

Jake Bergquist

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My main goal as a mentor is to support the development of my mentees into confident, and competent scientists. I believe it is important to emphasize that I intend to support this development, not direct it. I feel that the development should be directed by the mentee themselves and I can best serve as a mentor by providing a support structure in which they can grow, develop, explore, and learn.

In the field of Biomedicalengineering, researchers come from about as wide a background as they can in science. Often within the same lab there will be physicists working with neuroscientists, biochemists, and clinicians from across the world. This variety of background, discipline, and culture is also reflected in the mentees mentored within the Biomedicalengineering field. As such I believe it is important for us as mentors to be flexible in working with our mentees. We must be willing to work with them on subjects that they may have less experience with, and allow them to thrive in subjects they are experience in. This also often requires that the mentor must also be willing to learn and adapt their way of thinking and operating. This is, in my opinion, one of the most beneficial aspects of mentoring for the mentor: the opportunity to learn from one's mentees as much as they learn from the mentor.

During mentorship I will encourage mentees to identify key questions within their research, rather than dictating them. My mentorship style is based on discussion, which I feel allows for a mentee driven environment where the progress is directed and dictated by the mentee. This I feel allows the mentee to take ownership and pride in their progress. However, I feel a weakness of this style of mentorship is the potential for the mentee to not be pushed or motivated. I will strive to remedy this by discussing and setting clear expectations both in what I expect from the mentee and what they expect from me. I feel that a discussion of expectations and regular revising and revision of these, as a discussion between the mentee and myself, will serve to address challenges, and keep all parties involved motivated and focused. These discussion should result in clearly written goals and expectations from both sides which I feel will help guide the mentee through their research experience. By having a document we can frequently refer to and revise it allows both the mentor and mentee to keep each other accountable and understand the progress of the project. In the end I hope to foster in my mentees a sense of confidence that they can be self-driven and set their own goals and expectations to motivate and move them forwards. Personally I hope to learn as much as I can from my mentees as well.