AAA’s Career Mentor Network

AAA’s career mentor network has been developed to assist student, postdoc, and early-career faculty members with their transition into the field of anatomy and help them meet their professional development and networking goals. AAA Fellows and members of the AAA Advisory Committee for Young Anatomists Alumni Association (AAA’s) are considered leaders in the AAA community and have volunteered to serve as resources for student, postdoc and young faculty members. The program is designed to be informal and flexible- there is no minimum time commitment required. In fact, it is up to the pair to determine the scope of the relationship. Participants will self-select an individual from a list of advisor volunteers based on their area of interest or needs.

AAA Career Networking Program Guidelines

AAA’s Career Mentor Network is designed to help student, postdoc and young faculty members develop their careers with the advice of more experienced members. Because the program is set up for the benefit of the advisee, the student or postdoc is expected to contact the career advisor to set up the first discussion, during which both parties should reach a clear understanding of what they expect from each other. They should agree on the frequency, duration, and method (phone, email, in person) of meetings. It is important to note that there is no specific time requirement involved. Some career advisor/advisee pairs may choose only to have one contact in order to address a specific issue while others may choose to have an ongoing relationship.

Career advisors can offer support, encouragement and useful information. It is important to establish how issues of confidentiality will be dealt with. The career advisor/advisee pair should agree to a no-fault conclusion of the relationship if either party feels that the intended goal is not being achieved, without either blaming the other.

Advisees can select more than one career advisor, perhaps for different purposes, and career advisors can counsel more than one advisee.

Program FAQs

Q: What type of commitment is involved?
There is no specific time commitment required. It is the responsibility of you and your career advisor to decide on any rules or the structure at the beginning so you both have a clear understanding of expectations. The partnership is what you make of it.

It is designed as an informal and flexible program: career advisors and advisees determine the scope of the relationship. Volunteer career advisors will help guide you with career and professional issues.

Q: Who are AAA’s career advisors and how do I select one?
AAA career advisors are Fellows and members of the AAA Advisory Committee for Young Anatomists Alumni Association (AAA’s).

It is up to the advisee to select and initiate contact with a career advisor. To browse or search the online database, visit http://www.anatomy.org/aaa-career-advisors for an up-to-date list of advisors. The database is searchable on a number of fields including their area of expertise and what issues they are comfortable assisting with. You may select a career advisor based on your needs and interests. Should you find that the career advisor you select is not a good fit, you may end the relationship and contact another career advisor.