Greetings School of Social Work Alumni,

We are writing to you with an exciting opportunity to help develop the next generation of Social Workers by supporting the professional development of current students at the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work. Our students have expressed strong interest in making connections to professional Social Workers beyond the faculty and field instructors. To that end, we aim to offer a mentoring program entitled Sooner Social Work, beginning the fall of 2015.

Social Work mentoring involves providing information, resources, and professional support for:
- Practice specialization inquiry and development
- Recognition of, and strategies to address, professional development needs
- Navigation of workplace dynamics
- Insights on career advancement, transitions and mobility
- Identification and enhancement of professional strengths
- Identification with the profession
- Reduction of burnout

We initially envision the mentoring commitment to be for one academic year, with contact at least once monthly (e-mail, phone or face-to-face). The School matches Mentors and Mentees based on professional areas of interest, populations of interest, and/or geographic proximity. The mentee contacts the mentor within 30 days of being matched to schedule the first meeting, and the initial mentorship meeting should occur within one month of initial contact.

The School will host a fall mentorship lunch and spring mentorship lunch on both the Norman (9/2) and Tulsa campuses (9/11). Possible mentoring activities in between those lunches include:
- Agency sponsored events
- Research projects
- School-sponsored and continuing education events
- Volunteering together
- Professional conferences
- Informal conversations

We hope that you interested in the participating in the Sooner Social Work mentoring program. To get started complete the Mentor Sooner Social Work application here: http://outgradcollege.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_SBIctkK3vfiO6h

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have questions.

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