

A QUARTERLY STUDENT NEWSLETTER

ConnectHUB



The Mentorship Edition

The Power of Mentorship:

Building Futures Beyond the Classroom



College life — whether you are pursuing engineering, medicine, law, sciences, or the humanities — is a journey of opportunity, challenge, learning, and self-discovery. Every student dreams of academic excellence, meaningful work experience, and a fulfilling career. The journey becomes far easier when someone walks alongside you.

That is the power of mentorship.

Mentorship is not just advice. It is having someone who believes in your potential, helps you see your strengths, encourages you through difficult moments, and supports your growth both academically and personally. A mentor can turn confusion into clarity, fear into confidence, and dreams into achievable goals.

This edition is dedicated to mentorship — what it offers, how to use it well, and how it can shape who you become. We hope it inspires you to make the most of your mentorship journey.

“I genuinely loved the mentoring program because it focused on essential life skills beyond academics.”

Mentee: Ashish Pal
3rd Year IET Lucknow

Why Mentorship Matters

College can feel demanding — assignments, exams, internships, clinical rotations, moot courts, lab work, placements, and the constant question of “what next?” Many students experience self-doubt, fear of failure, stress, and confusion about the road ahead. Mentorship is the steady hand during those moments.

What a mentor offers

- **A guide** — someone who understands your field and the paths within it
- **A motivator** — someone who keeps you moving when you feel stuck
- **A listener** — someone who hears you out without judgment
- **A role model** — someone whose journey shows what is possible



What mentorship builds in you

- **Better academic habits** — focus, time management, and study technique
- **Career clarity** — exploring options across professional, research, public-service, and entrepreneurial paths
- **Essential skills** — communication, leadership, teamwork, networking, and problem-solving
- **Confidence** — the belief that you belong, and that you can do the work
- **Emotional support** — encouragement through pressure, setbacks, and uncertainty



Research consistently shows that mentored students perform better academically, are more likely to complete their education, and develop stronger leadership and communication skills.

Setting Goals: The

SMART
WAY

Successful students don't just work hard — they work with direction. Without goals, motivation fades and effort gets scattered. The SMART framework is a simple way to give your effort shape.

S
Specific

Define exactly what you want. Not “improve my studies” — but “read one journal article and summarise it daily” or “solve three problems each evening.”

M
Measurable

Track progress. For example: complete two projects this semester, raise CGPA by 0.5, or finish a certification by month-end.

A
Achievable

Set goals that stretch you but stay realistic. Impossible goals create frustration; modest, steady goals create momentum.

R
Relevant

Align goals with where you want to go. A law student might focus on legal research and drafting; a medical student on clinical exposure; an engineer on a specific domain.

T
Time-bound

Always set a deadline. “I will finish my updated resume by next Friday” works far better than “sometime soon.”

Staying on track

Break big goals into smaller weekly tasks

Review progress every week — even briefly

Ask your mentor for feedback, not just approval

Build a daily routine and protect it

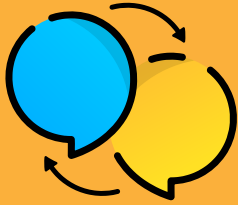
Celebrate small wins; they fuel the next ones

“What I liked most about the mentoring program was its practical, well-structured approach and strong support throughout the journey.”

Mentee: Aman Kumar, BIT Sindri

THE CLASSROOM

Good marks open doors. But once you walk through them, what carries you is a different set of skills — ones that no syllabus tests directly. Mentorship is one of the best ways to start developing them early.

**Communication**

Whether you are presenting a case in court, explaining a diagnosis to a patient, or pitching a technical solution to a client, the ability to speak and write clearly is decisive. Practise speaking up in class, write professional emails, and learn to present your work without notes.

**Teamwork and collaboration**

Almost every meaningful career involves working with others — hospitals, law firms, research labs, and companies all run on teams. Learn how to listen, how to handle disagreement professionally, and how to contribute reliably.

**Leadership**

Leadership isn't a title — it's a way of behaving. You can build it through clubs, volunteer work, organising events, peer-tutoring, or simply taking ownership of a group project. The earlier you start, the more natural it becomes.

**Emotional intelligence**

Self-awareness, resilience, and the ability to stay steady under pressure are what separate good professionals from great ones. Mentors can help you recognise patterns in how you react — and gently push you to grow.

