



IUPUI ADVANCING WOMEN MENTORING PROGRAM

Mentor Profiles

2017 – 2018

Instructions:

Prior to registration, mentees must review mentor biographies and select 3-5 mentors they would be interested in working with this year. We will do all that we can to accommodate mentee requests, but being assigned to your top choice is not always possible. Please review the 23 mentor profiles to determine who may be the best mentor for your life and career goals.

Vasantha Aaron

About me:

I'm an Assistant Professor of Radiology in the IU School of Medicine with a fellowship in nuclear medicine (molecular imaging). I'm also the Medical Director of Radiology at University and Methodist Hospitals. I'm part of our wonderful Women in Radiology organization, which is a group of women radiologists including faculty, fellows, and residents, who get together quarterly to have fun, support, and empower each other. I've been a "non-traditional" student who worked for several years before going back to medical school, so I understand life isn't always a straight line.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I'd love to serve as a mentor for multiple reasons. I think young women are faced with many challenges, and one of the last things they need to try to figure out is who to ask for help. I'd like to make it easier for a mentee to access relevant resources and know that someone is readily available to talk to. I'd also love to share my experiences with a mentee who might not have taken a traditional course in life. I have had mentors in my own life who have helped me through difficult decisions and tough times, and I'd like to serve that purpose for others.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I hope mentoring will help me become more engaged in the IUPUI community. I feel certain that I will learn more about myself in addition to the gratification I'm sure to gain from helping someone else.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Volunteerism, Travel, Reading

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Radiology, Nuclear Medicine/Molecular Imaging and Therapeutics, Cancer imaging

Neeta Agarwal

About me:

I am a physician practicing internal medicine and pediatrics at Eskenazi Health. I have spent two years as a clinical director and I am now changing the scope of my practice to work on systems evolution. During the academic year, I teach the first year medical school course called foundations in clinical practice. Recently, I became the co-faculty advisor for AMWA.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

Most of us spend the first third of our life developing the tools to begin our profession. We spend little time thinking about our work life balance let alone the balance within our work. I'd like to help guide others in this conversation.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

Contributing to the next generation of leaders is one way for me to give back to my professional community.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Sports, Music, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Shopping, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Internal medicine, Pediatrics

Jane Alexander

About me:

I sing with a group of about 30-40 and another, smaller group.

I have been in higher education almost my entire adult life. I have been at IUPUI for 9 years, and before that I was at Purdue University. I have been an academic advisor (and sometimes coordinator/administrator of programs) since earning my Masters in 1993.

I love doing programming for undergraduate students.

I have undergraduate degrees in German and music, and although I don't use them in my vocation, I am an avid musician!

My other interests include ballroom dancing, reading, gardening, eating healthily as a vegetarian and recently, yoga.

I was fortunate to live abroad for two years as a child (in Kenya) and that experience changed my outlook on life. I also studied abroad for 6 months in college (Germany, Austria and Italy) and took a group to Poland when I was at Purdue. This exposure to other cultures and shorter trips abroad have enhanced my understanding of the world as a global society and have molded my outlook tremendously.

Almost every week of the year (unless I'm out of town) I cook and bring food to share with people in the park through a group called Food Not Bombs. This entails making vegan meals and serving all comers. Even when I can't be there I try to cook and deliver soup and banana bread and fruit. I have been engaged with this activity almost every week since October of 2016.

I would say that I am very interested in ethics especially in the political and higher education realms. I am spiritual but not religious.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I was fortunate enough to be chosen for a leadership award in 2013, and I want to give back. I hope that I have something to offer that will help someone else with life or career plans, coping with obstacles and finding a fulfilling future.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I think back to a time at Purdue when I mentored a young woman in a formal program. It was a great experience and we are still connected (albeit remotely). I hope to connect with someone in a similar way. If a mentee's experiences and life story are different than my own, I think that could enrich both of our lives.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Academic advising, Program coordination (I coordinated honors programs and undergraduate research, internships in Washington, DC in addition to academic advising at Purdue)

