

FAQ

Q: *What if the mentor and mentee live in different geographical areas?*

A: The program coordinator will try to match mentors and mentees who share a geographical connection. However, this will not always be possible. Priority will be given to making meaningful matches which

compliment field of study over geographical convenience. Luckily, technology such as phone, email and video conference support mentoring relationships that can be just as effective from a distance as they are in person.

Q: *What else is involved in the mentor-mentee relationship?*

A: The SAM program is what you make it! Our goal is to provide a useful tool to Brenau alumni and students alike. You and your partner may hit it off from the start and choose to continue the mentorship process together for the maximum four semesters, or you may decide to part ways

and be matched with another mentor or mentee the next time around. The program coordinator will provide a map to guide you both through the semester with suggested conversation topics. Whether you decide to follow our plan or create a unique experience will be up to you.

Q: *Are there any expenses to participate?*

A: There are no required fees for mentors or mentees. However, if meetings are arranged by the mentor or mentee which may require payment (i.e., meeting for breakfast to discuss resume-writing tips), it is the mentor's

responsibility to clarify the cost and how payment will be divided. Mentors should keep in mind that students often have small budgets, and it is certainly kind for mentors to treat mentees to coffee, lunch or a meal when appropriate.

Student-Alumni MENTORING PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE STUDENT-ALUMNI MENTORING PROGRAM?

Sponsored by the Brenau University Alumni Association, the Student-Alumni Mentoring (SAM) program provides an opportunity for current undergraduate juniors and seniors to connect with alumni in a positive and professional way.

These one-on-one mentoring relationships help ease the transition from college student to real-world professional. Alumni mentors serve student mentees as guides, friends and lifetime resources.

PARTICIPANT ROLES

ALUMNUS OR GRADUATE STUDENT / MENTOR

- Share the gift of knowledge and experience
- Serve as a resource
- Provide work-based experiences
- Offer career advice and guidance

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT / MENTEE

- Develop a network of contacts in your field of study
- Learn about your field of study within the working world
- Feel more prepared for college-to-work transition
- Foster your career decision-making skills



HOW DOES IT WORK?

The SAM program matches juniors and seniors from both the Women's College and coeducational undergraduate degree programs at all campuses with alumni or graduate students working in a similar fields of study, with similar interests and with similar backgrounds. Students will feel comfortable asking their mentors questions about job skills, networking, continuing education, workplace etiquette, goal setting, career building and more. The program runs each semester. Formal relationships can be forged for as little as one 10-week session up to the maximum of four 10-week sessions.

REQUIREMENTS

During the SAM program, each mentor and mentee will build a unique relationship. In order to create a relationship, mentors and mentees may communicate through face-to-face meetings, phone, email or video calls. Whether the mentor and mentee communicate several times a week or a few times per month, they must establish relationships that are consistent and meet the demands of each other's schedules.

HOW DO I BECOME A MENTOR OR MENTEE?

To become a mentor or mentee, please complete the online registration on the Brenau University website. You will find the registration link in the alumni section at www.brenau.edu/alum.

If you have any questions, please contact the Student-Alumni Mentoring Program Coordinator Kirsty Smith at 770.531.3122 or ksmith23@brenau.edu.

