

So far my mentor and I have only met once and since then I have been unable to reach her. In the time we met, she spoke about her time here at USF and over at Microsoft as a SDE. But, we also spoke much about the interests we have outside of CS, like her podcast, because that was a common interest we shared and a big reason why I felt she was a good match. In addition to that, I asked her to go more into her day to day as a SDE at Microsoft and she dove into what her schedule usually looks like and how she stays focused in her position. From the couple times we spoke, I feel she taught me the importance of my creativity and how even in the workplace you should remain creative. Also, she emphasized how important it is to believe in myself and my ideas, in the workplace and outside of CS, because if you do not believe in yourself/your idea then it will be easy for someone else to break you down or break down your ideas.

Next semester I hope I can have a consistent line of communication with my mentor. I hope to still discuss the intricacies of working in the tech industry and what it means to work in certain positions. I hope to discuss workplace politics in the industry, like who does what? Also, I would like to work closely with a mentor on interview questions and what companies are looking for depending on the position. Other than that I would just like to have a mentor who holds me accountable and who I can hold accountable in some way, but I also would like to

be able to speak with them on life and the struggles that may come on my journey and theirs if they choose to share.