

SOME PRINCIPLES OF MENTORING

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- 1) Dialogue and collaboration are at the heart of learning.**
- 2) All of us are more engaged when we focus on what draws our curiosities.**
- 3) We are all learners, whether students or mentors.**
- 4) Our best ideas, our most important insights, our most exciting conclusions are only provisionally true.**
- 5) Students are “whole persons” whose academic world is only one component of a much larger world of family, work, and community.**
- 6) Finding little “openings” for students to make their own moves, formulate and try out their own ideas, and ask their own questions is central to our work.**
- 7) Evaluating is ongoing, formative, and always part of a larger process of reflection.**
- 8) Mentoring is teaching, advising, guiding, wondering, reflecting, and questioning, so that we can listen to and honor every student with whom we work.**

Note: These principles are, in part, drawn from Herman and Mandell, *From Teaching to Mentoring: Principles and practice, dialogue and life in adult education*. New York: Routledge, 2004.