

UWPA Second Mentor Program

The UWPA Second Mentor Program involves the deliberate pairing of a senior woman faculty member with a new woman faculty member from a different college. The goal of this pairing is for both parties to grow and develop professionally, with the mentee gaining familiarity with the campus, the community, and the workings of SIUC and the mentor strengthening their leadership and mentoring skills. The title “Second Mentor” recognizes that each college at SIUC has its own mentoring program for new faculty. While such internal programs are valuable for their participants, research suggests that women faculty may appreciate and benefit from multiple mentoring relationships. As “Second Mentors” are outside of mentees’ formal review processes, they can also serve as informal and impartial advocates and advisors to new women faculty.

Program Design

UWPA will match mentors and mentees based on an informal analysis of applications. Mentors should be tenured associate or full professors with a valued interest in mentoring junior faculty. Mentees will be new or junior faculty at SIUC interested in broadening their understanding of SIUC. No former mentor/mentee experience is required for participation in the program.

Although UWPA will not provide formal training of mentors or mentees, each pair will receive information regarding best mentoring practices and will be invited to attend several networking events during the academic year. These events will offer a chance for pairs to share their experiences with other mentors and mentees. All other interactions between the mentors and mentees are at the discretion of the pair.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee, please fill out the UWPA Second Mentor Application and submit it to uwpa@siu.edu.