



ALUMNI NETWORK MENTORING PROGRAM

The Alumni Experience

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

We all know that there is something special about the Southwestern alumni community. Now, we'll see our network in action and support Southwestern students on their career journey. Consider sharing your wisdom and expertise with fellow Pirates - all through the Southwestern University Alumni Association's **Alumni Network Mentoring Program**.

The Alumni Network Mentoring Program connects Southwestern juniors with six (6) alumni over the course of the nine (9) months of their junior year (September 2017-May 2018) by phone, Skype or in person. The connections will be based on professional interest, major, student organization involvement, and other areas of academic and co-curricular life.

Alumni will be matched with two to four juniors during the course of the annual program, with no more than one connection per month. The first connections will be made in September 2017.

AS AN ALUMNUS/A, WHAT IS MY ROLE IN THE PROGRAM?

The Alumni Network Mentoring Program will create intentional mentoring connections, through a structured and purposeful engagement model. As an alumnus/a, you will have the opportunity to impact the professional development of Southwestern students. By sharing your experiences and answering their questions, you will expand the professional interests and networks of Southwestern juniors. This will create a professional foundation for the students as they approach their job or graduate school search process during their senior year. Ultimately, this will enhance the entire Alumni Network and build a stronger bridge for students as they graduate and are welcomed in our Alumni Association.

HOW WILL SOUTHWESTERN ASSESS THE PROGRAM?

Student learning is at the heart of this program. Therefore, the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will use a Student Learning Outcome assessment model.

Learning Outcomes are statements that specify what students will know or be able to do as a result of a learning activity, in this case, through their participation in the Alumni Network Mentoring Program. The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will develop Learning Outcomes for all student participants and individual Learning Outcomes with each student, based on a self-reflection of their skills and abilities. All of this is to

create programmatic intentionality for students' professional development and learning and to establish an assessment framework for the program.

PROGRAMMATIC LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through participation in the Alumni Network Networking Program, students will:

- Communicate effectively in writing and oral forms.
- Articulate their *Southwestern Experience* to others.
- Demonstrate self-awareness by knowing personal strengths and acknowledging areas of growth.
- Respect and respond to values, perspectives and opinions of others.
- Learn the fundamentals of professional networking.
- Build a network within the Southwestern community.

At the completion of the year, students will self-reflect (with staff assistance) their progress on both the program's and their individual Learning Outcomes. Additionally, the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will utilize these Learning Outcomes to assess the program's overall effectiveness and determine improvements to enhance the student experience and development process.

WHAT COMMITMENT AM I MAKING?

Our lives are busy. We assure you, the commitment in this program will be manageable and flexible according to your availability. Below is a calendar outline of the experience.

Summer 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will correspond with alumni mentors to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Welcome them to the program and thank them for volunteering.○ Provide a detailed calendar of what to expect during the course of the year (September 2016-May 2017).○ Describe the student experience in the program.○ Confirm their professional information and affiliations to make the most meaningful connections with students.○ Introduce them to our Graduate Assistant, who will serve as our lead communicator for the program.
August 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will remind the alumni of the calendar.

<p>September 2017 -May 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Alumni mentors will receive three to four student matches during the year. ➤ The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will inform alumni of their matches throughout the year and share what each individual student wants to accomplish during their participation in the program (e.g., Learning Outcomes). ➤ Students will reach out to the alumni to first determine how they will hold their conversation (e.g., phone, Skype, in person, etc.) and will share their resume at that time. ➤ After each conversation, the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will follow-up regarding the call to determine areas of growth for the student, related to his/her Learning Outcomes. ➤ In November, all students and alumni participating in the program will be invited to an Alumni Network event at Homecoming.
<p>Late May 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Alumni mentors will be asked to share their feedback on the program for future years, through an online survey.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

To register as a Career Mentor, please visit your [Alumni Directory Profile](#) and click the “Career Mentor” button. This will alert the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations that you are interested in connecting with Southwestern students. If you need your Alumni ID Number for access to the Directory, please email alumni@southwestern.edu.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Megan Buxton, Buxtonm@southwestern.edu, the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 800-960-6363 or alumni@southwestern.edu.