



AIHEC ASETO'NE NETWORK PROJECT

Mentoring Program

GUIDE FOR MENTORS

Overview of Aseto'ne Mentoring Program

The Aseto'ne Network Project (ANP) has included a mentoring component to assist TCU students interested in health research by providing support and opportunities and getting them connected to professionals in the field. Goals of the mentoring program: establishing a 'community' supporting students transitioning from two year to four year health programs, providing guidance and networking opportunities, and offering professional and career development.

The Aseto'ne Network Project Mentor Program is open to all tribal college and university (TCU) students who are interested in learning more about health and biomedical research. To participate, potential mentors and student mentees must complete an information form (online form/hard copy available).

About the Aseto'ne Network Project

The Aseto'ne Network Project is a broad multi-institutional initiative designed to coordinate outreach, education and mentoring services provided by the nation's 38 TCUs. This initiative is a collaboration between AIHEC and the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). In the Cheyenne language, Aseto'ne refers to the context of growth and taking first steps. Thus, our project will provide the necessary steps and support infrastructure to guide students into research careers and a brighter future. The project partners will establish and promote interest and engagement in biomedical research among students attending tribal colleges. The project will establish a network community of faculty and students involved in activities that develop students' academic and research-specific skills and promote an understanding of what is required to be a successful researcher. Most importantly, the project will reinforce students' confidence in their ability to pursue a successful career research.

What is mentoring?

Mentoring is a professional relationship in which a more experienced and knowledgeable person (student advisor, faculty, supervisor, etc.), guides and advises a person (student, trainee, new employee), in working toward and attaining goals in their academic and/or professional career.

Mentors

The ANP Mentoring Program will recruit faculty and staff from tribal colleges and Native professionals in the biomedical and health research fields. The ANP mentors will serve on a voluntary basis and will be provided resources and information for serving as a mentor. Mentors will complete an informational form used to pair with a student mentee.

Mentees

The ANP Mentoring Program is open to currently enrolled tribal college students who have a general interest in biomedical and health research. Mentees will complete an informational form and will be paired with a mentor. Mentees will be provided online resources and information for participating.



Pairing Mentors and Mentees

The ANP staff will pair mentors and mentees based on the informational forms submitted. An introductory email will be sent to both the mentor and mentee. Information regarding the program will be included, and the ANP staff will serve as the main point of contact.

Communication

TYPES OF COMMUNICATION

Mentors and mentees will keep in touch via email, phone calls, web-based conference calls, and through discussion boards set up by the ANP staff. If a mentor and mentee are from the same college, they can arrange to have in-person visits/meetings. All of these visits/meetings will be coordinated based on the mentor and mentee's schedules.

Contact Hours

The ANP program is requesting mentors and mentees maintain at least five contact hours per month.

ASETO'NE EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

The ANP staff will send out announcements on events and activities on a weekly basis. Mentors and mentees will be invited to join in discussion boards and webinars.

Unable to Stay Involved

If for any reason you are no longer able to participate in the program as a mentor or mentee, please notify the ANP staff (dmonteau@aihec.org). We will inform your mentor/mentee and remove your contact information from the listserv.

Conflicts/Issues

If a mentor or mentee feel they are having difficulties, they will need to notify the ANP staff immediately. The first contact will be with the Project Coordinator (dmonteau@aihec.org) and must be made in a written statement. The information will be reviewed and a resolution will be provided. If the parties involved do not feel the resolution is adequate enough then the Project Director (dhishorseisthunder@aihec.org) will be notified and will provide a final decision. In case of any emergency situations, immediate action will be taken which might include removing both parties from participating in the program (until further notice) and forwarding the information to AIHEC central office for final decision.

Program Evaluation

Mentors and mentees will be asked to complete a satisfactions survey at the end of each academic year. The results will be assessed and shared with the program evaluator.

Designated TCU coach/mentors will provide a program summary to include in the annual report (August) and will be included with the program evaluation.

Contact:

Ms. Darryl Monteau, Project Coordinator, dmonteau@aihec.org, or Dr. Deborah His Horse is Thunder, Project Director, dhishorseisthunder@aihec.org

