

# ACE LINKS

*ACE Mentoring Program Quarterly Newsletter*



## CREATIVE MENTORING

Creative mentorship challenges us to reimagine more common or traditional mentoring interactions, granting us with a more playful approach that enables curiosity to take the lead. When we doodle a thought or bring imagination into play, our interactions can unlock new insights and ways of connecting. Creativity becomes a shared canvas where we can explore, experiment, spark ideas, uncover new perspectives, and build deeper connections in surprising ways.

Draw a quick abstract sketch of a shape, color, or symbol that represents where you are in this moment or where you want this mentoring relationship to go. Perhaps you may want to pick up an object or pull up a picture of something that represents your current mindset. Take a minute to consider a challenge you are experiencing as a landscape. Is it an ocean, thick jungle, open field, mountain? Share this image or object with your mentor/mentee and unpack its meaning together.

## check-in WITH YOURSELF

We invite you to pause and reflect on giving and receiving support, emotional load, and communal hope.

- What in my life do I currently approach with more curiosity than certainty?
- What would it look like to co-create something — a map, a story, a vision — instead of exchanging an update?
- What creative medium feels most natural to me — drawing, storytelling, building, movement — and how might I use it to express something I can't quite put into words?
- When was the last time I let myself play, imagine, or explore without worrying about my effectiveness?

A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO CHECK-IN WITH YOUR MENTOR/MENTEE!  
CREATIVE MENTORING EDITION!

# FRANKLIN D. MURPHY SCULPTURE GARDEN ACTIVITY

## “Sculpture Self-Portrait”

- Pick a Sculpture that represents how you feel today.
- Explain why.

or

## “Choose Your Sculpture, Choose Your Story”

Each person picks a sculpture and shares:

- What you notice first
- What emotion or idea it evokes
- A short story (30 seconds) inspired by the sculpture

Feel free to choose another creative and fertile space on campus, such as the Botanical Garden. You can substitute plants for sculptures. Or feel free to be inspired by the campus as your muse. Use your favorite nook or spot to tell your story or relate it to your mood.

If you are not able to connect on campus, choose an object or piece of art at home or on a museum website.

“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes.”

-Marcel Proust  
*Parisian novelist, essayist, and literary critic*

Stay  
Connected  
with ACE



## UPCOMING EVENTS

ACE MENTORING PRESENTS  
BEYOND THIS PAIRING:  
WHERE WILL YOU GROW  
FROM HERE?

THURSDAY, MAY 21ST  
3:00-4:00 PM VIA ZOOM

REGISTRATION TO FOLLOW

ACE END OF YEAR  
PICNIC

WED. JUNE 17TH  
12:00PM-1:30PM

IN PERSON  
RSVP TO FOLLOW

Interested in the ACE Mentoring Program?  
Have an event or resource you would like to share in a future issue of ACE Links?

Email [ace@college.ucla.edu](mailto:ace@college.ucla.edu) for more information!



## ACE MENTORING COMMITTEE

Sue Abeles	Cyndi Ichinose
Jessica Amaya	Shahla Moreno
Marian Gabra	Carina Salazar

Alina Avila  
ACE Links Co-Editor