

Duties of a Faculty Internship Mentor

Career Services would like to thank all the faculty members who have sponsored an internship since the fall of 1999. The faculty mentor is an important part of a Centre College academic credit internship. Without the faculty mentor, there would be no academic credit for an internship.

The main responsibility of a faculty mentor is to establish the link between the student's academic experience and the internship experience. The faculty mentor will work with the student to establish an "academic component" to an internship experience. This component, which is set out by the student and faculty mentor in the student's internship contract before the start of the internship, often consists of readings, a paper, a research project, and/or a journal. Other projects can be established at the faculty mentor's discretion. The faculty mentor also meets with the student at approximately the midterm to review progress and discuss any issues that may arise. In addition, the faculty mentor may follow up with the intern's employer sponsor or Career Services will be happy to follow up with the employer.

Faculty mentors also attend a fifteen-minute presentation given by the student intern at the end of the term. In the case of CentreTerm, the presentations will be given at the beginning of spring term. These presentations are coordinated in groups of three or four students. The faculty mentor and students will stay for all the presentations during their hour to an hour-and-a-half time slot. Once the presentation is completed and the academic component evaluated, the faculty mentor will submit a designation of either "credit" if satisfactory or "no-credit" if not satisfactory. Career Services also may judge an internship unsatisfactory if the student has failed to attend the required meetings. In summary, the faculty mentor helps design and evaluate the student's academic experience as an integral component of the internship and as a complement to the internship employment experience.