“The meetings are going great! We have been able to talk about a variety of topics, and I have gained some valuable insight into what a career in industry could look like for me. I always end the meetings feeling encouraged.”

- Olivia Auell, Ph.D. candidate in Food Science

“I have been impressed with [my mentee] and the mentorship program as a whole. I have learned much about myself as a mentor and about the responsibilities associated with that development process. I can provide guidance in ways that only come in hindsight. And, that is personally and professionally rewarding.”

- Steven Houdek, Mentor

“My mentor has a wealth of knowledge and has already given me so many connections and new career paths to explore.”

- Sammi Fleckner, Junior in Agricultural and Food Business Management

“We have explored a couple options for the mentees career path and will continue to dive further into the areas within my position that may be of interest to the mentee. My mentee has been a pleasure to work with. I look forward to our continued meetings.”

- Chris Gindorff, Mentor

“It is going great. We had a good conversation about future internship possibilities, resume ideas and life situations in general. I have learned a lot from our few meetings and it has been nice to hear from someone who has already gone through the programs and experience that I am bound to go through in the near future.”

- Brittany Dilley, Junior in Nutrition

“Everything is going very well with my mentor and myself. He has been helpful in finding my career path and directing me towards success.”

- Nicholas Reps, Senior in Agricultural and Food Business Management
“Being involved in the mentor program allowed me grow and become more confident in my path to a career. My mentor helped me realize and remember why I’m doing what I’m doing and that it is attainable. She also helped me find my other interests that I’m exploring now.”

- Student

“Although I enjoyed all the occasions of meeting with my mentor, I particularly enjoyed shadowing her at work. It was inspiring to observe her work at a job for which she was clearly so passionate.”

- Student

“My mentor got me in contact with Janet Draper, who is in charge of one of the Smithsonian gardens in Washington D.C. She talked to me about my goal of working in a public garden and gave me interview advice, which I used to get a fabulous internship at Longwood Gardens that same week. None of this would have been possible without my mentor’s support.”

- Victoria Housewright, Junior in Horticulture

“Working with Jennifer opened me to a whole new realm of possibilities. I did not consider graduate school at the beginning of the year, but Jennifer gave me valuable information that I can use to continue my education. I was very happy that Jennifer supported me by writing a letter of recommendation for multiple internship positions. As a result, I was accepted into an REU program that I could have only dreamed of going to before the year started. I am learning a lot more about my field by talking with Jennifer, and I am more likely to ask questions because I know there is a lot out there that I don’t know. She is a great role model, giving me the confidence that I am heading in the right direction.”

- Louis Mielke, Junior in Environmental Science, Policy and Management

“It has been great! So far I have attended one job-shadowing event and have two more planned within the month thanks to the help of my mentor.”

- Collin Coltman, Junior in Residential Building Science and technology