Ginger Arvin**About me:**

Hello! I have been employed at IUPUI for 3 1/2 years as a senior investigator in the Office of Equal Opportunity. In this role, I follow-up on concerns around harassment and discrimination of the campus community. During my professional career I have primarily worked in social work and educational arenas; however, I am very interested in the tourism industry and hope to change careers in the next couple of years. Currently, I am pursuing certificates in tourism and event planning through the School of Physical Education and Tourism Management. On campus I participate in a couple of organizations including the Sexual Assault Prevention, Intervention, and Response Task Force and the Women's Advisory Council.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

To become more engaged with students.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

The opportunity to connect with and hopefully make a difference for a young woman at IUPUI.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Movies, Volunteerism, Shopping, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

As I near the end of my professional career, I am looking forward to retirement and working part-time in the tourism industry.

Emily Blue

About me:

As a basic scientist with a PhD in Physiology, I am currently a Research Assistant Professor in Pediatrics at IU School of Medicine. My research area is investigating the effects of maternal diabetes on the health of children using molecular and cellular biology.

In addition to research, I teach an undergraduate course called Biology of Women. I volunteer at Komen Tissue Bank events. I find the Komen events to be very inspiring, as women who come to those events donate samples of normal breast tissue for use in breast cancer research. I am also a member of Women & Hi Tech, a networking and career group that supports women in STEM fields.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I am very interested in helping students, especially women, figure out their interests and strengths, and support them in whatever is needed. As I have had great mentors over my career, I want to pay it forward.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I anticipate that I will get to know someone else with her own interesting personal story or journey. I know from past experience with teaching students in the lab that I will likely gain as much from the mentee as they gain from me. I also hope to learn how it's different to mentor someone more outside my professional area, as these students will have different needs than the students I usually mentor.

Personal interests:

Sports, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Science, research, biology, chemistry

Vicki Bonds

About me:

I currently serve as the Director of Health Professions and Pre-Doctoral Programs within the IU School of Medicine where I oversee the undergraduate and post-baccalaureate and programs.

My interests include secondary education/higher education student affairs, student development & engagement, retention and achievement of underserved & under-represented groups in education.

I serve on the IUSM Diversity Council, IUPUI Black Faculty Staff Council Leadership Team, and Indiana Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Statewide Advisory Board, American Association of Blacks in Higher Education Board, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Alpha Mu Omega Cotillion Committee.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I enjoy meeting new people and volunteering in the community. I value mentoring providing support and resources to individuals interested in further learning and advancing.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

From this experience, I hope to gain more knowledge about mentoring and also to continue cultivating relationships at IUPUI.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Sports, Music, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Shopping, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

My career interests are focused in higher education student affairs, with a specialization in career and college counseling; specifically training and preparing students for graduate and professional school.

Brandy Boyer-Wood**About me:**

It took me a long time to complete my undergraduate degree: 12 years! I actually finished my degree in December 2016. My favorite jobs include working for the State of Indiana under the O'Bannon and Kernan administrations. I worked with amazing people within the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, Indiana Commission for Women, and the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism (now ServeIndiana). I loved my job in public service because they allowed me to work behind the scenes on issues that are very important to me (social justice, science, women, equality/equity, environmentalism, and volunteerism).

On a personal level, I care about finding the right balance between work and life. I am exploring fitness in terms of running and working out a few times a week though I still have yet to commit to a solid routine. I'd say I am a work-in-progress. I am an introvert, and my Myers-Briggs Type Indicator is INTJ. Oh, and I don't wear matching socks. My formal bio is below:

Brandy S. Boyer-Wood graduated with highest distinction honors from the IU School of Continuing Studies at IUPUI in 2011 with an associate of science in General Studies and in 2016 with a bachelor of science in Public Affairs Management from the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Brandy intends to pursue her graduate education in the near future.

