Intentional Conversations

Six conversational strategies for mentors:

Mentoring is a relationship entailing formal or informal processes whereby a mentor provides intentional guidance, motivation, and encouragement. Mentors also share knowledge, experiences, and perspectives to empower the mentee in the advancement of specific goals that improve their lives and careers. Mentorship allows both mentor and mentee to build networks of resources, develop best practices, and sustain connections for lifelong learning.

A key to successful mentorship is engaging in intentional conversations that contextualize the knowledge or perspective you share. This helps to frame larger issues you and your mentee are exploring, gently guiding your mentee through processes and actions.

Intentional conversations are guided by questions that are appropriate for the context of the goal. Mentoring relationships are based on intentional, goal-driven conversations. Follow these six strategies for more productive mentorship.

More information on Graduate College Mentor Network and stages of mentoring: 
graduate.asu.edu/mentoring