USC School of Pharmacy Mentoring Programs and Activities Summary

The School of Pharmacy has attempted to bring in various types of mentoring programs to meet the various needs of faculty in both departments.

Mentoring by Senior Faculty and Peers
- All tenure-track faculty have a formal mentoring committee comprised of the chair, two other senior faculty and one or two faculty members in relevant areas outside the school. This committee meets twice annually and again as necessary to advise on appropriate development of the profile to be competitive for tenure and to allow multiple perspectives to aid in the development of a tenurable candidate.
- A similar mentoring committee focusing exclusively on research activities is also available to faculty.
- Senior faculty who are highly ranked by students for their teaching lead workshops to share their skills as educators with junior faculty.

Mentoring by Administrators
- The Vice Dean of Research informally mentors faculty on the preparation and submission of NIH and other grants and research papers and has helped review and edit proposals.
- As part of new faculty orientation, the School in coordination with the Office of Research offers a workshop titled “How to run a research lab”.
- Department chairs facilitate seminars in pharmaceutical economics and policy for faculty to inform and update their peers and students about their research. The goals are a) to expose faculty and students to the type of research that is conducted in this area, b) to update the faculty on the type of research conducted in the field from other schools and companies, and c) provide a networking forum for faculty and students to meet and discuss research issues associated with pharmaceutical economics.
- The Vice Dean of Faculty and Vice Deans of Research facilitate seminars for faculty who are up for interim review to educate them about the review process and help them prepare accordingly.

Mentoring by External Persons
- The School of Pharmacy works with various units and offices on campus and outside consultants to provide workshops to inform faculty about grant writing services, intellectual property issues, federal grant opportunities, and university research support resources.
- The School of Pharmacy also works with the University Research Office to provide workshops and seminars to enhance research productivity and identify opportunities to take on leadership roles for university research projects or develop large scale programs.