In past roles, Brandy served as the Manager of Special Projects and Parent Services with a national charter school management company and Senior Program Officer for the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism where she was involved in program development and management, grant writing, grant reporting, and sub-grantee management and oversight. Since 2007, Brandy has served graduate students within the IU School of Medicine and was promoted to Assistant Director of the IBMG Program for Ph.D. Study in 2014. In her role, she leads the admissions process, manages special projects, and facilitates alumni relations and student recruitment efforts.

Brandy is a member of the National Association for Graduate Admissions Professionals (NAGAP) as well as the Biomedical Graduate Admissions Professionals (BioGAP), and serves as a volunteer for the NAGAP Technology Committee and chairs the BioGAP Professional Development Committee. At the campus and school level, Brandy is a member of the IUPUI Graduate Recruitment Council and the IUSM Event & Engagement Committee and serves as the staff liaison to the Erica M. Daniel Kepner Award for Scientific Achievement Selection Committee, IUSM Graduate Student Committee, and the IBMG Admissions Committee. She also serves as a mentor for the Diversity Enrichment and Achievement Program (DEAP) and Advancing Women Mentoring Program (AWMP).

Outside of her campus presence, Brandy volunteers with Mental Health America of Vigo County and the Indianapolis Eastside Toy Drive and serves as an auxiliary board member with Partners In Housing, Inc.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I have encountered a few women in my life that rise above the rhetoric, challenge stereotypes, overcome barriers to education and career, and manage their lives in such a way that their presence commands attention, their works inspire many, and their legacy endures. Despite their differences and diverse backgrounds, they all have one commonality in their approach and several common characteristics: they mentor other women, and they show a great amount of grit, have an inner strength that guides them, and promote a supportive environment without judgement. These experiences have changed me. It's my hope that I can give back to other women in much the same way, as a mentor and champion another women's development and growth.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I would gain the opportunity to give back both to IUPUI and to the mentee as well as further develop my interpersonal relationship skills. Mentoring itself also allows me to rejuvenate and re-energize as I find great satisfaction in serving others and promoting the advancement and growth of women.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

I am particularly interested in nonprofit and government work and higher education. I would be good at mentoring a student that is interested in a career in government and/or nonprofits because of my previous careers, current volunteer efforts, and undergraduate experience. I would be good at mentoring a student that is interested in career in the biomedical sciences because of the nature of my current work (recruiting and retaining PhD students to the field).

Kevynn (DoMonique) Brock

About me:

I graduated from IUPUI in 2013 with a B.A. in Psychology. I currently work in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences as the Student Services Support Coordinator. I am a former member of the IUPUI Cheerleading Team, former OTeam leader and also served as a Nina Scholar Mentor and Ronald E. McNair Scholar. I am working toward earning my Society for Human Resources Certification and hope to eventually pursue a career in human resources or career advising. My interest include: studying and discussing credit and finance education, coaching cheerleading, designing and crafting, and providing life skills training.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I want to serve as a mentor to help give back to my community and be a support system for our youth. I want to make a positive impact on someone's life and take on a role that will allow me to help bring more stability to the current state of society through charter building, promoting positivity and instilling hope and confidence in someone's life. At the age of 32, I feel like I have many experiences that turned into valuable lessons and I would love to share my knowledge and experiences with someone who could benefit from it.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I am hoping to enhance my leadership skills and fine tune areas where I need improvement. I also hope to gain a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment through connecting with and helping someone else determine their goals and be a support system as they travel the road to accomplish those goals and get over hurdles with help when they need it.

Personal interests:

Music, Volunteerism, Shopping, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

My career interests: human resources, career advising

Areas of Specialization: one-on-one coaching, teaching life skills development, working in roles of administrative assistance

Ana Cabezas

About me:

I would like to get involved with other aspects of the campus and the campus life. Working at the bookstore allows me to meet with a lot of faculty and departments on campus, but I want to be more involved with students, beyond our student's booksellers.

I volunteer for a lot of events and non-profits in Indianapolis via Indy Hub, Indy Film Fest, Girls Pint Out, and the City Market. I would like to eventually switch to a non-profit company in Indianapolis because I want to do more to make the city a better place!

