



Graduate Students of Color Mentoring Program

Dear UC Davis Faculty Members:

The UC Davis Cross Cultural Center (CCC) would like to invite you to apply as a faculty mentor to our Graduate Students of Color (GSoC) Mentoring Program for the 2021-2022 academic year. The need to increase and improve faculty-graduate student mentorships within underrepresented groups was one key recommendation resulting from the Diversity Dialogues with the Dean in 2014. The GSoC Mentoring Program was created to address that recommendation. Faculty support has been and will continue to be critical for the program's success. While prospective mentors who identify as faculty of color are strongly encouraged to participate, we invite all faculty members who wish to be active in our effort to support student-driven diversity initiatives here at UC Davis to serve as faculty mentors in the GSoC Mentoring program.

Purpose of the GSoC Mentoring Program

Our primary goal is to assist in the retention of historically marginalized students in order to improve their representation in the UC Davis graduate community. We do this by providing graduate students of color structured opportunities to explore a variety of academic and career pathways. Faculty mentorship of graduate students of color is imperative for their retention in their graduate programs at UC Davis and for increasing the number of faculty of color in the academy overall.

Format of the GSoC Mentoring Program

GSoC is a two-quarter commitment beginning in Winter 2022 and taking place through the end of Spring 2022. Faculty mentors will be paired with graduate student mentees in order to share their experiences and offer helpful tips on how to successfully navigate graduate school at UC Davis. While mentors and mentees will determine their agreed-upon goals, we suggest that they meet at least twice a month. These meetings are an opportunity for mentors and mentees to communicate their experiences in a more relaxed setting than traditional faculty-graduate student research-related advising. At the same time, these meetings offer critical support for students who are navigating some difficult situations related to retention.

Benefits of Participating in the GSoC Mentoring Program

Faculty members who participate in the GSoC Mentoring Program are recognized for their efforts in teaming with the CCC to provide critical support for our underrepresented graduate student communities. Moreover, the program connects faculty members across various disciplines who are committed to providing hands-on support to our graduate students of color and the diversity initiatives in our graduate school programs.

Please submit your faculty application by Tuesday, December 6, 2021: [Application to become a Mentor](#)

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at anabrown@ucdavis.edu

Cheers,

Analisa Brown, MS

Graduate Student | Graduate Group in Education

School of Education | University of California, Davis

Graduate Student Retention Coordinator | [Cross Cultural Center](#)