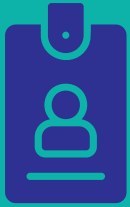
Career Readiness

Worrying about placements, internships, residencies, clerkships, or what to do after graduation is completely normal. Mentorship turns that worry into a step-by-step plan.

**Build a strong resume**

A good resume tells a clear story. Include your projects, skills, internships or clinical postings, certifications, achievements, and any leadership roles. A mentor can help you tighten the language and highlight what matters.

“Failure is not the opposite of success. It is part of success.”



Get real-world exposure

Internships, clerkships, clinical rotations, lab assistantships, and volunteer projects all give you something a classroom cannot — the experience of actual work. Apply consistently, build a portfolio of what you have done, and keep your LinkedIn profile current.



Prepare for interviews

Whether it is a technical interview, an HR round, a viva, a moot, or a residency interview — preparation rewards you. Practise out loud, know your basics cold, be honest about what you don't yet know, and learn from every round.



Build your network

Connect with professionals on LinkedIn, attend workshops and webinars, join student bodies in your field, and stay in touch with alumni. Most opportunities come through people who already know your work — start building that circle now.

“The program helped me develop a clear, structured approach to problem-solving and career growth, supported by an approachable mentor who fostered confidence and open communication.”

Mentee: Samruddhi Sutar 3rd Year, Government college of Engineering, Karad



Mental Health and Self-Belief

Academic life can be heavy. Exams, expectations, comparisons, and uncertainty about the future all add up. The most important thing to remember is this: you are not alone, and asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

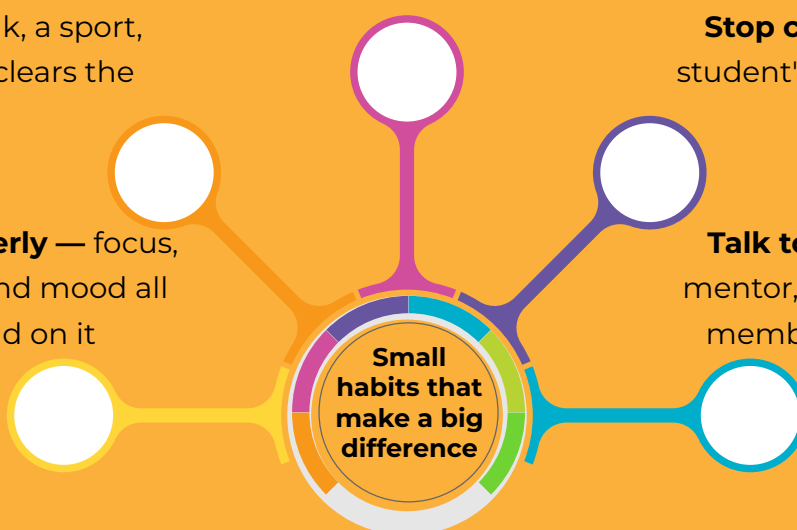
Take breaks — continuous study is not productive study

Move daily — a walk, a sport, anything physical clears the mind

Sleep properly — focus, memory, and mood all depend on it

Stop comparing — every student's journey has its own shape

Talk to someone — a mentor, a friend, a family member, a counsellor



On motivation

Motivation comes and goes. Discipline and consistency are what carry you between the bursts. Focus on progress rather than perfection, celebrate small wins, learn from setbacks, and keep improving — quietly, daily.

Mentor Mentee Corner



Some of the most meaningful learning happens in conversation. In this section, we share reflections from FFE mentors and mentees on what mentorship has meant to them.



Mentee Name :
Burra Sanika
3rd Year IIT
BHU

This mentorship experience has been truly transformative for me. My mentor's constant support, patience, and guidance helped me build confidence and grow both personally and professionally. Her encouragement and guidance played a significant role in helping me secure a placement at Flipkart, and she was the first person I shared the news with. What I appreciated most was that her support continued even after the sessions ended. Whenever I felt nervous or overwhelmed, I could reach out to her, and she always helped me feel more confident and focused. The confidence and clarity I have today are largely because of her guidance. I am sincerely grateful for her support, belief in me, and the positive impact she has had on my journey.

The FFE program plays a pivotal role in bridging the gap between academics and industry by equipping students with practical skills and real-world exposure. It empowers young talent to pursue their career aspirations with confidence, helping them shape their dreams into reality right from their college days. I am glad that I was able to mentor Sanika this time who is a 3rd year engineering graduate from Banaras Institute of Technology .



