

I hope that your new year is off to a great start! As always, we appreciate so much your willingness to participate in the Mentoring Program. Research shows that mentoring benefits you because it can provide you with opportunities for new research and scholarly collaboration. Mentors and Mentees can collaborate on grant proposals or publications because they discover that they have mutual interests and similar goals. As always, the goal of our **monthly e-newsletters** are to provide information on resources, upcoming events, mentoring tips and other items of interest designed to help you be more effective.

***Take time-out for Lunch with your Mentor.** Did you know that we reserve the small dining room at the Ropp Center on campus twice a month to provide you and your Mentor a place to meet? Take advantage of this resource to meet your Mentor for lunch and let them know how things are going in your world. The dining room is reserved from **11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** The next three dates are: **Wed., Jan. 25, Wed., Feb. 8 and Thurs., Feb. 23.** Remember - if you don't make it a priority to meet with your Mentor, neither of you can benefit from the experience! And be sure to plan for your next meeting before you depart - its the best way to stay on track.

***Start thinking about Annual Evaluations.** If you are in the COES, you will soon be contacted by your Director about submitting your self-assessment and summary of activities for your Annual Evaluation. If you are in another college, you will be going through your own annual evaluation process. Talk with your Mentor about your major accomplishments in each of teaching, research, service this year. Discuss how best to highlight these accomplishments. Also discuss how to address any potential issues with teaching evaluations, grant proposal production and/or success rate, publications, progress of graduate students, etc. If your haven't been submitting a Self-Evaluation, ask your Director if it is okay to do so. Ask your Mentor to review it and provide some constructive feedback. In 10 years as a Director, I always found a well-written, honest self-evaluation to be of benefit. Also include goals in teaching, research and service for next year as part of your Self-Evaluation. These can be great motivators and guides for next year!

***Come learn from a Great Mentor! Dr. Donna Dean,** Senior Federal Executive (retired), National Institutes of Health, expert on national science and technology policy, and noted author on mentoring, will be on campus **Thursday, January 26** for a **Worklife Effectiveness Workshop from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. in BH 301.** Dr. Dean is well respected and spent 27 years at NIH, NAE and FDA. Prior to that, she was a faculty member at the University of Michigan. Don't pass up the opportunity to come learn from a great mentor! **Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 24 if you would like to attend. Space is limited.**

***Are you aware of on-campus cultural events?** Tech offers a number of great on-campus cultural events, from plays to concerts to sporting events. Most of these are listed on the Tech

website (<http://www.latech.edu/performingarts/> or <http://www.latechsports.com/index-main.html#00>) or you can also find out what's coming up by calling the Center for the Performing Arts (257-3942) or the Athletic Department at 257-3631. Most events are inexpensive for Tech faculty and they provide unique opportunities to hear and see great productions and exciting sporting events. The play, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, will run from January 31 through February 4. *Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santata* will be here February 9, featuring Spanish dance and music. Basketball games are lots of fun in the Thomas Assembly Center (the Annual White Out "Battle of the Bone" game between the Bulldogs and Fresno State is Thurs., Jan. 26 at 6 p.m.) and baseball season will be here soon!

Mentoring Tip for January:

* A monthly newsletter that I receive from a professional organization to which I belong always includes a great scan of interesting articles from publications like Forbes, Harvard Business Review and others. While you might not think publications with a business focus have much to say that would be of interest to you, I would challenge you to look closer! This month's mentoring tip is one of those good, applicable articles. It's entitled "**How to Handle Rejection**" by J. Maureen Henderson in Forbes Magazine. We have all received less-than-glowing reviews of a grant, paper, abstract, etc. This article contains some great advice on interpreting the feedback, as well as deciding how (and whether) to act on it. You can find the full article at: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/jmaureenhenderson/2011/12/06/how-to-handle-rejection/>

Questions? Contact the OWISE Office at 257-2101 or advance@latech.edu.