Alumni Mentoring

What is Mentoring?
Mentoring is the action of someone with more experience sharing advice, insight, and their understanding of a field with someone who is interested in learning more. Professional and career mentorships can be immensely valuable to students for a number of reasons. A mentor can give tips for the job’s application process, offer advice for skills to build while in school, provide insight into whether this is the best career field for a student, and although it should never be expected, may just be the key to unlocking new opportunities.

Who Can Be a Mentor?
Brooklyn College alumni are always eager to provide career advice. The Magner Center encourages Alumni to stay connected and standby as a resource for students. But beyond alums, a mentor can be anyone including family, friends of family, neighbors, professionals you meet at work, or even fellow students.

How Can BC Students Get a Mentor?
There are several ways that students can connect with professionals in their field including events, various online resources, and programs hosted by the Magner Career Center.

Events

- Career Exploration Month in November which typically features over 50 alumni
- Alumni Networking Night in April/May which typically features over 75 alumni and students
- The Magner Career Center, academic departments, student clubs, and professional associations all host events throughout the year that give you opportunity to meet professionals

Online Resources

- Review the Building Professional Training Presentation to help you self-initiate outreach to a potential mentor
- We compiled a list of tips to help you when contacting someone you want to talk to, it includes a list of questions, sample email, what to write in the thank you letter etc.
- Use LinkedIn to find a mentor via the Brooklyn College Alumni Page
- Review the mentoring video playlist
- Join our Magner Career Center LinkedIn Group
- Gain valuable advice from alumni by reading the Professional Skills Handbook. It contains advice from over 20 successful alumni in a variety of careers from music to scientific research.

Alumni Mentoring Program

- Twice a year, the Magner Center runs the Alumni Mentoring Program. This is an effort to connect students with Professionals involved in their career field.

How Can Students Prepare for Contacting/Meeting with Alumni or Professionals?

- We compiled a list of tips to help you when contacting someone you want to talk to, it includes a list of questions, sample email, what to write in the thank you letter etc.
- Take a look at the article "What Mentors Wish Their Mentees Knew" to fully understand how to make your connection a valuable one.
- Students interacting with alumni are expected to adhere to our expectations and should be aware of our policy before participating.