and professional development, academic guidance, personal communication, role model; includes space for open-ended comments*]
 - The Global Measure of Mentorship Practices (box 6.2, p. 137 in NASEM, 2019 (see references below) [*Assessment of 10 behaviors of career and psychosocial support specified to mentees in postsecondary STEM*])
 - Mentoring Program: Annual Mentoring Evaluation FORM (KU School of Medicine), <https://medicine.arizona.edu/form/mentor-annual-evaluation-form-ku> [*partnership, personal growth, relationship; also includes an open-ended personal statement*]
- Paired mentor/mentee evaluation of the mentoring relationship
 - Mentor and mentee evaluate mentor
 - Paired Survey of Mentors-Mentees (Table 6.2, p. 144 in NASEM, 2019, (see references below)) [*mentor behaviors related to facilitating students' research and career development and science identity*]
 - Mentor and mentee self-assessment
 - Mentee Role Self-Assessment (p. 37) and Mentor Role Assessment (pp. 40), in Caddick, 2009 (see references below)) [*Parallel evaluation (mentor and mentee self-assess) of communication, trust, purpose, process, progress, feedback*]
 - Combination mentor/mentee self-evaluation and evaluation of each other - survey (scaled items and open-ended items)
 - Mentee (p. 107) and Mentor (p. 118) surveys, from Handelsman et al., 2005 (see references below). [*Mentee: Twenty-seven questions covering the mentee's research experiences and their mentor, increase in skill and knowledge areas, and career goals; Mentor: Twenty-six questions covering their mentee and their experience mentoring, increase in skill levels of both the mentee and mentor, previous mentoring experience, career goals, and experience in mentor training; Combination of scaled and open-ended items*]
- Mentor/mentee evaluation of group dynamics
 - Instrument for evaluating dimensions of group dynamics (Appendix A in Schulz et al., 2003 (see references below)) [*Group dynamics characteristics (e.g., comfort level for expressing opinions, perceived level of trust) and intermediate measures of partnership effectiveness (sense of belonging to group, group empowerment)*]

Open-ended questions

- Mentee(s) evaluate mentor (individual or focus group)
 - Key characteristics and suggested questions for five mentoring domains (Table 1 in Anderson et al., 2012 (see references below)) [*meetings and communication, expectations and feedback, career development, research support, psychosocial support*]

- Mentor self-assessment
 - How good a mentor are you? (Table on p. 797 in Lee et al., 2007 (see references below)) *[across 10 dimensions of good mentoring (e.g., appreciating individual differences, celebration, skill development)]*
 - Mentor self-reflection template (Table 3 in Anderson et al., 2012 (see references below)) *[Mentor's self-reflection on meeting and communication, expectation and feedback, career development, research support, psychosocial support]*
- Mentor/mentee discussion
 - Periodic Mentoring Partnership Review (p. 36 in Caddick, 2009 (see references below)) *[guiding questions for mentor and mentee reflect on and discuss together]*

Resources for identifying and mitigating negative experiences

- Identifying and Resolving Challenges and Issues (Sessions 4 and 5 from Handelsman et al., 2005 (see references below)). *[Excerpts on identifying and resolving challenges and issues from a compilation of mentor training seminars to facilitate effective mentoring relationships in undergraduate trainee relationships]*
- See also Limeri et al. 2019 and Straus et al. 2013 in references below

Additional / full references

1. Anderson, L., Silet, K., & Fleming, M. (2012). Evaluating and Giving Feedback to Mentors: New evidence based approaches. *Clinical and Translational Science* 5(1), 71-77.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1752-8062.2011.00361.x>. *[Six-component approach to mentor evaluation: training and empowerment, peer learning and mentor training, scholar advocacy, mentee-mentor expectations, mentor self-reflection, and mentee evaluation of their mentor]*
2. Berhe, A. A., & Kim, S. (2019). Avoiding racial bias in reference letters.
<https://sora.leekim.org/updates/letters-for-poc> *[Guidance for avoiding racial bias communicated through reference letter writing]*
3. Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) (2016). Academic career mentoring and best practice for formal mentoring programmes.
<https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/BBSRC-13102021-AcademicCareerMentoring-BestPracticeMentoringProgrammes.pdf> *[Guidance on establishing mentoring relationships, including initiation, review, and closure of the mentoring relationship]*
4. Caddick, P. (2009). Who is Holding the Rope for You? Building Effective Mentoring Relationships Mentoring Workbook.
https://www.brockport.edu/life/leadership/Documents/Mentor%20Resources/Full_mentoring_workbook_for_PDF_link.pdf *[Guidance, scenarios, assessment tools and techniques for mentors and mentees to help them evaluate and build their relationship]*
5. Center for Advancement of Informal Science Education (CAISE) (2018). Identity in Science and STEM: Reflections on Interviews with the Field.
<https://www.informalscience.org/sites/default/files/identity-in-STEM-interview-reflections-v2.pdf> *[Guidance on the definition, importance, measurement, and support of STEM identity]*
6. Columbia University Office of the Provost (2016). Guide to Best Practices in Faculty Mentoring.
<https://provost.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/content/MentoringBestPractices.pdf> *[Guidance for mentors and mentees on developing an effective mentoring relationship for mentors and mentees, with attention to mentoring diverse faculty]*
7. Handelsman, J., Pfund, C., Lauffer, S. M., & Pribbenow, C. M. (2005). Entering mentoring: A seminar to train a new generation of scientists.
https://www.hhmi.org/sites/default/files/Educational%20Materials/Lab%20Management/entering_mentoring.pdf *[Compilation of mentor training seminars to facilitate effective mentoring relationships in undergraduate trainee relationships; includes guidance around identifying and*

