



Mentorship For All:

How Leading Institutions Embed
Mentorship Across the
Student Journey

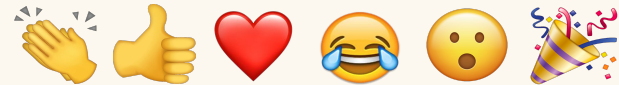
April 29, 2026

Audience Engagement



1. Upon entry, audio is on mute
2. Adjust your video layout to speaker view
3. Chat your **name** and **organization**
4. Submit your questions via the Chat or Q&A features in Zoom

Like what you hear? Let us know with reactions!



Moderator



Erin Callison
Account Executive,
Higher Education
Mentor Collective

Today's Panelists



Dr. Ron Darbeau
Chancellor, Penn State
Altoona & AVP for
Commonwealth Campuses



Jordan DiPentima, M.Ed.
Executive Director,
Mentoring Programs, Florida
Atlantic University

Poll



Agenda



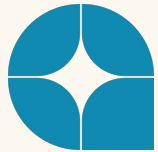
The Systemic Shift

Establishing mentorship as a universal institutional pillar.



The Executive Mandate

Diving into the “why” behind universal investment and aligning mentorship initiatives with long-term institutional strategy.



Architecting the Student Journey

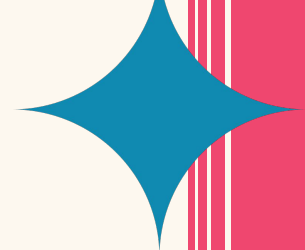
A look at the multi-phase models driving success at FAU and Penn State Altoona.



Sustaining the Ecosystem

Strategies for resourcing, maintaining high-level visibility, and measuring the ROI of a connected campus.

Driving Institutional Success at Scale



Feature	The Old Way (Program)	The New Way (System)
Access	5-10% of Students	100% of Students
Impact	Temporary / Seasonal	Persistent / Multi-Year
Data	Anecdotal / Siloed	Institutional / Strategic
Status	Peripheral "Perk"	Core Infrastructure

Partner Spotlight

Florida Atlantic University



**FLORIDA
ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY**

"Our anticipated first year dollar return on our investment with Mentor Collective will be about 3 dollars earned for every 1 dollar expended.

*More importantly, it takes the 'back of the house' efforts from on the ground FAU staff; and **allows our greatest resource, our people, to spend more effort and energy on direct student support.**"*

Dr. Larry Faerman
Vice President of Student Affairs



GOALS

Community Connection
Career and Leadership Growth
Support and Belonging
Professional Networking

PEER MENTORSHIP

Student-to-student mentorship connecting incoming students with current students.

CAREER MENTORSHIP

Professional mentorship connecting students with alumni, faculty, staff, and community members.



PennState
Altoona

Partner Spotlight

Penn State Altoona

Penn State Altoona



GOALS

- Sustainable and scalable mentorship for all students
- Mentorship practice that can be replicated across all Penn State campuses
- Strengthen alumni connections and engagement

LION FOR LIFE: START STRONG

Incoming 1st year students matched with trained mentors—faculty, staff, and experienced students—who offer practical advice, encouragement, and a friendly face on campus.

LION FOR LIFE: FINISH STRONG

3rd + 4th year students can explore mentorship with Penn State alumni and community members as they prepare for graduation and next steps.

“I chose to become a mentor because I valued having alumni support during my own undergraduate experience and saw how much clarity it gave me about life after graduation. I want to offer that same guidance to a student entering the STEM field.”

Angela Bunk
Mentor



The Systemic Shift



The Systemic Shift

*Why is it vital to consolidate fragmented efforts into a **single, visible institutional pillar?***

The Systemic Shift

*How did you **convince the institution** to move from a singular initiative to a **system-wide model**?*

The Systemic Shift

*How do you **communicate the value of systemic mentorship** to other stakeholders who might still see mentorship as just a student life activity rather than core retention strategy?*

Architecting the Student Journey



Architecting the Student Journey

*How did you **architect your mentorship layers to evolve** alongside the student?*

Architecting the Student Journey

*How has **partnering with Mentor Collective** allowed your institution to scale?*

What would be lost if you tried to maintain an initiative of your size without infrastructure or technology?

