

The **COES Mentoring Program May 2010 Mentor Newsletter** features information on resources, upcoming events, mentoring tips and other items of interest designed to help your Mentee make the most of their time this summer.

* **Summer is a great time to do some reading!** I always try to keep a book or two handy to read when I travel or if I have a week at the beach in the summer. Encourage your Mentee to read a book or on a professional development topics or current issue in engineering at the national level. Some good choices are:

- "Changing the Conversation: Messages for Improving the Public Understanding of Engineering" by the National Academy of Engineering (available at Amazon or online at http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12187&page=R1)
- "Blink" or "The Tipping Point", both by Malcolm Gladwell (both inexpensive and available at Amazon at <http://www.amazon.com/Tipping-Point-Little-Things-Difference/dp/0316346624> and <http://www.amazon.com/Blink-Power-Thinking-Without/dp/0316172324>)
- Why So Slow, The Advancement of Women, by Virginia Valian (available for checkout from the OWISE library here in the Dean's Office)

* **Work with your Mentee now to set up a schedule for your meetings over the summer.** Even if travel and other obligations make it challenging to meet at the same time or on the same day, find at least one day each month this summer that you can get together. Take advantage of the relaxed atmosphere to change the format, location and/or length of your meetings. Focus on topics that require more time or reflection, such as a thoughtful review of this past year or goal setting for next academic year. For additional ideas about topics to discuss, check out the Mentor Resources on the COES Mentoring Program website at: http://www.latech.edu/coes/owise_coesmentoring.shtml

* **Purchasing regulations (relating to switching budget years) can make it more challenging to spend money during the summer.** This can be especially problematic for faculty trying to conduct research who need to purchase unanticipated items. Familiarize yourself with the purchasing deadlines and regulations for the summer months, as well as possible strategies. Contact the Accounting and Purchasing Office with questions (ckelly@latech.edu). Don't let your Mentee's progress get stalled this summer because of purchasing issues.

* **Encourage your Mentee to take some time off this summer to refuel.** There are many area events/venues in the summer - the Peach Festival in June, Lincoln Parish Park, a variety of children's activities offered through the North Louisiana Arts Council (NLAC) and the Idea Place on campus, to name a few - that are fun, inexpensive and don't take a lot of time. It is important for your Mentee to keep an eye on worklife balance.

Mentoring Tip for May:

* A great resource for faculty on teaching is the **Teaching Professor monthly newsletter** (<http://www.teachingprofessor.com/newsletter>). Even for veterans, there are lots of great, short and to-the-point articles that can really make a difference in your teaching. It is not free, but if you want to look at some back issues, I subscribed myself for a number of years - stop by my office and look at some of the past newsletters. You can even lend some of them to your Mentee.

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