

Suggested Activities

First meeting: become acquainted:

- Discuss backgrounds and get to know each other
- Discuss your goals for the relationship
- Discuss the student's career interests and goals

Career conversation topics:

- Identify student's talents, skills and interests and discuss their application to various career options
- Discuss how mentor's personal and professional life fit together
- Discuss mentor's educational background and educational preparation needed for the field
- Discuss employer types and organizational culture
- Discuss how your individual values have impacted your career choices
- Investigate discipline-related clubs and organizations
- Discuss a current event, issues, or recent research in your field
- Discuss professional standards and unspoken rules of etiquette that exist in your field or workplace
- Discuss the transition from school to work and identify ways to smooth the process
- Search the internet together for job resources and other information related to your field
- Read a book related to your field and discuss
- Go out to lunch or dinner and discuss proper etiquette for a business lunch

Resume/Interview activities:

- Assist student in completing a job application
- Critique the student's resume, cover letter, portfolio or projects
- Practice for a job interview or arrange for a practice interview with a professional colleague

Network with other mentors and students:

- Attend a professional meeting, conference or program together
- Participate in a company tour or attend a College to Career program offering
- Participate in a Job Shadow Day
- Connect with other CDes alumni and friends on LinkedIn (<http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/908907>)

College of Design/University of Minnesota events or activities:

- Attend a lecture, concert or sporting event together
- Critique a school project the student is involved with for a class
- Mentor attends one of the student's classes
- Practice for a presentation, help student refine presentation skills

Expand professional networks:

- Compile a list of contacts the student could meet with in the mentor's field
- Practice for informational interviewing
- Mentors helps arrange informational interviews for student with colleagues or others in the program

Other Ideas:
