



HDFRS
NV EPSCoR
HARNESSING THE
DATA REVOLUTION
FOR FIRE SCIENCE



NSHE Mentoring Institute 2026 (MI2026)
Connected Mentoring Communities:
Scaling Research Growth and Student Success Across NSHE

AGENDA

Wednesday & Thursday, October 7-8, 2026

Institute Focus Areas

Participants will work together to:

- Enhance mentoring capacity across NSHE institutions.
- Exchange effective practices and evidence-based approaches.
- Design and implement sustainable, system-wide frameworks that support mentoring excellence and research engagement.

MI2026 Goals

- Define and advance faculty mentoring and professional development as essential for student success and research excellence across NSHE.
- Leverage CUR frameworks, needs assessment discussions and shared practices to strengthen faculty skills in mentoring, inclusive supervision and student engagement.
- Identify strategies to integrate mentoring into faculty workload, recognition, and promotion processes, ensuring sustainability and institutions support.

Day 1

8:15 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast/Check in
9:00 am – 9:15 am	NSHE Capabilities & Collaborations: Updates on Opportunities – Michele Casella, NSHE Sponsored Programs Office & EPSCoR
9:15 am – 10:00 am	What Does Student Success Look Like? Mentorship, Inclusion, and Impact – Lance Barton & Joyce Fernandes, Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)
10:00 am – 11:00 am	PANEL: From Participation to Implementation: Insights from Returning Mentoring Institute Partners
11:00 am – 11:10 am	Break
11:10 am – 12:00 pm	Working Groups: Identifying Needs
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	Part 1: Building Connections: Structured Networking & Sharing of Existing Programs and Practices
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Part 2: Collaborative Connections – Addressing Needs by Leveraging the NSHE Network
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Break



HDFRS
NV EPSCoR
 HARNESSING THE
 DATA REVOLUTION
 FOR FIRE SCIENCE



3:15 pm – 3:45 pm	Sharing Insights from Structured Networking Discussions
3:45 pm – 4:45 pm	(Re)defining Mentoring for Student Success for Different Stakeholders
4:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Reflection and Looking Forward

Day 2

8:00 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast – Apollo 3
8:30 am – 9:30 am	Strategic Plan of the Council on Undergraduate Research – Elevating Research, Empowering Community & Driving Excellence & Innovation, Lance Barton & Joyce Fernandes
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Achieving Excellence: Guided Case Study
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am – 11 am	Goal Setting and Planning: Institutional teams
11:00 am – 11:45 am	Goal Setting and Planning: NSHE Networks
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	The Final Bite: Reflections, Evaluations, and Continued Dialogue