

UC Geology Alumni Mentoring – 2014

Goals

Some very accomplished UC Geology alumni have agreed to participate in our inaugural 2014 Alumni Mentoring Program. This alumni mentoring is not intended to supplant the already strong mentoring you receive from your UC faculty members, but instead is designed to provide an outside perspective for those preparing to enter the working world. Our alumni have successfully extended their UC Geology education into challenging and rewarding careers. For simplicity (and indeed numerous alumni have crossed these artificial lines), general career paths have been identified as:

- Academia
- Environmental Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Government
- Museums, etc.
- Oil and Gas

What's a mentor?

In general usage, a Mentor is someone who imparts wisdom to and shares knowledge with a less experienced colleague. Wikipedia defines mentoring as "a process for the informal transmission of knowledge, social capital, and the psychosocial support perceived by the recipient as relevant to work, career, or professional development; mentoring entails informal communication, usually face-to-face and during a sustained period of time, between a person who is perceived to have greater relevant knowledge, wisdom, or experience (the mentor) and a person who is perceived to have less (the protégé)".

How will this UC Geology Mentoring Program work?

Although many companies and universities use a similar robust mentoring program for their employees and students, our UC Geology Alumni mentoring program is intended to be much more limited in scope and duration. The program's overall concept is that folks who have walked in your shoes at UC, have successfully navigated that education into rewarding careers, and they stand ready to provide perspective on how to make that happen for you.

The alumni mentors have agreed to talk personally with you. Their email addresses and phone numbers have been willingly provided. The best way to initiate contact is for the student to email a mentor. If a follow-up phone conversation is needed, you and your mentor can establish a good time.

What the mentors have agreed to help provide:

Your mentors are experienced resources with a broad perspective of their industries. Questions they can help answer:

- What are the career opportunities in this field?
- What does a typical career look like?
- What are the good and bad of a career in this industry?
- What types of entry level jobs are typical?
- What's required to get hired?
- How does the hiring process work?

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **This mentoring program is for UC Geology students only.**
- **The mentors are not hiring officers, and they should not be solicited to find you a job. Please respect this guideline. It will help make the mentoring process much more rewarding and effective.**
- **This mentoring program is for UC Geology students only.**
- **Yes, the mentors are very busy. But they have agreed to find time to help the students. Please use this resource thoughtfully, and both parties will be rewarded.**
- **Any questions, comments or anything else about this program, please contact John Thaeler – john.thaeler@vexpl.com**