

# On Mentorship

A note from Human Resources

Plato and Socrates  
Aristotle and Plato  
King Arthur and Merlin  
Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau  
Beethoven and Haydn  
Monet and Boudin  
Yves St. Laurent and Christian Dior  
Bill Gates and Warren Buffet  
Oprah Winfrey and Maya Angelou  
Quincy Jones and Ray Charles  
Sheryl Sandberg and Larry Summers  
Mark Zuckerberg and Steve Jobs

Most successful people who achieve great things have a mentor.  
Who serves as a mentor for you?  
Whom do you mentor?

The term mentor originates from the Odyssey in which Mentor  
(the goddess Athena in disguise) guides young Telemachus  
while his father fights in the Trojan War.

Today mentor means a trusted advisor, friend,  
teacher, counselor, and wise person.

## Benefit from a Mentor

We are all on a journey and encounter many people who shape us and from whom we can learn. Just as iron sharpens iron, so too can our community support and challenge one another.

Is there someone with whom you are able to speak about best practices at work, navigating your career, and lessons learned? Is there someone you admire and seek to emulate? While formal mentoring relationships are long-term, you can still benefit from the wisdom of colleagues in shorter timeframes without a long-standing commitment. Perhaps you simply decide to invite someone to coffee or lunch.

Work is a major part of our lives. Created in the image of God, we are blessed with work just as God works. As we spend the best hours of our days and life at work, we want to know that we make a difference and we want to do the best we can.

We seek to continually learn and develop.

Likewise, people are the most important part of the Pepperdine enterprise. Only people can live out and bring the Pepperdine mission to life. Our University will only ever be as good as those working each day towards its mission.

## Act

Seek out people in the Pepperdine community from whom you can learn. Use the enclosed journal to write down your questions and new insights. Select questions and activities from the mentorship booklet to review with a mentor. Enjoy spending time with your esteemed colleagues. Take charge of your career and commit to an ever growing Pepperdine journey.