



The Carlson School of Management is seeking alumni in the business community to mentor undergraduate students this fall. The Mentor role is to be advisors to Impact Lab students - a required experiential program serving clients with real-world problems. Mentors will be serving as a safe person for students to bring questions to and to be able to respond with stories (both successful and less-than-successful) from their own careers. Coaching and project materials will be provided to mentors by the course instructors. Mentors are guides and a professional voice: helping the team to move their planning and execution process, ensuring they are framing the problem correctly, and following through. Being a professional voice may include facilitating conversations, providing advice, and acting as a stakeholder for roadmaps, updates, and share-outs.

MENTOR COMMITMENT

- Mentor a team of 4-6 students who will work as a group throughout the semester.
- Meet virtually with the student group via zoom for **30-minute Mentor Calls 3-4 times throughout the semester**. Note: This commitment is to meet with the group, not individual meetings with each member.
- Attend virtual onboarding meeting, which will cover curriculum and course details.

IDEAL MENTOR

No ideal mentor exists; students respond to various backgrounds, personalities, and communication styles. We seek diverse mentors from every background and in every phase of their careers. Broadly we are looking for mentors who will:

- Model an approachable attitude. Remember that these are undergrad students who are out of their comfort zone.
- Bring the diverse experience and real-world examples of success and failure from their careers to the problem-solving process.
- Help your group of business students develop a methodology of: identifying the problem, analyzing the issue, and delivering compelling recommendations.
- Ask challenging questions and help to reframe the problem or rework the solution if needed.

Mentor applications are currently open at <https://z.umn.edu/ImpactLab>. The deadline to apply for the Spring 2024 semester is Friday, January 11, 2024. Contact impactlab@umn.edu with any questions. Thank you! - Amee McDonald, Impact Lab Managing Director, at amcdonal@umn.edu