THE MENTORING ROLE

At Fresno Pacific University, the mentoring of students is considered a key role of faculty. Additionally, mentoring is envisioned as much more than helping students plan for their academic and career paths. While this aspect of mentoring (more appropriately termed “advising”) is important to the success of students, it is far from the totality of the mentoring role. In addition to advising, mentoring also consists of encouraging the development of the whole person, including spiritual, social, and physical aspects.

To successfully engage in the mentoring role, faculty must

1. Whenever possible, participate in pre-registration and advising events on campus or, when such is not possible, see that an appropriate alternate is present;
2. Be visible and available to students beyond the occasional meeting to plan course schedules;
3. Understand institutional policies with regard to a host of issues, including academic rules and practices, so as to help students understand them as well;
4. Encourage and expect students to responsibly manage and own their educational experience;
5. Function as an advocate for students when appropriate and, alternatively, hold students accountable for the outcomes of their own choices;
6. Advise and counsel students within the limits of training, capability, and appropriate boundaries with regard to academic, personal, and spiritual matters;
7. Utilize institutional resources as appropriate for the welfare and benefit of students, including counseling services, disability services, and the Academic Support Center; and
8. Uphold university, scholarly, and Christian expectations for behavior, acting as a role model at all times, on and off campus.

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