

College of Design Mentor Program December 2007 Newsletter



Greetings Mentor Program Participants!

The fall semester is soon coming to a close! We are in the middle of a very busy time with finals, travels, holiday plans, and other end of the year events. In the midst of all the busyness, I encourage you and your mentoring partner to try and connect before spring semester begins January 22nd. You may want to choose a date in January to discuss spring semester schedules and your mentoring plans up until the end of the program in April.

Keep in mind your goals you initially set when the program began. Have you accomplished some of those goals? Are there still some you would like to work on? Discuss your next goal(s) with your mentoring partner when you meet in December or January. This month's newsletter focuses on resumes and portfolios, which you might consider a topic of conversation at your next meeting!

Best wishes for the new year!

-Lucy

Important Dates:

- Last day of instruction: Wednesday, December 12, 2007
- Finals for students: Friday, December 14-15, 17-20, 2007
- Spring Semester Classes Begin: Tuesday, January 22, 2008

News and Upcoming Events

Mentor Connection Speed Networking

Thursday, January 31, 2008

5:30 - 8:00 pm

McNamara Alumni Center, Memorial Hall

- Both mentors and mentees will benefit from this session which will teach the essentials to successful networking; a must for propelling your career into the next level.

Registration for the event will be available in January through the mentor program website:

<http://www.design.umn.edu/mentor>

College of Design Calendar of Events

View all of the events, lectures, and programs sponsored by the College of Design at

<http://www.design.umn.edu/>, and click on "Calendar of Events."

Try to find an event for you and your mentoring partner to attend together!

Student Newsletter

Stay up to date with happenings and information for CDes students. Visit the online newsletter at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/cdesnews/designstudentnews/>. News and events are updated daily!

Mentoring Success Stories

I hope you are having a great mentoring experience thus far. Have you and your mentoring partner had any insightful conversations or participated in any activities you would like to share? We want to hear about them! Please send updates to the program office at cdesmentor@umn.edu

Resume or Portfolio Update & Exchange

For the month of January, consider exchanging resumes or portfolios between mentor and student as an activity to do together. Spring semester is often a time when students are internship or job searching. Getting feedback and advice from mentors can help students understand what qualifications and presentation the profession seeks when hiring. Mentors' resumes and portfolios can also serve as great examples for students.

For STUDENTS

- If you do not have a resume, that is ok! This year would be a great time to get one started. For help in starting, please see tips and examples on the St. Paul Campus Career Center website at http://www.stpaulcareers.umn.edu/jobsearch/resumes_coverletters.html.
- For those who have a resume, make sure you update it with your accomplishments and involvement through 2007.
- You may or may not have begun to work on a portfolio as well. Whatever your situation, be sure to ask your mentor for their advice when putting together a professional portfolio.
- Portfolios are going to vary depending on your major and field of interest. Your mentor can be a resource for suggestions of what types of work to include in a portfolio. Mentors may also have other colleagues who they could suggest to ask as well.

If you would like additional information and tips on resume writing, please visit http://www.jobweb.com/resumes_interviews.aspx for a list of helpful articles.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns about the program, please feel free to contact me.

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