Mentor Name:
Shalina
Nandiwada ,
Microsoft

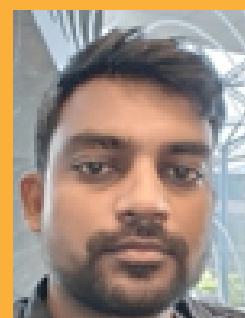


Mentee Name :
Sudarshan
Komar, 4th
Year BMS

During my third year of engineering, I had the opportunity to be mentored through FFE's Mentorship Program by a professional from Microsoft. Through regular sessions, I received valuable guidance on interview preparation, communication skills, career planning, and industry expectations. The mentorship helped me gain confidence, improve my placement readiness, and better understand the professional world. Today, as an intern at Dell Technologies, I continue to benefit from the lessons and insights gained through this experience. I am grateful to FFE and my mentor for their support and guidance, and I hope to give back as a mentor in the future.

The FFE mentorship program plays an important role in connecting corporate culture with academic environments.

It creates value for both mentors and mentees by enabling knowledge sharing on innovations and emerging technologies across organizations and colleges. The enthusiasm of mentees is high, and with the right guidance, it can be effectively channelled. This program provides that direction, contributing to the success of mentees and a rewarding experience for mentors. I am glad to be part of FFE initiative.



Mentor Name
:Akhilesh Dwivedi
,Microsoft

What we hope you take from these stories

- Be open to learning — every conversation can teach you something
- Accept feedback as a gift — even when it stings
- Stay consistent — even one focused hour a day compounds
- Build strong relationships — with mentors, peers, and teachers
- Pay it forward — the best learners eventually become mentors themselves

A Message from



FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE
Nurturing Brilliance ★ Transforming Generations

Dear Student,

Your college journey is not only about marks or placements. It is about becoming the kind of person who can do meaningful work and lift others while doing it. There will be challenges. There will be moments of doubt. There will also be growth, opportunity, and quiet pride in how far you have come.

Remember:

- *Your background does not define your future*
- *Consistency is more powerful than talent without effort*
- *Asking for guidance is a strength, not a weakness*
- *Every successful person was once a beginner*
- *You are capable of more than you think*

We believe in your potential. We are proud to walk part of this journey with you. Keep learning, keep growing, keep believing in yourself.

Get Involved

Want to Connect with a Mentor?

The registration window for the FFE Mentorship Program is currently open for all 3rd-year engineering scholars and will remain open until 30th June 2026.

If you're interested in being mentored by an industry professional and gaining valuable career guidance, don't miss this opportunity. For any queries or assistance, please reach out to the FFE Mentorship Team at mentoring@ffe.org.

We'd love to hear from you!



Other Skilling Initiatives:

- FFE's comprehensive skilling initiative continues to strengthen scholar readiness for the professional world by building strong communication, technical, aspirational and job-readiness skills.

This quarter, under communication programmes 1,103 third-year scholars completed the Hi Touch advanced English programme backed by MSDF.

Across technical and aspirational programmes: 420 scholars are progressing in LearnTube technical skilling programme; 253 scholars participated in NPTEL & gave exams from Jan- April 2026, more than 6500 scholars from CS/IT branches onboarded OpenAI Academy & are taking different AI courses offered by the OpenAI academy; and over 2,100 third-year scholars enrolled in industry-relevant technical programmes on Coursera for FY25 that will conclude in Sept 2026. Job-readiness initiatives scaled significantly, with 1,581 second-year engineering scholars enrolling in the aptitude training programme for improving logical reasoning and quantitative analysis skills that will conclude in June 2026 and 2965 third-year scholars participated in mock interviews, both supported by MSDF. Mock interview initiative comprised a Technical Round and a Personality Round to prepare scholars for upcoming placements

Leadership and wellbeing programmes engaged 1075 scholars through the "Finding the Leader in You" workshop, 2,356 scholars through structured wellness sessions, and more than 300 scholars, across three cohorts, through the Aspire Leaders Program led by Harvard University. Cohort 4 of the Aspire Leaders Program was completed, Cohort 5 is set to complete on June 30, and applications for Cohort 6 are currently open.

98 medical students are part of QMED Literature Searching Program, a year-long program started in December 2025. The QMed Program offers skills for online searching in the medical and allied health domain. Along with this a monthly medical webinar is conducted for medical scholars to improve their skills.