



Road M@P to Success

Volume 3/ Issue 1

M@P in the COVID-19 Era

As the world continues to navigate the ongoing pandemic, we are all adjusting the way we operate. M@P isn't excluded from these changes. Throughout the spring and summer of 2020, M@P has taken the time to carefully consider how our programs would look for the 2020-2021 academic year. We are pleased to announce that M@P will continue to offer our monthly workshops and Annual Invited Lecture Series! We are even more excited to share that, for the first time, all of our programs will be available globally beyond Purdue's campus!

Up to now, our programs were only marketed and available to those on Purdue's campus. Moving forward, we will live stream our events for our entire M@P community and others! We will also make captioned recordings available shortly after each event. We hope we can bring M@P resources to even more people across the nation. You can find our event schedule on our newly updated website. We are not limiting our virtual plans to our workshops and Invited Lecture Series. We also decided to host the 2021 M@P Summer Scholars Program (M@P-SSP) virtually.

M@P-SSP has been an in-person event for the last six years and has brought more than 100 scholars to campus. We had to cancel the 2020 M@P-SSP Program because of travel restrictions and to protect everyone's safety during quarantine. We do not want to risk canceling again next year, nor do we want to endanger the safety of our community or any of our future scholars. The 2021 virtual M@P SSP Program is tentatively scheduled for June 11-12, 2021. As always, we hope to provide future scholars with a meaningful experience. We will release additional details in the coming months.



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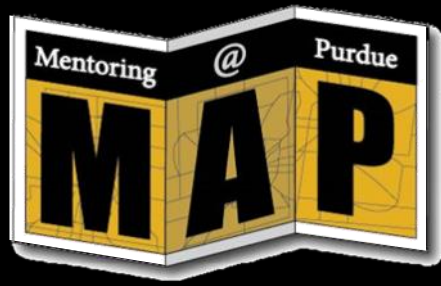
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M@P Invited Lecture Series



M@P invited Michelle Edwards to Purdue University for the seventh annual Invited Lecture Series on March 4, 2020. Dr. Edwards is the System Senior Vice President for Advanced Practice at CommonSpirit Health in Denver, Colorado. She received her BSN from the University of Alabama, her MSN from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and her DNP from the University of Texas. With nearly 25 years of experience in healthcare, Dr. Edwards focuses on compassionate, patient-centered, high-quality care with outstanding system and patient outcomes. The M@P team was excited to have her come to campus and speak about, "Mentoring: A Modern-Day Strategic Imperative for Women, People of Color, and the Organizations Who Need Them." She shared her experiences with us about the struggles she has had overcome to reach the highest levels of success in her career.

Mentoring through COVID-19

As shared earlier in our newsletter, the COVID-19 crisis has significantly affected every aspect of our lives from how we live, work, and play. Recognizing the myriad changes facing us each day, the Mentoring@Purdue (M@P) program leadership team made the decision to quickly move our programmatic activities into a virtual format. The first M@P activity we took to a virtual format was the monthly workshops, which we now refer to as our monthly webinars. The first virtual webinar held on April 15, 2020 was titled, "Providing Effective Graduate Student Mentoring during the COVID-19 Crisis." This webinar provided tips on how faculty could mentor students in times of crisis. The guest panel engaged participants in a discussion on how faculty and staff could best address the mentoring needs of graduate students to ensure they adjust well, thrive, and continue to persist toward degree completion. The webinar focused on: 1) maintaining physical and mental health and well-being; 2) identifying proper support mechanisms; 3) developing effective coping strategies; and 4) persisting toward degree completion. A recording can be found on our M@P YouTube page. At least for the immediate future, all of our M@P program of activities will be switched to a virtual format so stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

M@P Team Member Spotlights!

As a team, we think it is important to feature all of the exceptional work that our team members are engaged in. Here, we spotlight three of our M@P team members: Zachary Brown, Ryan Kornegay, and Arionne Patterson. All three are alumni of 1890 Land-Grant institutions that M@P has partnered with.

Zachary Brown, the program coordinator for M@P, is a graduate of Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is a doctoral student in the Department of Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication (ASEC).

Ryan Kornegay, the M@P coordinator for digital and social media, is a graduate of Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. He is a master's student in ASEC.

Arionne Patterson, the M@P coordinator for social media AND marketing, is a graduate of Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, Texas. She is a master's student in ASEC.

