Establishing a High-Impact Mentoring Program From the Ground Up

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Overview

• Previous model of successful and competitive graduate student has changed considerably
• Current landscape requires that graduate students have a greater breadth of experience in teaching, leadership, and mentoring in addition to their research
• While graduate students have easy access to improving research skills, opportunities to gain experience in other areas critical to professional development are lacking
• Project addressed these issues by providing graduate students with training and education in mentorship and program development
• Project was implemented via two workshops

Program Workshops

I. Mentor an Undergraduate Student: Research Training and Mentorship Program (Image 1)
   • Established STEM Research Training & Mentorship Program
   • Matched graduate students in the STEM fields with second-year undergraduates to assist with ongoing research
   • Program has students spend one hour every two weeks to help an undergraduate mentee build research and analytical skills

II. Mentoring Undergraduates for Graduate and Postdoctoral Students (Image 2)
   • Detailed how to create a mentor program within a department; including pairing mentors & mentees, funding, advertising, planning workshops, creating a website, etc.
   • Advice from previous mentors on maximizing research relationship with undergraduate mentee

Program Achievement

• Part 1: Recruitment for the group spanned 7 unique graduate programs, and 7 different majors
• Part 2: Total of 26 attendees from 18 different departments

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