OSU LIBRARY
FIRST-GEN MENTORSHIP
Opportunities at the Heart of Campus

**FY 17**
- 1.6 Million users
- Open for 5,944 hours

**FY 18**
- 1.57 Million users
- Open for 5,906 hours
- Students worked 135K hours

**Student Employees**
- 225 students, 300+ jobs
- Graduate Assistants
- Internships
- Student Assistants

**Skill development**
- Time management
- Workplace professionalism
- Exceptional customer service
- Organizational loyalty

Student employees also have first-hand access to all of the resources offered by the Library to enhance study skills, research and learning.
FIRST-GEN: FROM INNOVATION TO RETENTION
Next Great Idea Pitch

▸ First-Gen College Students
▸ Get a job & a mentor
▸ Requested 4 mentors & 4 student employees

Senior Mentors

▸ Library Staff & Faculty
▸ Mentors receive training & manual
FY17
49 applicants
10 selected
10 returned for sophomore year

FY18
60 applicants
12 selected
Received $$$ for peer mentors, including $1K scholarship.
Monthly meetings focused on:

- Professional development
- Study skills
- Time management
- Scholarships
- Social media
- Campus life
November Update

November brings cooler temperatures and colorful leaves - and deadlines. With midterms just over and finals looming, November can be a stressful time for freshmen.

This month’s meeting focuses on overcoming stress and finishing the semester strong and healthy. Academic success coaches from the LASSO Center will be presenting ways students can fight stress.

Don’t forget to share with your mentee your own tips on combating stress and talk with them about the resources available here on campus. Your mentor manual lists several of these including the Robert Center.

Upcoming

Nov. 1: Comic Con
Nov. 6: Tech Tuesday @2: Audio Mixology
Nov. 8: Paint Your Stress Away
Nov. 13: Science Cafe: Survival of Society after a Solar Superstorm

**Nov. 14: Stress management - mandatory**

Nov. 21-23: Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 29: Noon Concert feat. String and Flute Ensembles

Find more events at, calendar.okstate.edu

Tip to Share

If your mentee is missing their furry friends from home, they can get a puppy fix every week at the Library and other locations around campus. The Pete’s Pet Posse brings therapy dogs to campus on a regular schedule.

You’ll find the Posse at the Edmon Low Library on Mondays noon to 1 p.m., Tuesdays 6-7 p.m., and Wednesdays 2-3 p.m. Pete’s Pet Posse has also started visiting the Education and Teaching Library on the third Thursday of the month from 11 a.m. to noon. And you can also keep an eye out for handlers with dogs wearing the orange Posse vest.
BEING A MENTOR

Thumbs Up? Thumb Down?

- Emoticons
- Exclamation Points!
- Read Receipts
- Thank you's for routine replies
- No subject line

- Fun Sign Offs
- Dear....
- Signature lines
- Quotes
Challenges:
- Program approval
- Limited opportunities
  - Only hired 12/60 applicants
- Syncing schedules for monthly meetings
- Making initial contact between mentor and protege

Opportunities:
- Sense of belonging
  - The Library is a place to call home
- Expandability
  - More mentors means more students helped
- Scalability
  - Initial plan called for 4 participants and mentors
  - Now has total of 35 personnel involved
TAKEAWAYS

- Retention is *Job 1 for everyone*
- Mentorship programs are scalable
- Communication is key
- Through work & mentorship, the Library is a place to call home