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SWOSU Launches Innovative Student Support Program

Southwestern Oklahoma State University is launching an innovative mentorship program designed to provide comprehensive support for incoming students on the Weatherford campus.

SWOSU Mentor Collective is an online mentorship program that matches students with peers to help students set and achieve their goals—both academic and personal.

Dr. Wendy Yoder, director of the SWOSU Academic Support Center, said the vision for the program aligns with several initiatives laid out in SWOSU strategic priorities, including student success, engagement and retention. The program aims to help these students meet a range of unique challenges by providing them with personalized support from peers with similar experiences.

Through SWOSU Mentor Collective, students will now have ongoing access to a network of mentors trained to offer guidance and advice. Students will be matched with a personal mentor based on common academic interests, career goals, life challenges and experiences. Students can also use the platform's discussion guides and goal-setting activities to spark meaningful conversations with their mentors. Topics range from time management and work-life balance to networking and job-seeking advice.

The launch of SWOSU Mentor Collective reflects the latest research on the positive impacts of personalized, student-centered programs. Mentorship is an effective tool to [increase graduation](#) rates and academic achievement in higher education.

SWOSU Mentor Collective is actively enrolling students and mentors for the 2021-22 school year. Students who are interested in learning more about the program should contact Yoder in the Academic Support Center at (580) 774-6037 or wendy.yoder@swosu.edu.

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