The Executive Mandate



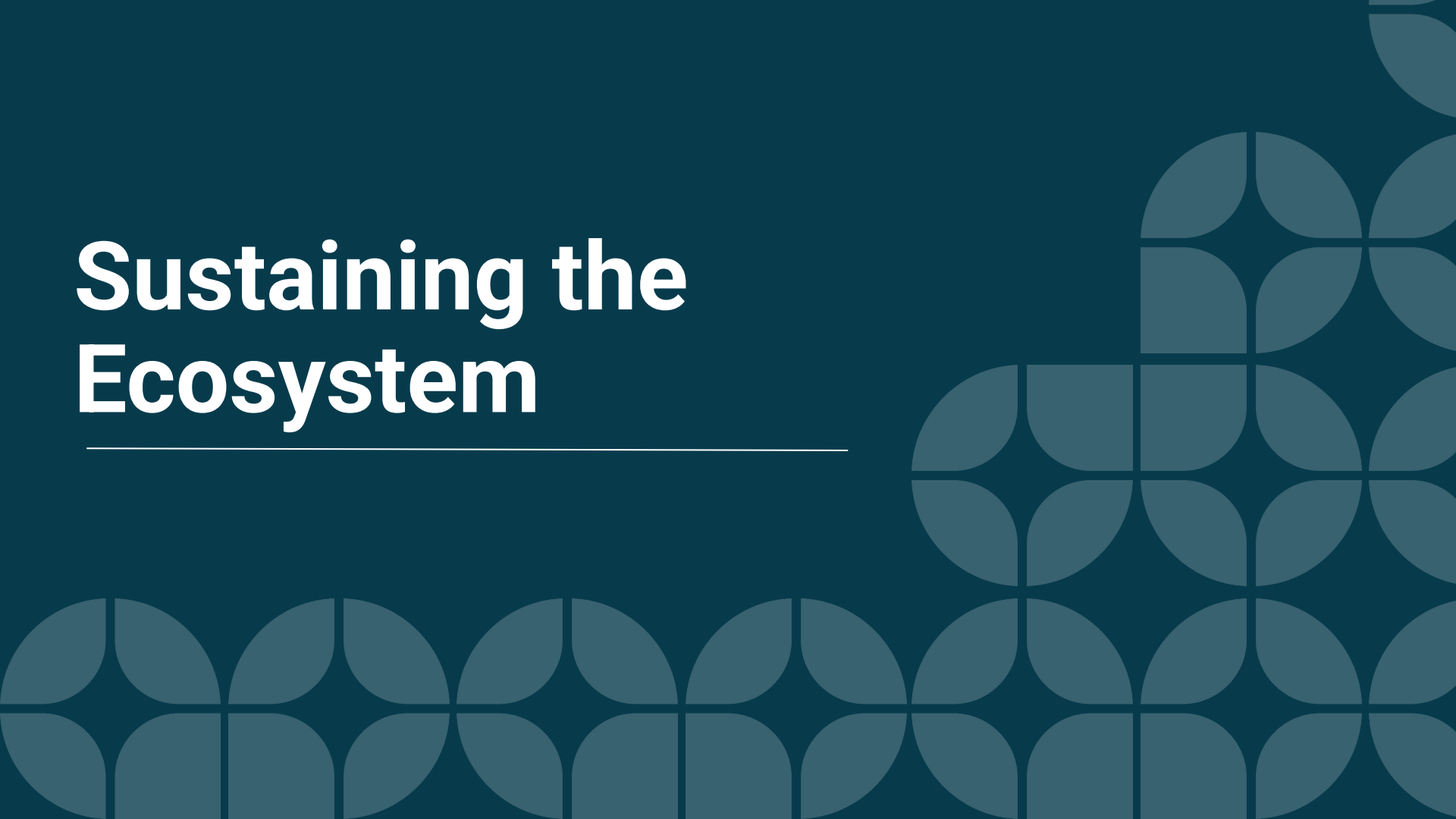
The Executive Mandate

*How did you **frame the universal mentorship system** so that it didn't feel like a competing initiative, but rather an engine driving **strategic priorities**?*

The Executive Mandate

*How did you make the case that **servicing every student has a greater ROI** than a fragmented approach?*

Sustaining the Ecosystem



Sustaining the Ecosystem

*What are some of the most effective strategies you've used to **make mentorship branding visible** to students and faculty?*

Sustaining the Ecosystem

*How do you ensure that this ecosystem is so **deeply resourced and embedded in the budget** that it remains **a core priority** even through leadership transitions or shifting institutional winds?*

Sustaining the Ecosystem

*Can you share **how mentorship will continue to evolve** over the next few years at your institutions?*

Poll



Upcoming Events



Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location
May 13	How Mentorship Drives Community College Success <i>Featuring leaders from Pima Community College, a leading higher education analyst, and a peer mentor</i>	<u>Webinar</u>
May 17–20	1890 Centers of Excellence: Student Success and Workforce Development (SSWD) Spring Symposium	University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
June 4	Massachusetts SUCCESS Symposium	Greenfield Community College

Mentor
Collective

Thank You!

The Systemic Shift

*What were the most **significant operational shifts** you had to make to ensure that **scaling the quantity of connections** didn't dilute the quality of the culture?*