

# CULTIVATING

## POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH GRADUATE STUDENTS

### WHY

Doctoral coursework often does not prepare future faculty for cultivating successful graduate student mentoring. Instead, faculty are often left to draw from their own mentoring experiences and even to learn by trial and error. Effective mentorship is necessary for student development and can be equally rewarding for both faculty and student.

### HOW

Effective graduate mentoring can encompass various practices such as helping them: navigate program requirements; understand the nuances of their discipline; develop necessary skills; set & achieve goals; feel respected & supported; receive constructive feedback; build networks, etc..

### VALUES

Cultivating a successful relationship with graduate students should encompass values such as:

- empathy
- honesty
- mutual respect
- responsibility
- collegiality
- support
- fostering independence
- work/life balance
- responsiveness

### GETTING STARTED

- Discuss your expectations with/for one another.
- Ensure students have the information and (access to) resources needed to be successful.
- Foster connections to other graduate students as well as mentors to build communities of support.
- Model the values listed above.

### RESOURCES

- [UA Tide Together Graduate Mentor Program](#)
- [Strategies for Mentoring & Advising Graduate Students of Color](#)
- [UW Mentoring: A Guide for Faculty](#)
- [Disabled in Graduate School](#) (IHE article)