

Mentoring for Teaching and Scholarship Career Development:

A session for those who mentor others or who would like to participate in mentoring focusing on teaching and scholarship career development.



Organised by the Geography and Education Research Group
(GeogEd)

Find out more about GeogEd:
<https://geogedrg.org/>

Welcome to GeogEd!

- a forum for the discussion of issues and advancement concerning geographical education.
 - Promote and support teaching and learning in geography within Higher Education and more broadly
 - Support colleagues in their journey as educators through sharing material, practice, and further training and support
 - Organise and host events – current good practice and emerging areas of Geography pedagogy.
- membership information: <https://geogedrg.org/join/>



Today's session

- Focuses on mentoring for teaching and scholarship career development for all
 - Whatever role / contract etc.
 - Whatever stage
 - Wherever you are based
- Opportunity to find out more about colleagues' experiences not to provide a 'how-to'
- Guidance and information around mentoring is available via resources on the RGS website



QR code for the RGS mentoring resources

Mentoring?

Join at menti.com use code 8594 290

Mentimeter

Words you associate with mentoring (for teaching and scholarship career development)
43 responses



Mentoring is

- "a very useful intervention to support professional and career development by helping staff to reflect on their work and progress and plan professional and career development in a way that is timely and specific to their needs" ([Bangor University](#))
- "an informal and supportive relationship where a more experienced member of staff assists a colleague to become more competent in their role" ([University of York](#))
- "Mentors are invaluable sources of advice, guidance and support" ([RGS](#))

Session aims

1. Provide advice and guidance from those with mentoring experience at different career stages (from mentor and mentee perspectives)
2. On-the-spot mentoring: opportunity to reflect on current needs and develop an actionable point
3. Review the needs of colleagues to help plan and progress a mentoring network within the teaching and scholarship community

Advice and guidance from those with mentoring experience

- Colleagues sharing their experience
- Followed by a panel Q and A opportunity
 - Please note down your questions for after all the speakers



Wordcloud created from advice / guidance / tips shared from the community

Reflections from the wider GeogEd community

mentors who were most impactful to me took **time** to talk to me, meet me and respond to my questions, comment on my work. The time spent with the mentee on their terms is important.

One thing that I came to realise and took away was what a collaborative experience it was. I relished the mentoring relationship much more when I realised how we were both gaining things and that it was not just a one-way give and take dynamic. Instead we were both uplevelling, sharing and broadening our thinking. It was great to gain different insights and ideas but also share my own and be an equal partner in each others' professional development.

being willing to share my 'failures' as well as my 'successes' is very important. I put those in inverted commas because I am talking about paper rejections, grant proposals that are not funded and similar and actually these are a key part of academic life and important learning moments. I have tried to learn (and pass on) that this is not failure, but normal and early careers colleagues have said it is a relief and reassuring to hear about someone of my length of experience that continues to experience these things!

My first mentor didn't want to do it, was not engaged, and the whole process was pointless.

Level of support does significantly depend on their commitment to the role. In some places this has been excellent with time and resources shared, elsewhere it hasn't got off the starting block!

My mentor is very incisive and knows the rules and systems inside out, they spot opportunities and helps me be more strategic. From the start my new mentor was warm and human sharing personal stories, meeting informally and offering a listening ear and support. I cannot recommend this kind of mentor enough - I was very lucky to find them.

I have enjoyed mentoring and have found it a really useful learning experience for myself too.

My mentoring has focused on teaching rather than research. As with other mentoring the focus on structuring the support and acting as a signpost where possible. Although much depends on the mentees earlier experiences.

On-the-spot mentoring: an opportunity to reflect on your current needs and develop an actionable point related to your teaching and scholarship career development

- On-the-spot peer-mentoring (in small groups)
- If happy to do so, please post your actionable point (anonymously) on the [padlet](#)



Padlet QR code

Going forwards: what does the community want?

- Discussion (can pop in chat or share with room)
 - What areas would you be interested in mentoring or being mentored on?
 - Would you engage with a GeogEd peer-mentoring network?
 - What might it look like?
 - How might it work best for you?

Next steps?

- If you are interested in being part of the GeogEd peer-mentoring network for teaching and scholarship career development please sign up via [the brief form](#).



QR code: GeogEd mentoring network form

Other opportunities for support from GeogEd

- Fellowship support scheme
- Teaching and Scholarship Forum (online)
 - Next event: Work-based learning and employability in geography and related programmes, 15th November 2023, 1-2pm
- New to Teaching events
 - Postgraduate insights webinar, 18th October 2023, 1-2pm
 - New lecturers, tbc, 2024