Let's Talk about Teaching 2013

Mentoring Undergraduates

Gary MacGillivray
Mathematics and Statistics
What exactly is MENTORING?

Mentor:

✓ a wise and trusted guide and advisor
✓ an experienced person in a company or educational institution who trains and counsels new employees or students
What exactly is MENTORING?

Mentor:

✓ a wise and trusted guide and advisor
✓ an experienced person in a company or educational institution who trains and counsels new employees or students

... so mentoring is a helping relationship that involves trust, and offering experienced guidance to assist someone in achieving a goal?
Is a mentor the same as a coach?

A knowledgeable partner that helps someone develop in a role through

✗ Building a respectful relationship
✗ Helping identify short and long term goals, and ways to make progress
✗ Improving awareness of what may arise
✗ Working towards independence
Apologies to Charles Barkley

Whether or not you want to be, if hold a certain position, you are a role model whenever you are around others. Lots of things are communicated through actions. For example:

- How to be a professional
- How to manage many demands and pressures
- How to systematically approach your work
- How to work with others
Mentoring undergraduates in research

- Who are the students? How do you come to work with them?
Mentoring undergraduates in research

✗ Who are the students? How do you come to work with them?
✗ What are the learning outcomes?
Mentoring undergraduates in research

☒ Who are the students? How do you come to work with them?
☒ What are the learning outcomes?
☒ How is the project chosen?
Mentoring undergraduates in research

✗ Who are the students? How do you come to work with them?
✗ What are the learning outcomes?
✗ How is the project chosen?
✗ What assures that the project is feasible, and that progress can be made?
Mentoring undergraduates in research

✗ Who are the students? How do you come to work with them?
✗ What are the learning outcomes?
✗ How is the project chosen?
✗ What assures that the project is feasible, and that progress can be made?
✗ How will you work together?
Mentoring undergraduates in research

- Who are the students? How do you come to work with them?
- What are the learning outcomes?
- How is the project chosen?
- What assures that the project is feasible (for this student), and that progress can be made?
- How will you work together?
- Is it research?
So what exactly is MENTORING?
So what exactly is MENTORING?

... and how do you do it?
So what exactly is MENTORING?

... and how do you do it?

Thanks for participating!