Family of Mentors Program
Overview

2023-2024 Academic Year
What is Our Family of Mentors Program About?

• Online (and in-person) program developed to:
  – match each OD student with an OD of choice, utilizing the vast network of alums in our SUNY Eye Network
  – enhance students’ personal, academic, and career development
  – expand professional networks for students and mentors
• Goal 1: Enhance the student experience through programs that promote student and alumni success
  – Develop meaningful connections between students and alumni that support career development, placement, networking, and continuing education
Program Goals

- Enhance students’ academic and career development, and overall satisfaction at SUNY
- Help students think about and refine career goals earlier
- Provide students an opportunity to learn how to develop a professional network
- Establish strong relationships between students and mentors that last beyond SUNY
- Provide a meaningful avenue for alumni, professional organizations, and partners to stay connected with the College.
Program Expectations for Mentors

• Go over this overview of the program
• **Set aside a minimum of 1 hour per month**
  – Communicate with mentees via email, phone, meet in person, Zoom, Facetime, Google Hangouts, etc. Our mentees will work with you to figure out best way.
• **OD mentor matched with 3rd year or 4th year, for the whole academic year (running until May 2024)**
  – Each year, the mentor/mentee match is evaluated
  – If student is a 3rd year, and relationship is going well, with OD agreement, may extend to their 4th year as well
• Try to meet with mentee, if possible. This may mean meeting for a meal, meeting at a conference, or even letting student shadow you at your practice if that is an offer. We encourage meeting up!
Contact Us if You Have Questions!

- Quy H. Nguyen, OD – Director of Career Development Center
  - 212-938-5505 | qnguyen@sunyopt.edu
- Mentoring resources for mentors will be housed at:
  - www.sunyopt.edu/mentoring