# What is mentoring?

Mentoring is the process of building relationships that provide knowledge and guidance. It involves asking questions of and learning from others, including superiors and experts. Traditional mentoring involves close relationships that serve two different functions: 1) career-related functions such as providing visibility and coaching, and 2) personal and interpersonal functions, like counseling and encouragement.

Why should you invest in mentoring?

### It helps employees align with the university.

Mentoring others aligns employees with the mission and goals of the organization. It all o help each o he he in and o of he o gani a ion ickl and ea il

Managers can speak s

#### In some cases, you should be a source of information.

When o and o di ec epo come o a con en abo ha he don kno p o ide them with the knowledge yo e gained on he bjec b poin ing o helpf I ip o e lea ned and efe ing e o ce o e ed

## In other cases, you should be guiding them to an answer instead of providing them with one.

Yo ho ldn be gi ing o di ec epo he an e o e e p oblem The e a e ime hen you should only be help them enhance their ability to work through and solve problems.

## Use your own reference pool to your advantage.

If you have/had mentors that made a significant difference in your life, think about the traits they had and actions they took that stuck out to you. Aspire to embody that with your direct epo U e o o n ne o k o lea n mo e on bjec o don kno abo and o keep your direct reports up to date.