



# Exploring the mentor-mentee relationship: A mixed methods study

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## Abstract

Undergraduate research and creative activities are well-established high-impact practices that provide students with both advanced knowledge of their academic disciplines and the ability to apply that knowledge to creatively answer "big questions". These activities are usually centered on the close relationship between a mentor and a student researcher; the purpose of this study is to better understand this relationship. Using survey and focus group data from recent undergraduate researchers at George Mason University, we investigate how mentor-mentee relationships develop, evolve over time, and influence the students' perceived competencies in research and creative activities. This presentation will summarize the findings of the IRB approved study and offer recommendations for supporting these valuable relationships.