We hope that their words of wisdom, encouragement, and experiences about how to effectively navigate mentoring relationships and graduate education through these trying times will inspire you. You are truly in for a treat!

Zachary Brown



What does mentoring mean to you in general and during this time of COVID-19?

I view mentoring as being the process of providing meaningful support to a mentee by providing accountability and support for achieving professional and/or personal goals. I also believe that mentors should use their lived experiences to help to ground mentees. They can do this by reminding mentees that not all aspects of life can be controlled, like the COVID-19 pandemic, and that sometimes you have to adjust plans.

What advice would you give to someone interested in graduate education?

Graduate education should only be a *part* of your life, not your whole life. When you enter graduate school, make time to live your life to the fullest. Explore the city, state, and country surrounding the graduate school of your choice. Engage in activities on campus. Spend time with friends. Graduate education can provide access to fantastic career opportunities in the future, but you need to remember to live for today.

What is one of your most memorable experiences being a mentor/or being mentored?

The most memorable experience that I have had being a mentor is when a former mentee told me about the positive impact I've had on their life. Hearing that I was able to help someone grow and find confidence helped me realize I was on the right path. It also encouraged me to be willing to continue to act as a mentor

Ryan Kornegay



What does mentoring mean to you in general and during this time of COVID-19?

To me, mentoring is the process of building supportive relationships with individuals who take on the selfless act of trying to help mentees progress toward their goals. The ultimate goal is the development of better people for a better world. Authenticity is the best approach to these relationships. The “new norm” that we have been experiencing with COVID-19 has only further emphasized the need for authentic mentor/mentee relationships as distance, mental health, and uncertainty have all become components of our daily lives.

What advice would you give to someone interested in graduate education?

Follow your passion! If you know that you want to become more of an expert in a field or even expand your skills/knowledge then you should definitely pursue those opportunities. I encourage you to surround yourself with people who are either experts or trying to become experts in your area(s) of interest to help you attain your academic/professional goals. However, the key is to also find your community of support that will help you even outside of academic settings. Don't allow yourself to burnout with no support.

What is one of your most memorable experiences being a mentor/or being mentored?

I would have to say the highlight and most memorable moments for me come from seeing my mentees excel! In undergrad I served as the President of a Mentoring Organization. Many of these relationships are still current and it is just amazing to see mentees not only express the impact of these relationships as they excel in their fields, but to also see them become mentors and pay it forward. Each one, Reach one... TRUE Servant-Leadership.

Arionne Patterson



What does mentoring mean to you in general and during this time of COVID-19?

Mentoring to me is a relationship that is developed with an accomplished individual who provides guidance and support to a person that aspires to be in a similar field. COVID-19 has been a difficult time for many and the need for extra support should be encouraged in mentoring relationships. Mentors should not only focus on the scholarly output that is expected, but also focus on the health and well being of their mentees so that they are able to deliver incredible work.

What advice would you give to someone interested in graduate education?

Always keep your eyes on the prize and do what's best for you! If a graduate education fits your professional and academic aspirations I say go for it but only do it if you think it a good decision for *you!* You want to make sure at the end of the day *you're* happy! Once you feel that sense of happiness in your decision it will reassure and remind you of your purpose and the goal you set to achieve in that process.

What is one of your most memorable experiences being a mentor/or being mentored?

The most memorable experience that I have had being a mentor is seeing firsthand the impact I am making in someone else's life. It's a great feeling to see someone develop overtime and become the best version of themselves. As a mentor, being a part of a mentees development is the best feeling in the world and motivates me to continue to lend a helping hand and serve others.

"M@P Wrap-Up"

On behalf of the entire M@P team, we would like to thank you for taking the time to read our fall newsletter! We invite all of you to join us this semester for our fall webinar series lineup! Check below for the schedule and information on how to connect to the workshops. You will not want to miss out on the discussion! The M@P team is proud to announce the launch of our new website, please feel free to check it out and stay tuned for more upcoming M@P events.

www.asec.purdue.edu/map

Check out our Fall 2020 M@P Webinars

Technology Tools for Virtual Mentoring

September 23, 2020

Noon - 1pm

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gatmNsoTgtk&feature=emb_title

Effective Mental Health Strategies

for Mentoring through COVID

October 21, 2020

Noon - 1pm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gatmNsoTgtk&feature=youtu.be>

Mentoring for Career Readiness and Advancement Beyond the Academic Setting

December 2, 2020

Noon - 1pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 963 9496 1339

Passcode: 237858

