

Real information from real people – that’s what the Norco College Success Network is all about. But sometimes it’s hard to get started, to know what to ask, and to feel comfortable with openly exchanging information. If you’re not sure what to say to your mentor or how to engage your mentee, here are some discussion topics and activity ideas that can help get the career conversation going. For more information, visit [www.norcollege.edu/successnetwork](http://www.norcollege.edu/successnetwork).

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR STUDENTS**

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- Story Time** Ask your mentor about their educational and/or career journey. Find out how your mentor prepared for the transition from school to the professional world. Talk about how the mentor has dealt with personal or professional challenges. Ask about what your mentor would have done differently if he/she could prepare for his/her career over again.
- College Talk** Ask your mentor about the majors that best prepare students for successful entrance into the field. Find out how your mentor’s educational background played a role in his/her own career development.
- Career Climate** Discuss the current state of the mentor’s career field. Learn about prospective developments, anticipated changes, and potential opportunities.
- Current Events** Talk about current events or issues in the mentor’s field. Find out if your mentor has any insight into how current events will play a role in the future of your career field.
- Get Real** Ask your mentor for their best advice for a person like you.

### **ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR MENTORS**

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- Networking** Introduce your student to colleagues or other contacts. Suggest professional associations, websites, and/or other ways for your student to get connected.
- Resume Review** Look over the student’s resume and/or cover letter and make constructive suggestions about how to improve the document(s).
- Mock Interview** Offer to conduct a mock/practice interview with your student and provide feedback regarding the student’s interview performance.
- Job Shadowing** Schedule a time for your student to shadow you at your workplace or arrange for your student to shadow a colleague.
- Career Events** Attend a seminar or meet up at a conference related to your career field.