

First, let me thank all of you for agreeing to work with the CNU Faculty Mentoring Program. We have 17 mentors and we are really off to a good start!

As a reminder, the CNU Faculty Mentor Program is intended to ease the transition of new faculty into the culture of Christopher Newport. Junior faculty often report clarity in departmental requirements and expectations while simultaneously reporting that they are somewhat unaware of larger institutional dynamics. Moreover, some junior faculty indicate that they feel uncomfortable asking some questions of departmental colleagues. Our goal here is to provide a friendly and non-threatening guide into the CNU tradition. Mentors will not serve on their mentee's DRC or in any other way provide information for evaluations of the mentee which will encourage confidential and frank consultation between the mentor and the mentee.

Early next week, all mentors will be matched with mentees. I will make sure that you have e-mail contacts and phone numbers. As a mentor, we need you to take the first step with you mentee by contacting them and setting the initial meeting. It needn't be an extended dinner, but we encourage you to have a face to face meeting. This is not a lock-step program with meeting requirements and listed protocols; it is intended for peer engagement and guidance not heavy-handed directives.

I'll be in touch next week,

T. Nathaniel "Nate" French  
Chair, Faculty Senate Mentor Committee