Welcome to the Cal Poly Center for Leadership’s alumni mentorship program! We are excited to provide a convenient way for alumni to meet students and connect to the Cal Poly network. Through this program, students will practice relationship-building skills and engage in a dialogue about what leadership can look like. Alumni will share stories and advice and learn about current Cal Poly students’ experiences.

Thank you for investing in the leaders of today and tomorrow by participating in this program. Please reach out to our AmeriCorps VIP Fellow, Ellery Lea, at leadership@calpoly.edu with any questions or to share feedback.
WHAT DOES MENTORSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Mentors can expect to connect with their mentee twice over the course of the academic quarter. Typically, meetings take place over the phone or via video (Zoom, Skype, etc.) for 30 minutes. After the Center for Leadership matches pairs, students will reach out to their mentor to schedule meetings at a convenient time. Participation can be limited to one quarter or can extend to multiple quarters depending on mentor availability and student enrollment.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Consider asking your mentee about their leadership certificate course, their involvement at Cal Poly, their academic interests, and their future career aspirations. Mentors will offer encouragement, support, and guidance by sharing anecdotes and advice. Potential questions to pose to your mentee:

- What are your goals for the quarter?
- What experiences have shaped your approach to leadership?
- What do you wish you had more time to do?
- What have you learned about yourself through the leadership certificate course?

EXPECTATIONS

We ask that both students and alumni mentors remain responsive and respectful of one another’s time. Mentors and mentees should set boundaries (time commitments, preferred communication method, etc.) in their initial communication. Information shared between parties should remain confidential.

BACKGROUND

Each quarter, students enrolled in the Center for Leadership’s certificate programs (Emerging Leadership Series and Social Change Leadership) participate in a mentorship experience. This is an opportunity for students to learn from others’ experiences and practice connecting with those outside of their existing network. Cal Poly alumni from any professional background can be mentors!