

WHITTIER COLLEGE
INDIGENOUS FOOD SYSTEMS
UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
MENTOR AGREEMENT

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a fellowship mentor. The information below summarizes the programs' aims, goals, and the duties expected of mentors.

The fundamental objective of Indigenous Food Systems Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship is to support a student to engage in a substantial undergraduate academic research with a faculty mentor. To encourage full immersion in the project, the fellowship is intended to support students' work during the summer.

Mentoring plays a huge role in academic development. Through their guidance and example, mentors help direct students toward achieving the goal of their research project, and growth as academics and professionals.

Research Mentorship Overview: As a mentor, you can demystify the formal and informal aspects of engaging in scholarly work. In the mentoring relationship, the sharing of personal experience and the transmission of knowledge intersect in a trusting learning environment that should provide opportunities for both you and your fellow to stretch beyond your boundaries.

The Responsibilities of the Research Mentor: As a mentor you are responsible for overseeing your fellow's research project. The work conducted throughout the fellowship should inform the fellow in the practices that scholars and professionals follow in a selected discipline or field. The work or project should not duplicate the work required in a course but can be the same as their senior "paper in the major." In fact, we recommend that the fellow use their fellowship work or project as part of their "paper in the major" if possible. The fellow's work should not interfere with their academic progress but should complement and reinforce it. Your fellow will be required to submit a progress report in June, signed by you, in order to receive the second installment of their stipend. You will also be required to authorize the student's final report, after which the student will receive the third and final installment of their stipend.

Research Ethics & Safety Compliance Notice: Please be aware that your mentee's proposed project must adhere to Whittier College policies addressing research ethics and safety compliance. If the student's project is awarded and involves human subjects, vertebrate animals, hazardous materials, infectious agents, recombinant DNA, or genetically altered organisms, it may require institutional approval before fellowship funds can be disbursed. Please familiarize yourself in advance with the policies and procedures so that you can guide your mentee accordingly (website: <https://www.whittier.edu/academics/researchethics>). Pay special attention to compliance committee deadlines and assist your mentee in planning an alternate approach in the event the project is not approved.

I have read the Mentor Agreement and Research Ethics & Safety Compliance Notice, and I agree to serve as the mentor for

Please print fellow name here

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____