

Architecture Mentoring Program – First & Second Year Mentoring Guidelines

The following guidelines describe the Architecture Mentoring Program at the University of Oklahoma College of Architecture. The program is supported by the Division of Architecture in partnership with the Division of Architecture Professional Advisory Board.

What is Mentoring?

“Mentoring begins when a person strategically affects the professional life of someone else by fostering insight, identifying needed knowledge and expanding the other person’s horizons.” - Larry Ambrose, *A Mentor’s Companion* (Perrone-Ambrose Assoc. Inc., 1998)

The Division of Architecture Mentoring Program

The purpose of this program is to familiarize beginning architecture students with the practice of architecture through group mentoring with a regional architecture firm. Students are typically invited to visit the Mentoring Firm once a semester for 1) a firm tour and 2) a tour of a construction site or a recently completed project. Through this experience, students will gain insight into the link between the architecture profession and construction industry.

Mentoring Firms are expected to designate an individual or a group of individuals to lead the firm and project tours. These individuals can expect to devote four hours to the visit and tour.

Eligibility

The program is open to architecture majors in their first and second year of study at the University of Oklahoma.

Mentoring Firms are architecture firms within driving distance of the OU College of Architecture who are interested in enhancing the educational experience of architecture students.

Benefits of Being a Mentor Firm

- Gain networking opportunities by creating lasting relationships with architecture students
- Gain personal satisfaction from enriching the students’ experience through professional development
- Give back to the University and the profession through development of students as future architects
- Gain exposure to fresh ideas, knowledge, and perspectives

Benefits of Being a Mentee

- Gain a more comprehensive understanding of the practice of architecture from professionals
- Gain networking opportunities by creating lasting relationships with architects, interior designers, construction managers, and other professionals
- Gain access to the experience of professionals for guidance in communication, leadership, and presentation skills

How Do I Sign Up?

1. Mentoring firms can go online to <http://arch.ou.edu/mentoring/> to download the application. Applications will also be available in an upcoming AIA Newsletter. The .pdf application is to be completed and emailed to Joel Dietrich at dietrich@ou.edu. Note that the application provides an opportunity for firms to identify how many students they wish to accommodate each semester.
2. In January 2011, Mentoring Firms will be paired with a group of students. At this time, firms will be contacted regarding firm visit dates and details.
3. Mentoring Firms will be publicly recognized by the Division of Architecture.

Program Contact

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Architecture Mentoring Program – Third, Fourth & Fifth Year Students Mentoring Guidelines - Draft

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What is Mentoring?

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The Division of Architecture Mentoring Program

The purpose of this program is to provide mentoring on an *individual level* for students in the upper levels of the architecture program. The mentor would meet or converse with the student (or students) on a monthly basis to provide guidance and advice on a professional level. It is expected that the mentor would provide insight and knowledge that would reinforce the educational experiences of the student.

Eligibility

The program is open to architecture majors in their third, fourth or fifth years in the College of Architecture.

Mentors are architects or intern architects who are willing to provide insight and advice about the educational experience and professional practice.

Benefits of Being a Mentor

- Gain networking opportunities by creating lasting relationships with architecture students
- Gain personal satisfaction from enriching the students’ experience through professional development
- Give back to the University and the profession through development of students as future architects
- Gain exposure to fresh ideas, knowledge, and perspectives

Benefits of Being a Mentee

- Gain a more comprehensive understanding of the practice of architecture from the perspective of professionals and be better prepared to take an active role in architecture upon graduation.
- Gain networking opportunities by creating lasting relationships with architects, interior designers, construction managers, and other professionals
- Gain access to the experience of professionals for guidance in communication, leadership, and presentation skills

How Do I Sign Up?

1. Mentors can go online to <http://arch.ou.edu/mentoring/> to complete the application. Applications will also be available in an upcoming AIA Newsletter. The .pdf application is to be completed and emailed to Joel Dietrich at dietrich@ou.edu. Note that the application provides an opportunity for the mentor to identify how many students they wish to mentor.
2. Students will select their mentor from a list of participating professionals. The mentoring program will begin with a Kick-Off Meeting of the students and mentors during a reception at the College of Architecture. In January 2011, Mentors will be contacted regarding reception dates and details.

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