Volunteer First-Year Student Mentors Needed For Seahawk LEADS!

Academic and student affairs would like to launch a new program this Spring aimed at students who seek out some additional informal mentoring and support. We are calling it Seahawk LEADS (Leadership, Empowerment, Academic Development and Success)! UNCW has long prided itself on being a place where students are treated as individuals, cared about by a campus community that wants to see them accomplish their academic goals, and thrive as lifelong learners and members of the Seahawk family. From move-in Saturday to convocation group leaders, we have many faculty and staff on campus who already do a little something extra to help first-year students find their feet, and we want to preserve and strengthen this vital part of who we are even while we grow. We would like to recruit interested faculty and staff willing to informally mentor a student looking for some support, and help strengthen their human connection to UNCW. Connecting is meant to be informal; it can be as simple as offering to share a cup of coffee once or twice, or being a voice of encouragement if needed.

Anyone who works for UNCW and is willing to be paired with a student is welcome to apply; all we ask is that you send us a paragraph about why you’d like to help (maybe you are paying back someone who once supported you!) and that you be willing to attend a lunch/training session (only one, we promise!) and then extend an invitation to meet after we match you with ONE student. No special skills required, just a willingness to help keep UNCW a welcoming place and to be an encouraging presence.

If you register your interest here we will be in touch soon, and thank you for all that you already do to help students know that they belong!

If you have questions about the program, feel free to contact Paul Townend or Melinda Anderson.

Melinda Anderson
Director, University College

Pat Leonard
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

Paul Townend
Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Undergraduate Studies