

Thank you for your commitment to being an undergraduate mentee this semester! This document contains some potential prompts to discuss with your mentors. Please feel free to use any of these ideas or develop your own in order to build a relationship with your mentors.

MENTOR – MENTEE MEETINGS

- **Set up a regular or flexible meeting schedule depending on mentor/mentee preferences**
 - ex: every other Friday during the semester (regular) or decide different meeting times at the beginning of each month (flexible)
- **Discuss logistical details**
 - What time zones are you and your mentee in?
 - What are your preferred methods of communication?
 - What are your preferred methods of meeting?
(ex: Zoom, phone call, other software)

POTENTIAL DISCUSSION TOPICS (MENTEE → MENTOR)

Please keep in mind that many graduate students and postdoctoral associates not only have a lot of experience in their fields of study but are currently pursuing more. Take this time to discuss any questions you may have about research experience, graduate and professional school options, or other postgraduate opportunities.

- “Why did you choose to pursue graduate/professional school?”
 - “What made you choose graduate school instead of medical school? Or vice versa? Or both? (MD/PhD)” (depending on field of grad student)
 - “Did you choose to go to graduate school instead of working right out of college? Why or why not?”
- “Why did you choose your field of study?”
- “What does the graduate/professional school application process look like?”
- “How is graduate school similar/different to undergraduate years?”
- “Could you discuss the importance of research for graduate students?”

- “How important is research for pre-professional students?”
- “How does research look different in various fields?”
 - STEM? Humanities?
- “I have [no/a little/a lot of] research experience. How can I get involved in research as an undergraduate?”
- “Do professors look for anything specific in undergraduate students wanting to do research?”
 - “Which year should I start looking for research opportunities? Is there a specific time? What did you find worked for you?”
- “What are undergraduate students expected to contribute to a research group?”
 - “What is the time commitment?”

POTENTIAL DISCUSSION TOPICS (MENTEE → POSTDOC MENTOR)

The following are some discussion topics specifically for mentees with postdoc mentors.

- “How has your postdoctoral career been different from your graduate school education?”
- “Why did you choose to pursue research as a career?”
- “How do the roles of postdocs differ from those of graduate students in a research group?”