

Utilizing the Mentor Badging System in SelectedWorks to Facilitate the Faculty-Student Connection

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Identifying available faculty research mentors with the right background has been a challenge for student researchers and the teams that support them for many years. To address this challenge, the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) teamed up with the Scholarly Communication Team to introduce 'Mentor Badging,' creating a one-stop, searchable database of available mentors. Using a SelectedWorks Mentor Badge gives the OUR team, fellow faculty, and student researchers the opportunity to track available faculty mentors and the nature of the faculty research projects.

In addition to providing a database, the 'Mentor Badging' program allows a direct email to be sent to OUR by students to start the mentoring outreach process. The OUR team then works with the student to craft high-impact mentor requests for the appropriate faculty member. An additional benefit, the mentor badge gives faculty who are not aware of or have not shown an interest in SelectedWorks a concrete example of the benefits of having a SelectedWorks page.