- resolving challenges and issues starting page 49; mentor/mentee surveys starting page 106]*
8. Lee, A., Dennis, C., & Campbell, P. (2007). Nature's guide for mentors. *Nature*, 447(7146), 791-797. <https://doi.org/10.1038/447791a> [*Mentor and mentee reflections on "good" mentoring. Includes a mentor self-assessment*]
 9. Limeri, L. B., Asif, M. Z., Bridges, B. H. T., Esparza, D., Tuma, T. T., Sanders, D., Morrison, A. J., Rao, P., Harsh, J. A., Maltese, A. V., & Dolan, E. E. (2019). "Where's My Mentor?!" Characterizing Negative Mentoring Experiences in Undergraduate Life Science Research. *CBE—Life Sciences Education*, 18:ar61, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1187/cbe.19-02-0036> [*Assistance for reflecting on ways mentor behaviors might be perceived as harmful or unhelpful*]
 10. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) (2017). The role of mentoring. Chapter 5 in: *Undergraduate Research Experiences for STEM Students: Successes, Challenges, and Opportunities*. National Academies Press (pp 129-145). <https://doi.org/10.17226/24622> [*Supportive data for mentoring effectiveness on academic success and persistence in STEM*]
 11. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) (2019). Mentorship Behaviors and Education: How Can Effective Mentorship Develop? Chapter 5 in: *The Science for Effective Mentorship in STEMM*. National Academies Press (pp. 103-125). <https://doi.org/10.17226/25568> [*Guidance on mentor/mentee behaviors and education guidance for training mentors/mentees. Interactive version: https://www.nap.edu/resource/25568/interactive/mentorship-defined.html*]
 12. Nganga, C., Bowne, M., & Stremmel, A. (2020). Mentoring as a developmental identity process. *Mentoring & Tutoring: Partnership in Learning*, 28:3, 259-277. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13611267.2020.1783498> [*Describes a developmental mentoring framework, including narrative perspectives on mentoring from a junior faculty member, a tenured faculty member, and a department chair*]
 13. Nick, J. M., Delahoyde, T. M., Del Prato, D., Mitchell, C., Ortiz, J., Ottley, C., Young, P., Cannon, S. B., Lasater, K., Reising, D., & Siktberg, L. (2012). Best Practices in Academic Mentoring: A Model for Excellence. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2012/937906> [*Guidance on establishing a formal mentoring program with attention to institutional culture and career attainment*]
 14. Regents of the University of Michigan (RUM) (2015). *How to Get the Mentoring You Want: A Guide for Graduate Students*. <https://www.colorado.edu/graduateschool/sites/default/files/attached-files/mentoring.pdf> [*Resource for graduate students to improve the quality of their relationships with faculty. Includes discussion for underrepresented students*]
 15. Schulz, A. J., Israel, B. A., & Lantz, P. (2003). Instrument for evaluating dimensions of group dynamics within community-based participatory research partnerships. *Evaluation and Program Planning* 26, 249-262. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0149-7189\(03\)00029-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0149-7189(03)00029-6) [*Development of an evaluation tool to assess group dynamics. Sample items from the survey are included in Appendix A*]
 16. Sorcinelli, M. D. (2000). *Principles of Good Practice: Supporting Early-Career Faculty. Guidance for Deans, Department Chairs, and Other Academic Leaders*. AAHE, Forum on Faculty Roles & Rewards, Washington, DC. <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED450634> [*Concise guide that provides content on leadership encouraging positive relationships with colleagues and students as well as easing time/balance stresses*]
 17. Straus, S. E., Johnson, M. O., Marquez, C., & Feldman, M. D. (2013). Characteristics of successful and failed mentoring relationships: a qualitative study across two academic health centers. *Academic medicine: journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges*, 88(1), 82. <https://doi.org/10.1097/ACM.0b013e31827647a0> [*Characteristics of effective mentors and failed mentor relationships*]
 18. Tonso, K. (2014). Engineering Identity. In A. Johri & B. Olds (Eds.), *Cambridge Handbook of*

Engineering Education Research (pp. 267-282). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781139013451.019> [*Synthesis of literature on the development of an engineering identity and the role of engineering identity in fostering a sense of belonging as an engineer*]

19. University of Arizona (2016). Avoiding Gender Bias in Reference Letters.
<https://tinyurl.com/y8vub7nd> [*Guidance for avoiding gender bias communicated through reference letter writing*]
20. University of Colorado Boulder Graduate School Advising Agreement [*From the Graduate School [website on mentoring resources](#): “This document is a supplemental strategy created to support the graduate student advisees’ short and long-term goals, while also giving advisors tools to clarify expectations. This document serves as an agreement between the graduate student and their advisor. The agreement should be reviewed once a semester and/or once significant educational milestones have been met. This agreement should be modified and developed collaboratively throughout the advisee/advisor working relationship.”*]