FREEDM INDUSTRY MENTORING

Industry members consistently report that one of the greatest values of their membership in an NSF Engineering Research Center is access to knowledgable, qualified graduates. For our students, interaction with corporate members is important for developing diverse, innovative, global engineering leaders with the soft skills needed for today’s workforce. The FREEDM Industry Mentoring program is designed to foster this development and connection.

WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM AN INDUSTRY MENTOR?
Industry members are expected to provide one to two hours per month of direct contact with their student mentee. Face to face meetings are preferred but phone calls or Skype conversations can be just as effective. After getting to know one another, the student may seek advice on everything from industry trends to help on research problems to professional development suggestions. The student leads the effort and the mentor shares their experience.

WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM A STUDENT?
Students are expected to lead the process. The Center helps to make the initial connection and periodically checks in with both mentor and mentee. Students are expected to show professional courtesy and respect the time commitment of the mentor. This is a chance to learn about the transition from academia to the workforce.

WANT TO PARTICIPATE?
If your company is a member of FREEDM or if you are an affiliated student, please contact Dr. Pam Page Carpenter, Education Program Director, at ppcarpen@ncsu.edu.

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freedm.ncsu.edu