

# 31 Ways for Mentors and Faculty Members to Work Together

## **Prepare....**

1. Keep in touch over the summer.
2. Plan class events before everyone gets too busy.
3. Make course research blend with out-of-class activities.
4. Design parts of the syllabus with mentor strengths in mind.
5. Invite the mentor to suggest books for class to read.
6. Consider asking the mentor to teach a class.

## **Set the pace of the seminar...**

### *Have the mentor:*

7. Lead class discussions.
8. Promote interesting discussion through prepared questions.
9. Jump start class discussions by playing “devil’s advocate.”
10. Provide the “student’s eye” guidelines for proposed assignments.
11. Screen seminar related films.
12. Provide suggestions if seminar participants become disengaged.

### *Faculty ideas:*

13. Incorporate material from other first-year courses.
14. Maintain a seminar Moodle site.
15. Try peer-review approaches to both writing and discussion.

## **Help students academically...**

16. Make sure students understand assignments well before due dates.
17. Provide examples of the expected quality of work.
18. Help students make use of campus and/or first-year program resources.
19. Remind seminar participants to get help with papers and projects from the mentor.
20. Assign and grade a seminar writing assignment early in the semester.
21. Use the mentor as a pre-Advising Week resource.
22. Ask the mentor to sit in on advising sessions to learn about student interests and suggest course choices.
23. Provide students with an idea of what to expect in the coming four years.

## **Keep faculty updated...Mentors,**

24. Inform faculty members of class issues through regular weekly meetings.
25. Keep an eye out for interesting social events on campus or in Hartford related to the seminar.
26. Inform faculty of any campus events that might conflict with assignments or provide good in-class discussion points.

## **Out-of-class activities...**

27. Provide the class with memorable activities such as attending arts or sports events together.
28. Make use of the returning, second-year “Senior” Mentors for advice on handling issues.
29. Make students aware of all that Trinity has to offer...
  - Underground Coffeehouse
  - Cinestudio
  - Sports teams
  - Clubs
  - Fraternities/ sororities
  - Chapel services
  - Austin Arts Performances
  - Art Exhibits
  - Outside/Inside speakers
  - Community Service, etc.
  - Recreation Program
30. Make students aware of what Hartford has to offer...
  - a walk down to Trinity Restaurant
  - Elizabeth Park; Bushnell Park
  - Wadsworth Museum
  - Mark Twain House
  - Sporting events
  - Bow Tie movie theatre
  - Hartford Stage

## **Other Suggestions...**

### **Mentors and Faculty best work**

31. As a team.