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I wish I had a mentor when I was student!

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I want to learn more about what our students really need and what their concerns are beyond course materials.

Personal interests:

Volunteerism

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Project Management, Human Resources

Deeksha Cauvery**About me:**

On-Campus position: Business Intelligence Analyst - IU School of Medicine (BI Operations)

Summer Internship: Information Security Analyst - Indiana State Department of Health

On-Campus Orgs:

Vice-President - ENACTUS IUPUI (Social entrepreneurship)

Vice-President - DesiJags IUPUI (Indian Student Community/Org)

Career Goals - Cyber-security, Information security, Information Technology

Interests - Social service, environmentalism, multi-culture diversity, dancing, music

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

Learn from my peers, colleagues - no limit/deadline to learning

Personal growth to match the strong qualifications required in the corporate world

Helping the society - we're all in this together

What I hope to gain from this experience:

Leadership development

Personal Interests:

Cultural Events, Sports, Music, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Cyber-security, Information security, Information Technology, Computer Science, Information Science

Ashley Childs

About me:

I joined the Campus Center and Student Experiences team here at IUPUI as the Coordinator for Leadership Development in June of 2017. I'm originally from Columbus, Ohio but am loving living in Indianapolis so far! Before starting my position here, I was working in the student activities office at a small school in Illinois. My love for student affairs and event planning stems from my time as a student at the University of Cincinnati. While in school I was heavily involved on the programming board and my sorority. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in Communication with a focus in public relations in 2013 and then returned to school for a year and received my masters in Communication with a focus in leadership in 2014. In my spare time I like to hang out with my dog and watch Grey's Anatomy.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I would like to serve as a mentor because mentorship and providing a support system for students is very important to me. During my time in college, I had mentors that helped me, encouraged me and believed in me and I want to do the same for a student here at IUPUI.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

From this experience I am hoping to gain a genuine relationship with my mentee that will last even when this academic year is over. I'm also hoping to help my mentee set goals and have new experiences.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Working Out, Shopping, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Higher Education/Student Affairs, Event Management, Leadership Development

Pauley Gasparis

About me:

I am a radiologist at IU in my last year of fellowship training, specializing in breast imaging. I am part of the executive committee of our women in radiology group. Some of my hobbies include cooking, trying new foods, hiking, and painting.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

My women mentors have helped me significantly throughout my career and I would like to be given opportunity to give back to others. I believe that it is essential to have a strong support system to be successful in your career/life.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I am hoping to form relationships with other women and assist them in any way that I can. Helping and mentoring others is very fulfilling for me.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Volunteerism, Shopping, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Breast Imaging, Radiology, Medicine

Khushboo Kapadia**About me:**

I am currently pursuing a degree is MS in Technology with focus in Organizational Leadership and Supervision. I am serving as a graduate assistant at the IUPUI Campus Center. As part of my position, I oversee 7 building managers and help them develop within their role. I also assist with the building manager training program. In the future, I would like to work in Training and Development, Organizational Development or Executive Recruiting. In my free time, I love cooking and baking.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I believe it would be a wonderful experience to see someone grow overtime and explore their future goals.

What I am hoping to gain from this experience:

It would serve as a great opportunity for me to guide someone as one discovers different paths. I hope to help them and in return learn things/skills about myself that I may not know about.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Movies, Shopping, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Human Resources: training, development, organizational development, executive recruiting.

Merri Beth Lavagnino**About me:**

Merri Beth Lavagnino has over 30 years of experience working in higher education in medium and large universities, both public and private, and a regional consortium. They include the University of Cincinnati, Temple University, Yale University, the University of Vermont, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the Big Ten Academic Alliance. She has worked in a variety of roles including as a student, support staff, faculty, and administrator; and in many disciplines including libraries, information technology, learning technology, security, policy, privacy, compliance, and risk.

