

My advising and mentoring philosophy

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One of the things that attracted me to Delaware as a young investigator and educator was its exceptional mentoring environment. Among chemical engineering departments across the country, UD is recognized for its unparalleled tradition of mentorship. Having benefited greatly from this tradition in my own professional development, it is a tremendous privilege to pass it on to the next generation of chemical engineers.

In addition to the academic advising responsibilities we share as a faculty, I've had the opportunity to advise nearly 30 undergraduate research students as they pursue their first summer research projects, or work to complete senior and honors theses. Working closely with these exceptional students and watching them develop their skills as independent researchers is its own reward. But what impresses me now is the prestige they continue to return to the Department and University after they pass out of Colburn Lab's doors to rise in their own careers.

Mentoring requires an investment in time and energy, but it is the most critical element of a student's education, and an investment that returns dividends far into the future to support our shared mission of education and research.