Applying a Growth Mindset When Working with Students

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Overview of Undergraduate Research

- ▶ To increase exposure and hands on experience in research in order to encourage a pursuit of advance degrees and careers in a scientific field.
- ▶ Students' perception of self and abilities:
 - ▶ The beginning
 - ► The achievements
 - ► The end goal
- ► For the underrepresented student there is a balancing act of shifting challenges into opportunities to ensure a growth mindset.

The Undergraduate Student

- ▶ Role Models that influence the process:
 - ► Family/Friends
 - **▶** Peers
 - ► Mentor

- ▶ The reality of college campuses for students of color
 - ► The lack of structural diversity on college campuses can have a direct effect on student success
 - ► Microaggressions and their impact on students' psychological, social-emotional and intellectual development

The Undergraduate Student

- ▶ The Different Types of Students We Work With:
 - ▶ The focused
 - ▶ Represent who you expect to see in graduate school
 - ► The disorganized
 - ▶ Need to learn the basic skills of time management, goal setting etc.
 - ► The overinvolved
 - ▶ The underrepresented student that becomes the representation of all
 - ► The parentified student
 - ► Family responsibilities that take priority over all else

The Faculty Mentor

- ▶ The Mentor:
 - ▶ Building without over burdening
 - ▶ The realities of being a faculty member of color
 - ► The need for allies with privilege
 - ► Access and resources
- ► Mentor-Mentee relationship:
 - ► Culturally Responsive Mentoring
 - ▶ Developing trust

Lessons Learned

- ► Recognizing unconscious biases:
 - ► Recognizing the biases in the room
 - ► Advocacy for mentees

- ► Scaffolding in context:
 - ▶ Recognizing and acknowledging the student's experience
 - ► Ensuring the student embraces a growth mindset

Why Underrepresented Students are Our Greatest Assets

- ► Misconceptions Perpetuated:
 - ► The deficit model

- ▶ Personal Experience:
 - Access to the inaccessible

► A Unique Lens

Ensuring that we Build a Strong Foundation

- ► The "Island" effect:
 - ► Validating the isolation issue
 - ► The importance of peers
- ▶ Building Self-Compassion:
 - ► Understanding the "racial battle fatigue"
 - ► Recognizing the challenges that will be encountered
- Staying Connected:
 - ► Valuing the mentor-mentee relationship

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