

Be a Mentor

by: Steve Snelling

After you have been working for a little while (following graduation), consider becoming a Mentor either at your university, or at a local community college, or at a local high school. Mentoring is fun and fairly easy to get started doing. You could start by being a mentor to a local high school student who is interested in engineering.

Mentoring is a focused way of helping an individual, one-on-one. It is a great way to pass on any lessons learned, in a very concise way, thus ultimately helping the profession. Most Mentors were also mentored during their career, so it is a great way to “pay it forward”.

When you are being a Mentor, focus on the individual and their current needs & questions. Help them broaden their vision of what they really want to do, and help them learn about Industrial Engineering as a career, or prepare later for their Job Search & Job Interviews. Show some examples of the type of work you have done, so they can make the connection to real IE work.