

Kyle McWreath, ('16) – Mentee

The CUmentor program has been very beneficial since I was first introduced to it in the fall semester of 2015. I am very grateful for the professional relationship I built with my mentor because it opened up a lot of opportunities and helped me expand my perception of what I thought the professional workplace entailed.

As a rising senior, I definitely felt anxiety about finding a rewarding job opportunity in the career field I was seeking and making the next step into the beginning of my professional life. The CUmentor program was very instrumental in helping me manage this anxiety because it enabled me to build and maintain a relationship with a successful alumni who was established in the same field I was seeking to enter. It was rewarding because my mentor was in the same exact situation that I was in not so long ago. She was able to relate to my situation and offer insight into the job search process as well as what the day in the life of a professional entailed in the business world. She provided insight on what she would have done differently during the process and offered advice on strategies that would optimize my job search process. I was able to employ the strategies that were offered and I believe this utilization made a tremendous difference in finding a great job opportunity.

Overall, the program has so much to offer students regardless of their academic class standing. The program offers an exciting opportunity for current students to build relationships with alumni who are eager to help with the complex transition process in any way that they can. This connection opportunity is without a doubt worthwhile because of the valuable insight that each mentor has to offer. In my experience at college, I have learned that exposure to a theoretical and practical application of a career field in the classroom is only part of the process of finding a meaningful and rewarding career. The other integral part of the process is the ability to network with professionals and build mutually beneficial relationships in order to obtain information to what a career has to offer. The CUmentor program covers the second part of this process and its implementation is a great stride in better preparing Clarion University students for success in the professional world.

