

The **COES Mentoring Program June 2011 Mentee Newsletter** contains information on resources, upcoming events, mentoring tips and other items of interest to help you be successful.

**\* Email your Mentor and set a lunch date today!** Set a lunch date for sometime in the next few weeks (or later, if you and/or your Mentor are out of town) and review the attached Faculty Mentoring Needs Assessment to generate some topics to discuss with your Mentor over the next few months. Take the initiative and set up your next meeting!

**\* Do some Summer Reading!** Summer is the perfect time to get caught up on your reading. Select a book on a professional development topic that interests you - leadership, networking, communication, emotional intelligence, social intelligence, negotiation, strategic planning, or topics such as stereotype threat, implicit bias and more. Talk to your Mentor about reading the book and discussing it with you this summer. It can be a great way to share some professional development and gain insight from your Mentor and their related experiences. My recommendations include *Blink* and *Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell, *Now, Discover Your Strengths* by Tom Rath, *Good to Great* by Jim Collins, *Emotional Intelligence and Social Intelligence* by Daniel Goleman, *Women Don't Ask* by Linda Babcock and Sara Laschever, and *Whistling Vivaldi* by Claude Steele. The OWISE Library has a number of books that can be checked out for free (including the last two on my list) - just see Ms. Shultz in the Dean's Office to check one out.

**\*NSF's new Strategic Plan.** I returned from a large NSF PI Meeting in Washington, DC, a week ago and learned that NSF's new strategic plan, "**Empowering the Nation Through Discovery and Innovation, NSF Strategic Plan for 2011-2016**," contains some valuable information. NSF is re-tooling under new Director Subra Suresh, including plans to combine programs, integrate funding for teaching and learning, as well as revised broader impacts criteria and broadening participation requirements throughout the Foundation. The plan isn't long and is certainly worth a read. You can download a copy at:  
[http://www.nsf.gov/news/strategicplan/nsfstrategicplan\\_2011\\_2016.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/news/strategicplan/nsfstrategicplan_2011_2016.pdf).

**\*Pick some Louisiana blueberries to go with those great Louisiana peaches!** The Louisiana Peach Festival is next weekend, but peaches aren't the only local fruit around in June. Louisiana blueberries are here until the end of June. My family has had fun picking berries at Pop's Blueberry Patch, just off of US 167 north of Vienna - head north on US 167 and just follow the signs on the side of the road. It's hot, so it's best to wear a hat, some sunscreen, bring water and pick early or late (you need to get there by 5 p.m. since they close at 6 p.m. during the week; you can pick early in the morning, as well). It's \$10 a gallon if you pick - it takes about 30 minutes for one person to pick a gallon of berries.

Mentoring Tip for June:

**\* Summer is a great time to reflect and remind ourselves of some best practices.** This article on "**Practices of Successful (Group) Leaders**" is from Stanford's Rick Reis' *Tomorrow's Professor* column (don't let the title fool you - Rick Reis' material is valuable for every professor, not just the professor of tomorrow). All of us lead, even new faculty, at some point - even if it's only in our labs or in the classroom. This article discusses how to stimulate and

challenge, activate focus and goal direction, support member involvement, determine group commitment to an idea, model effective behavior, as well as recognize and reward. I have already printed it out to read on my flight tomorrow. You can find it (and lots more) on the *Tomorrow's Professor* website at: <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/tomprof/posting.php?ID=1086>.