In her current role as Chief Risk Officer for Indiana University, she oversees the Enterprise Risk Management program for a major research university comprising seven campuses, nine medical education sites, 114,000 students, 40,000 full- and part-time regular and student employees, \$614M in external research funding, and nearly 8,000 acres of real estate, with an annual operating budget of \$3.5B.

In addition to her Bachelor of Education and Master of Library Science degrees, Merri Beth is a Certified Compliance & Ethics Professional (CCEP), Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US, CIPT) and is trained in the Department of Homeland Security's Incident Command

System (100, 200, 700, 800, 300, 400, & MGT 346). She enjoys contributing to the profession through speaking, teaching, writing, and service activities both locally and nationally.

Merri Beth is preparing for her encore career, hopefully in some aspect of non-profit education or humanitarian aid, by working towards her Certificate in Fund Raising Management from The Fund Raising School at the Indiana University School of Philanthropy.

For more detail, see <http://protect.iu.edu/mbl>.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I have mentored two other awesome IUPUI Advancing Women mentees who have now graduated, and it is something I enjoy very much. I benefited from others mentoring me early in my career, and I want to give back. Also, my current job does not involve much if any direct involvement with students, so I like to volunteer for activities that get me interacting with the people we are here to serve! In addition to being an Advancing Women mentor, I am also Student Organization Advisor for College Mentors for Kids at IUPUI.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I learn so much from my mentees about the student experience at Indiana University. It is very helpful for me in my job, to be aware of issues and concerns of current students. I also learn about IU myself, as I help that student navigate our complicated organization, to find out information to assist them in their studies and their early career plans!

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Libraries, Higher Education, Information security, Information privacy, Emergency management, Compliance, Risk management, Enterprise Risk Management, Fund raising

Shatoria Lunsford

About me:

I'm a problem-solver, volunteer enthusiast, and a budding researcher. Currently working as a Research Support Assistant for the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Indiana University School of Medicine, a position that gives me the opportunity to dabble in a few things that I enjoy: administration, research, and service.

The Lord is the head of my life, I'm a worshiper at heart, and I love to serve. I'm the oldest nine (6 brothers, 2 sisters) so I'm used to juggling a lot of things and being pulled in multiple directions without losing my mind. I enjoy music, reading, and I also enjoy trying new foods and traveling.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I want to serve as a mentor because I love service. I enjoy opportunities to receive wisdom and to impart wisdom. I'm most excited to pour into someone else's life as my mentors have poured into mine.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

To continue to develop in relating to others who do not process things the way that I do and further my ability to communicate effectively with others by not just talking but also listening.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Volunteerism, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Currently serving as a Research Support Assistant within the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery directly supporting Dr. Melissa Kacena and Dr. Stephen Trippel.

Interested in pursuing a Masters of Public Health and eventually a doctoral degree in public health.

Jennifer Pease**About me:**

I have worked in a number of different roles at both IU Bloomington and IUPUI and have a great deal of information about the university as well as many contacts both on the campus and in the community. One of my strong skills is helping students make connections that will help them throughout their undergraduate or graduate experience. My staff positions have included serving as the Director of the IUPUI Admissions/Enrollment Center, Acting Director of the Honors Scholars Program and as the Director for Retention of Adult Learners and Business Outreach for the Division of Continuing Studies and the School of Liberal Arts. I also have served as an academic advisor for the General Studies Program and Liberal Arts. I currently am working in the IUPUI Center for Teaching and Learning and learning a great deal about using emerging technologies in the academic setting to help students and faculty have a more engaging learning experience. I have taught a number of Continuing Education classes to help student successfully return to school and also to explore graduate programs both in Indiana and across the country.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

Over the years I have gained a great deal from the mentorship programs I have been involved in including serving as a resident hall fellow, a Norman Brown Minority Leadership Program

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I believe strongly that mentors gain as much from participating in this type of program as the mentees who opt to participate. Through this program my own cultural competency has been improved and that has opened a number of doors for me for volunteering in the Indianapolis community. I hope to be in a position to help another woman learn about opportunities to enhance her educational experience while at IUPUI and to serve as a support for her when/if needed. Through this program I also hope to stay in touch with some of the perspective of a current graduate or undergraduate student who I can help the campus be as responsive as possible to student needs.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Movies, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

