

For Mentees: Good Questions to Ask Your Mentor

As a mentee, you have the opportunity to learn from the experiences of your mentor as well as to ask for feedback. Here are a few questions that you may consider asking your mentor in addition to others that may come up naturally in your mentoring conversations:

Mentoring Relationship

- What do you hope that I will get out of this relationship?
- What are your goals for our mentoring relationship?
- Why did you decide to be a mentor?
- Who has mentored you? And what impact has that had on you?

Past and/or Current Experiences

- What was the biggest lesson you learned during college?
- What are some mistakes that you made during your college years and what did you learn from them?
- How do you go about building/maintaining your network?
- What is the most helpful piece of advice you've ever received?
- If you were starting college all over again, what would you do differently and why?
- What is your biggest fear? And how have you overcome it?
- What are you most proud of?
- If time and money did not matter, how would you spend your time and money?

Career and Professional Experiences

- What was your major in college? Does it relate to your current work? If so, how?
- What professional experiences did you have that led you to your current position?
- How did you figure out what you wanted to do with your life in terms of career?
- What does work/life balance look like for you?
- What is a typical day like in your job?
- What was a key lesson you learned early on as a young professional?
- Are there certain things I should be doing now to prepare myself for the world of work?

Personal Feedback

- What are 2-3 things that I do well?
- What are 1-2 things that I could do better or differently?
- What could I have done differently in this particular situation?
- I'm preparing to have a difficult conversation with (Jane Doe). Any thoughts on how I could go about that?
- What personal or professional skills do you think I should work on developing? And what experiences might help me do that?