

Effective Practices in Mentoring: Closing the Gap and Easing the Transition

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Abstract

Mentoring is touted as a way to close the gap, and to ease the transition to work for interpreting students. It is also used by seasoned interpreters who value on-going growth and life-long learning. This presentation presents information about current and effective practices in mentoring that are being offered nation-wide.

Introduction to Our Goals

Mentoring has become a familiar buzz word in recent years, with workshops, courses, and academic programs becoming available for interpreters. As students continue to graduate from interpreting programs with gaps in their skills, and with the transition from program to profession sometimes difficult to make, mentoring has been touted as a way to close the gap, and to ease the transition. It is also used, albeit much less frequently, by seasoned, certified interpreters who value on-going growth and life-long learning.

The term, mentoring, is applied to many different behaviors, actions, and goals. People have been "mentoring" for many years. In fact, few people agree about what "mentoring" really