I have worked in Enrollment Services for many years overseeing enrollment counseling, have also taught summer Bridge and Themed Learning Community courses and also have worked closely with returning students who sometimes are intimidated at the thought of coming back to school to either complete an undergraduate degree or begin a graduate program. I have an undergraduate degree in Public Affairs and Environmental Science and have done graduate studies in both the IUB Ernie Pyle School of Journalism and School of Education Urban Ed program at IUPUI. I have also worked as an HR and project management consultant and also just completed the Human Resource certificate course for SHRM and will be studying for the exam later this semester.

Over the years I have found that I sometimes have to work to get my mentees to "Come out! Play!". Part of what I often try to do is introduce my mentee to theatre, music, and ethnic restaurants that they often would not discover or take the time to go to on their own.

Mandy Porter**About me:**

I grew up in a small town in Michigan. I went to a college two and a half hours away from home. The freedom of the college environment really allowed for me to take risks and discover who I really was. I became involved with Student Programming, RHA, SGA, Greek Life, and other leadership opportunities. After graduating with a bachelors in Interpersonal Communication, I took a year off to reflect and decided I wanted to pursue a Masters in Higher Education. I moved to Arkansas for that and worked in Admissions and Academic Advising for two years.

The past four years I have lived and worked in Muncie, Indiana working in Admissions. I am excited to now be at IUPUI where I can work closer with students and help create programming surrounding the keys to their success.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I really want to help students not only find their place at IUPUI, but also in life. I had some mentors while growing and they really asked me the hard questions, challenging the way I think. I would like to provide that for students as well. I want to help them name goals and discover paths to get there.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

Selfishly, I am looking to grow myself. I will learn more about myself by serving the mentee. I have also been working on becoming certified in Strengths Finder so I would love to use this relationship to practice those skills.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Sports, Music, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

I am currently the Coordinator for Student Success and Outreach. I would say my specialization would be Higher Education, but I am excited to learn more about what interest my Mentee and learn more about that and maybe specialize in that too.

Alexis Pulliam**About me:**

Alexis Pulliam completed her Bachelors of Science in Chemical Engineering from Tuskegee University. As a loving, passionate, and motivated person who yearns for academic excellence, Alexis involved herself in many activities outside of classroom during her undergraduate experience. She was involved in the American Institute for Chemical Engineers, International Student Association, and Omega Chi Epsilon Chemical Engineering Honor Society. She has served as the Senator for the Society of Women Engineers, president for Unveiling Light Dance Company, and tutored first year students in mathematics and chemistry. She also completed several internships. She interned with the South Central Climate Science Center where she researched climate variability. Also, at the Pennsylvania State University, she investigated cell-to-cell communication and signaling using surface acoustic waves based microfluidic device. She also completed neuroscience research at the University of Alabama at Birmingham experience where she researched memory using a CRISPR while consistently shadowing a physician. Currently, she is participating in IPREP, a post-baccalaureate program at Indiana University Purdue University. The goal of the program is to prepare and elevate her to become a competitive applicant for graduate school. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family and staying abreast on current issues. Her career goals are to obtain a MD-PhD and work in academic medicine as a physician and managing a laboratory. Her research interest include tissue engineering, neural engineering, and neuroscience specifically memory and learning behavior.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I want to be a mentor to guide and help students in the academic year. Although, I just joined IUPUI, I have been involved in a plethora of activities and help first and second year students stay focus in school. I want to be the mentor I never had during my undergraduate degree.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I am hoping to gain a lifelong connection with different students of different backgrounds. I want to help students succeed and nurture their academic and social circles.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Music, Volunteerism, Travel, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

My career interest are to obtain a MD PhD and become a physician scientist. I hope to interact with patients and run a lab in the future. Also, I hope to mentor student's especially young women and inspire them to reach their goals.

