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NSHE Mentoring Institute 2026 (MI2026): Creating Connected Mentoring Communities to Support Student Success and Research Excellence: Scaling Mentorship for Research Growth and Institutional Capacity Building 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 & Collaboration: Updates and Opportunities, <i>Michele Casella</i> , <i>NSHE Sponsored Programs & NSF EPSCoR</i>
9:15 am – 10:00 am	What Does Student Success Look Like? Mentorship, Inclusion, and Impact, <i>Joyce Fernandes & Lance Barton</i> , <i>Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)</i>
10:00 am – 11:00 am	PANEL – Achieving Student Success: From Participation to Implementation: Insights from MI2025 Returners
11:00-11:10 am	Break
11:10 am – 12:00 pm	Achieving Success Working Groups: Identifying needs (by role)
12:00 – 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	Understanding Institutional Frameworks: Elevating existing programs and practices



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2:00 – 3:00 pm	Collaborative Connections: Building capacity within the NSHE network
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 pm – 3:45 pm	Sharing insights from structured networking discussions
3:45-4:45 pm	(Re)Imagining mentoring for student success in research excellence
4:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Reflection and Looking Forward

Day 2

8:00 am – 8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:30 am – 9:30 am	Council on Undergraduate Research- Elevating Research, Empowering Community, Driving Excellence and Innovation <i>Joyce Fernandes & Lance Barton, Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)</i>
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 am – 11:45 am	Building networks within NSHE
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	The Final Bite: Reflections, Evaluations, and Continued Dialogue