

BRIDGING THE AGE DIVIDE THROUGH PLANNED PROFESSIONAL MENTORSHIP: "MENTORS TO BEARS"

Fung Fellowship | Osher Lifelong Institute (OLLI)

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Our Relevance

We designed a professional mentorship program to bring together older adults and college students of all backgrounds to form strong mentorship relationships. Our framework is robust enough to not only be implemented in the city of Berkeley, but also in college towns around the nation with communities that could benefit immensely from this design.

Our Value

While OLLI offers learning opportunities for its members, it hadn't been possible to create cross-generational professional and personal mentorship until our team developed an innovative program design during Spring 2020 that efficiently incorporated the needs of both the students and OLLI members involved.

Our Expertise

We developed our solution after extensive user research, through in-depth interviews with both OLLI members and students. We followed the design process closely with routine check-ins with our project partner, iterating through a few different prototypes before settling on one to test. We made use of the various class and community resources available to us to plan our user research, prototype development, and final showcase presentation.

About the Organization

OLLI is an older adult learning organization that provides older adults with an intellectual, cultural, and creative connection to the Cal community, as well as a place for Berkeley's distinguished faculty and others to share their research and interests.

Fung Fellowship works to address real-world challenges, engage with communities to understand needs, and develop viable solutions alongside industry and community partners. The Fellowship's learner-centered approach allows students to co-design their experience from crafting course content to sourcing future projects and collaborators.

Matching Algorithm

Professional Field + Myers Briggs compatibility (a test that specializes in measuring certain factors)

- Extraversion/introversion
- Sensing/intuition
- Thinking/feeling
- Judging/perceiving

Based on these factors we will be matching 5 mentors to each mentee. The mentors and mentees will engage in a "speed dating" round following their matches.



UC Berkeley's Premier Career Mentorship DeCal.

About Us

Welcome Back, Ryan!



Design Decisions: Focus is on creating an easy to use platform for older adults through simple navigation + bright colors (edited)

Hybrid Website

- Information about the DeCal
- Can access a portal through it

Portal Features

- My calendar
- Past workshops
- Tips for mentorship
- Messaging (mail button in header)
- Profile button in header (can access application here)

Messaging

Ability to message with mentor, receive mentorship matches after filling out application via messaging, etc.



MENTORS TO BEARS

Fung Institute X OLLI

Recruit students to our mentorship decal.

Students will input information about their personality, career goals, etc into our survey.

Students are matched to mentors based on their responses.

Mentors and mentees will teach one another and grow till end of the semester.

Decal will facilitate mentors and mentee meeting bi-weekly throughout the semester.

Mentors and mentees will come to our DeCal sponsored meet & greet event to solidify their pairing.

How might we

engage older adults and college students in a mutually beneficial mentorship?

Prototype Structure

Layout of the Program

Semester Long Decal

Who will Participate

UC Berkeley students and OLLI members

Commitments

Student will commit to two hour a week for one semester in our decal. Students will also foster a relationship their mentors outside of the decal.