Julisa Ricart**About me:**

I currently work as a Recorder (program registrar) for Indiana University and am taking computer science classes. I studied conservation biology and environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin. I am relatively new to Indianapolis, but have already found community in Girls INC., my local community garden, and at IUPUI.

I have worked for a few universities doing ecological research in South America on hummingbirds. Although I work in an office now, I am still an avid bird watcher and frequent the state and city parks with binoculars in hand. Other places you can find me are the Indianapolis Museum of Art, the downtown public library, or grabbing coffee at Hubbards and Cravens.

I aspire to become research faculty at a University and conduct biological research abroad. I am most interested in scientific computing and data science.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

Having worked in a very male-dominated field (field research), I understand how important it is to have women mentors to encourage other women to step out of traditional roles and chase their dreams!

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I am hoping to gain experience as a mentor to better prepare myself for my long term goal of running my own research projects and with that, leading lab techs and students.

Personal interests:

Working Out, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Conservation Biology, Ecology, Statistics, Computer Science, Writing

Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD**About me:**

Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD, FACP

The first Hispanic president of American Medical Women's Association, Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine and Pediatrics and a faculty member in the Division of Adolescent Medicine. She is the Executive Director for the IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health and is the Chief Physician Executive at Eskenazi Health Outpatient Care Center Primary Care and the Center of Excellence for Women's Health. Born and raised in Southern California she received her BA in Chemistry from California State University in Long Beach. She graduated from Cornell University College of Medicine (now Weill College of Medicine at Cornell University) and completed residency training in Internal Medicine at the University Hospitals of Cleveland.

Board Certified in Adolescent and Internal Medicine her clinical practice focuses on the primary care of adolescents and adults, care of childhood cancer survivors, eating disorders in adults, and the maintenance of health and wellness.

As Executive Director of the Indiana University School of Medicine National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber leads the Center's efforts to achieve its central mission, "To Improve the Health of Indiana Women." Progress toward this goal is supported by a wide range of Center activities, including an outreach program for underserved women, dissemination of best practices in women's health, convenes statewide organizational collaborations, and works to inform policymakers about the implications of policy decision on women's health.

She has been actively involved in a number of committees and task forces within the medical school, AMWA, and other organizations. As the AMWA liaison to the American Medical Association-Women's Physician Section she serves as the vice chair of the governing council. Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber had been heard as the health and wellness expert for Sound Medicine on National Public Radio (NPR).

She has been featured in 2013 Indianapolis Monthly as Indianapolis "Top Doctors" as chosen by their peers. In 2013, she received the American Medical Association (AMA) Innovations in Medicine award, and American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) "Exceptional Mentor" award. She is the recipient of faculty teaching awards from Upstate Medical University and Emory School of Medicine.

Prior to arriving at IU in 2007 she practiced in Cleveland, Ohio at Meridan Huron Road Hospital, Syracuse, New York @ Upstate Medical Center and Atlanta, GA at Morehouse School of Medicine and Emory School of Medicine.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

The support I received throughout my career has been pivotal in my success and my goal is to help others be successful in their journey to medicine as a career.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

Meet and work with IUPUI women looking to apply to medical school.

Personal interests:

Working Out, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

As a physician, I focus on Women's Health, Wellness, and Eating Disorders in the outpatient setting and Adolescent Medicine in the inpatient setting.

Kim Saxton

About me:

Kim Saxton is a marketing strategy professor who believes marketers should make data-driven decisions to improve their effectiveness. She came by her interest in data-driven decisions

naturally, with a bachelor's of science in Marketing from MIT, reinforced by an MBA and PhD in Marketing and Statistics from IU. She has published broadly on new data analysis techniques, effective advertising and the impact of different kinds of promotions. At the same time, she believes data should be practical. Good marketers find a way to blend both art and science to be successful. She continues to hone her skills as a successful marketer by working with local startups to help launch and expand their businesses. In her spare time, she uses her approach to practical data to train for endurance athletic events including Ironman triathlon. She has won numerous teaching awards from both undergraduates and MBA. She chairs the Teaching Excellence Committee for the Kelley School of Business Indianapolis.

