Background
The Spring 2004 Mentoring survey was implemented to benchmark the mentors Texas A&M students use, how those mentors were chosen, the frequency of the meetings, and other pertinent information regarding mentoring relationships. Contact was attempted with 1543 graduate and undergraduate students. Thirty percent (30%), or 463 students, agreed to participate in the survey.

Definition
A mentor is a significant, trusted, and experienced advisor, supporter, guide, counselor, and teacher for another person. A mentor is usually a more experienced person who provides advice and supports the progress of a less-experienced person.

Results
Based on this definition, do you current have one or more mentors?
- 63% said yes

If yes, how many mentors do you currently have?
- 32% said they had one mentor
- 35% said they had two mentors
- 34% said they had three or more mentors

If no, for what reasons do you not have a mentor? (select all that apply)
- 41% said they did not want or need a mentor

Mentoring Statements
Students were asked to indicate their level of agreement with statements regarding mentoring.
- 91% agreed they would go to a mentor for advice
- 82% agreed that having a mentor is important for professional development
- 77% agreed that they would go to a mentor for a listening ear
- 73% agreed they would feel comfortable asking someone to be their mentor
- 69% agreed that having a mentor is important for personal development

I have used a mentor who is a member of the ATMentors program (they would have a placard indicating their membership).
- 89% said no

What relationship does your mentor(s) have to you? (select all that apply)
- 40% said faculty member
- 31% said academic advisor
- 23% said relative (parent, sibling, cousin)

Who serves as your primary mentor? (select one)
- 58 students said a relative serves as their primary mentor

What topics do you discuss with your primary mentor? (select all that apply)
- 73% said Academic Goals
- 73% said Career Plans
- 70% said Friendships

What is the main topic you discuss with your primary mentor? (select one)
- 89 students said Career Plans

In what age range does your primary mentor fit?
- 30% said ages 41-50
- 21% said ages 31-40
- 18% said ages 51-60

How did you establish a relationship with your primary mentor? (select one)
- 58% formed a relationship naturally over time

On average, how often do you interact with your primary mentor? (select one)
- 50% meet weekly

What three main methods of contact are used by you and your primary mentor? (select three)
- The three main methods were email messages, telephone calls, and face-to-face meetings at a private home

How long has your primary mentoring relationship existed? (select one)
- 30% said one to two years
- 29% said five or more years
- 23% said three to four years

Prepared on: May 6, 2004
For a complete report, please visit the Student Life Studies web page.