

Hello Mentors & Mentees,

It has been a fantastic start to the new year but it is hard to believe we are already in the middle of February!

The campus is back in full swing as the semester began on Monday, February 12. This would be an excellent month to catch up on activities/travel from January and Touring Week.

We have an exciting event coming up in March that is co-sponsored by Career Development. On Tuesday, March 13 from 4:30-7pm we will have the What's Next event. Information for this event is below but can also be found on our Facebook page and registration is through Handshake at <https://app.joinhandshake.com/events/118167>.

Mentors, if you would like to participate in this event we have opportunities for panelists and networking. Please contact Laura Diaz at [ldiaz2@gustavus.edu](mailto:ldiaz2@gustavus.edu) or 507-933-6056 for more information.

As a reminder, our monthly Career Conversations will focus on the eight professional competencies for career readiness provided by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). We hope that this will spark conversations between the two of you to think deeper about your own career readiness and where strengths and opportunities for growth are.

In an effort to make these emails shorter we will now be sending the introduction in the content of this email and the complete document as an attachment. You can also find each month's Career Conversation on our website at <http://www.gustavus.edu/mentoring> and via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/gustavusmentoring/>.

## February

### Career Management & Professionalism/Work Ethic

- Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to the position desired and career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional growth. The individual is able to navigate and explore job options, understands and can take the steps necessary to pursue opportunities, and understands how to self-advocate for opportunities in the workplace.
- Demonstrate integrity, resilience, accountability and ethical behavior. The ability to take initiative, maintain effective work habits (prioritize, plan and manage work) to produce high quality results and project a professional presence.

### Assess yourself on Career Management & Professionalism/Work Ethic:

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

### Ways to develop this competency:

- Attend a networking event or career/internship fair.
- Develop a personal pitch of introduction.
- Conduct informational interviews or job shadows.
- Use a planner or calendar to prioritize work/assignments and meet deadlines.

- Reflect on a recent challenge and identify areas of growth and improvement for the future.
- Review your social media through the eyes of a future employer and determine appropriateness.

Thought Provoking Question(s):

1. If you were given 2 minutes to introduce yourself to your dream employer what would you say to spark their interest in hiring you?
2. How do you manage your time? Do you think this will change when you enter the workforce, if so how?
3. What are your strengths and opportunities for growth?

Sample Interview Question(s):

1. How do you measure your own success?
2. Has there ever been a time that your integrity has been challenged? What did you do?

Podcast:

Informational Interviews: Guidance on a Successful Informational Interview by Manager Tools  
<https://www.manager-tools.com/2017/06/informational-interviews>

Special Events:

**MN Private College Career Fair**, February 27, 2018 from 9am-2pm at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Deadline is February 19. **Register** to attend the event via Handshake at: [https://app.joinhandshake.com/career\\_fairs/3945](https://app.joinhandshake.com/career_fairs/3945). Click "Join Event" in the upper right corner.

**What's Next? A Career Interest Cluster Networking and Career Readiness Event**

Please join Career Development and the Gustavus Mentoring Program for an evening of networking with Gustavus Alumni on Tuesday, March 13th 4:30-7:00pm in the Banquet Rooms. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served, business casual dress is recommended. Registration is required and is open to all students. For more information and to register for this event, click "Join Event" at <https://gustavus.joinhandshake.com/events/118167>. **Mentors** - Interested in attending the What's Next Event? Please contact Laura Diaz ([ldiaz2@gustavus.edu](mailto:ldiaz2@gustavus.edu) or 507-933-6056), we have opportunities for panelists and networking.

**Facebook Event Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/173557003264710/>

This is a chance for you to not only network with alumni, but to listen to career panels, to receive job search assistance such as: LinkedIn Profile Reviews, Professional Photos Taken, Résumé reviews, Professional Dress, Professional Email tips, and Mock Interviews.