At IUPUI, she has been a member of the faculty at the Kelley School of Business since 2004.

Her current titles include:

Clinical Associate Professor of Marketing

Director, Marketing Enterprise

Faculty Coordinator, Emerging Programs

She is/has been an advisor to the following local non-profits: Little Red Door Cancer Agency, Horizon House, the Fight for Life Foundation, The Startup Ladies, the Talent Nexus Mentoring Program and the Women's Network Forum.

She is also an advisor for the following local startups: PERQ, LLC and Dignotes.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I have benefitted from the help of mentors throughout my education and career. I am already a mentored within the Kelley School and more broadly in the community. I would like to give back to women across the IUPUI campus.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I learn as much from mentors as they do from me. I want to hear what ideas the next generation of leaders have. I also want to better understand their concerns so we can build better programs to help them succeed.

Personal interests:

Sports, Working Out, Movies, Volunteerism, Outdoor Activities, Travel, Reading, Family & Friends

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Data-driven decision making and roles like data scientist

Marketing, especially segmentation and digital marketing

Research methodologies both qualitative and quantitative

Public speaking and written communication

Entrepreneurship and experimentation

Managing people

Supporting diversity including gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation and approach to thinking

Social media marketing

Mental toughness

Brian Starkel

About me:

Currently, I serve as our assistant director for leadership development & civic engagement. I've worked for the past four years at IUPUI for the Division of Student Affairs. I hold degrees in visual arts education and college student personnel. I've served as an advisor for our Student Activities Programming Board and now serve as an advisor for our Undergraduate Student Government & the Graduate & Professional Student Government. I am a part of the Multicultural Competency Committee for the Division of Student Affairs and hold several leadership roles within the Association of College Unions International.

My personal interests include the visual arts, museums, traveling, and exploring new places around Indianapolis.

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

This program provides an opportunity to connect with students and to assist in navigating the collegiate experience where ever someone may be in their development. Over the years, I've worked with hundreds of students and assisted in hosting some of our largest campus events and believe that I can provide someone with so many ways to get involved. I find that IUPUI has so much to offer our students and can serve as a resource, a mentor, a confidant, and a helper.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

It's very simple, this is an opportunity to give back and to stay in tune with how our students are experiencing IUPUI.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Sports, Movies, Travel, Reading

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Higher Education & Student Affairs, K-12 Education

Idalia Wilmoth

About me:

Idalia T. Wilmoth is an authentic advocate and a researcher who considers herself a "Trendsetter": A person who disrupts the norm of beauty in ways that are transformational for women. She's all about uncovering your authentic self through the lens of Aesthetics. Considering education and beauty, Ms. Wilmoth is the founder of Pretty Authenticated, an aesthetics movement offering stylist work-shops, lectures detail services and social events to enhance self-determination, embrace style and provoke-success.

She is a natural born leader who embodies the gifts of administration, teaching, knowledge, confidence and creativity to draw people into a common goal setting the bar to value self-worth, to set standards and go over & beyond leaving an impact on the lives she encounters. Idalia received her Bachelors of General Studies with a concentration in Humanities & Arts with a strong background in Africana Studies from Indiana University, Purdue University of

Indianapolis and is currently a graduate student at Indiana University School of Education:
Masters of Urban Education- Post Secondary

Why I want to serve as a mentor:

I currently serve as Program Mentor for the Olaniyan Scholars Program where I help students make a smooth transition into the university and be a support person during their college experience. I know how scary college can be and I'm here to help students feel comfortable and support them.

What I hope to gain from this experience:

I'm hoping to gain better mentoring skills and help a student in the best way I can.

Personal interests:

Cultural Events, Sports, Music, Working Out, Volunteerism, Shopping, Travel, Reading

Career interests/Areas of specialization:

Educational Researcher Race, Class & Beauty
