“My mentee is an outstanding young man and actually teaches me a lot more than I probably teach him.”
—Mentor

How do I become a mentor?

1. Visit preuss.ucsd.edu, go to ‘About Preuss,’ then go to ‘Volunteer Opportunities’ and click on ‘Mentor’
2. Complete the online application
3. Attend a mentor interview and orientation
4. Provide a copy of current TB Screening/TB test
5. Clear background check
6. Meet your mentee

“None of us has gotten where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody bent down and helped us.”
—Thurgood Marshall

Who We Are

About Us

One of the key components to the success of Preuss students is the mentorship program, in which mentors provide guidance and motivate our students to ensure future success.

Contact Us

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“The Preuss School
UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Dr. #0536
La Jolla, CA 92093-0536

“To be inspired is great, but to inspire is an honor.”
—unknown
The Preuss School UC San Diego

The Preuss School UC San Diego is designed as an intensive college preparatory educational environment for low-income students who represent the first generation in their families who would graduate from a four-year college or university. Through the application of a single-track college preparatory curriculum, small classes, tutor-assisted teaching, and a number of student supports, the Preuss School UC San Diego mission is to create a highly enriched middle and high school instructional environment. It will prepare graduates to distinguish themselves academically, in order to be competitive for admission to the University of California and other select institutions of higher learning.

What is the Mentor Program?

The mentor program consists of one-on-one meetings between a Preuss student and a caring adult. Both make a one-year minimum commitment to meet weekly for 30 to 45 minutes on the school campus.

Mentors and mentees are paired by shared career interest, activities, and hobbies.

E-mentoring is an additional component of the Preuss mentoring program. This allows mentors and mentees to communicate via email, Skype or FaceTime, and phone calls or text when they are not able to meet on campus, during vacation periods, and potentially following graduation.

Quarterly mentor meetings are held to provide ongoing mentor training, networking, and a forum to discuss and exchange ideas.

Who are Mentors?

Mentors are caring adults who have a willingness to listen, encourage, guide, and inspire. They are committed to developing a supportive relationship to help Preuss students with personal and academic goals.

"Come into it with an open mind and understanding that it isn’t about knowing everything or even giving great advice. It’s about listening, asking good questions, and seeing where things are meant to go from there.” –Mentor

"My mentor is a friend that I know I can always rely on and I’m so grateful for that.” –Mentee

““We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”” –Winston Churchill

Logistics

- Meet with mentee(s) once a week for 30-45 minutes
- Minimum one-year commitment
- Serve as a role model for mentees

Knowledge & Skills

- Ability to communicate with students openly and comfortably
- Strong listening skills
- Interest in the concerns of first-generation college-bound students
- Knowledge of the college preparation process
- Practical problem-solving skills and ability to suggest options and alternatives
- Sensitivity to persons of different educational, economic, cultural or racial backgrounds