



The University of Georgia®

Teaching Academy

March 23, 2013

Dear President Elect Morehead,

The Mentoring and Advising Working Group discussed three problem areas and we are proposing three action items to address challenges and improve strategies for **better mentoring and advising** at the University of Georgia (UGA). The action items are: (1) to formalize institutional support, (2) to create a Mentoring Academy, and (3) to develop a Graduate Odyssey Program.

Currently, when a faculty member mentors a junior member through co-teaching a course, the course credit hours are split, requiring faculty members to make up those hours, in some cases, via additional teaching. We propose the implementation of **institutional support** in the form of a course release for the junior faculty mentored through co-teaching, and crediting the full hours to the senior faculty engaged in mentoring the junior faculty.

In order to recognize the value of mentoring across campus, we suggest the creation of a **Mentoring Academy**. The goal of the Mentoring Academy is to develop excellence in mentoring at UGA. The Academy would create a network of identified faculty members who have an interest in mentoring other faculty. Members of the Mentor Academy will not only mentor fellow faculty, but teach them how to be mentors themselves. In addition, this could operate as a network for graduate students seeking additional mentoring or professional advice. This Academy could be a possible action item for the UGA Capital Campaign.

Finally, in order to support Graduate Students in the area of professionalization, we suggest the creation of a **Graduate Odyssey Program**. These one-credit hour cross-disciplinary classes in professionalization are aimed at developing our next generation of mentors, teachers and scholars.

We appreciate the opportunity to bring these action items to your attention in the area of mentoring at UGA. Please find attached our PowerPoint slide. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Mentoring and Advising Working Group

Mentoring and Advising