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# Mentoring as a tool for academic and personal development in the Mellon Mays undergraduate program.

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## APPENDIX A: INTERVIEW WITH SEISA

**1. How did you get a mentor in the MMUF Programme ?**

I had two mentors. I got the first one after the selection interview. I was told by AB and MM that I had a mentor assigned to me. The mentor was a specialist in the field that I have chosen as a major. The second mentor was not chosen for me but I chose her. We were very close since she was in the same department that I was in. before becoming my mentor she used to invite me to church.

**2. Did you and your mentor talk about expectations or goals or establish ground rules ?**

With the first mentor we did not. There was no schedule. I would just go to her office and we would work on what I wanted to do at that time. But with the second mentor, we had timelines; whatever I had to work on was timed. We had set meeting dates and whenever I realize that I would not make the deadline I would call her or email her to explain that.

**3. Did you ever miss or come late for an appointment?**

No, not at all. Delays were well communicated

**3. How would you describe communication in the relationship ?**

Most of the time with my first mentor half the time it was formal, especially when I was setting a topic. My second mentor was very open minded and flexible. She allowed one to think outside the box, communication was two ways.

**4. Please tell me about your experience as a mentee in the MMUF programme. Does it make any difference if the mentee and the mentor are of different race groups, different gender, different research interests or different economic backgrounds?**

4.1.
**Race:**

No, race for me is not a problem as long as the mentee does not expect to be filled with information. E.g come in and expects to get information and go. That is one way stream to the mentee.

**Gender:**

No,

4.2.

**Economic backgrounds:**

**Research interests:**

**Have you ever had a quarrel?**

With my first mentor yes, and I don't want to talk about it. He was a busy person and starting to set meeting times outside office hours and I did not appreciate that. When the relationship was beginning to be sour, she pointed out that with my topic I was going to have difficulties or rather I will not afford to pay for the information from the media libraries. This was something that my second mentor pointed out immediately when she saw my research. At the department we had presentations every week and she started criticizing me when I present hence embarrassing me in front of other students.

**5. Do you think you've grown academically personally while having a mentor? Explain:**

Yes, before my second mentor I used to procrastinate, but ever since I had a relationship with her, she disciplined me. She would give me enriching articles for both my research and for motivation. She did things that mentors do not do, i.e. she did not regard herself as superior to me, she had an open door policy. She was very approachable.

**6. Would you consider becoming a mentor?**

If I will be on campus, I may consider that.