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Embedded in the Furman DNA is a strong value and practice of mentorship: Do you have a story of mentorship, or being mentored, at Furman that made a critical difference in your life?

I spent the summer as a Furman Advantage Research Fellow with Dr. Lit Smith...because of that experience I pursued a Ph.D. in political science and am now a professor at Elon University. I love my job and I'm thankful every day that she saw something in me and encouraged me to pursue this career path. I'm also grateful for Dr. Danielle Vinson for her support and encouragement as well.

—Carrie Parker Eaves '04

The first professor I met at Furman was Dr. William E. Rogers in Humanities 101. I sat spellbound at his first lecture and basically made his classes the center of my entire education. He became my advisor, and I took or audited every class he offered over the next four years. His office was always open for me...he was kind, generous, tough-minded, and (regardless of his aloof manner) ridiculously lovable. He let me take him out for Thai food the week I graduated. I teach high school English now, and every class I teach has Dr. Rogers' influence upon it.

—Davis Thompson '96

Dr. Erin Hahn is an amazing psychology professor, someone committed to asking students, “So what? Why does what you are studying matter?” Her pedagogy is extraordinary, and so is her compassion for students. I appreciated her willingness to engage my questions regarding ethics and human development...I would not have the vocational clarity I have today without her mentorship.

—Hillary Taylor '12

Dr. Jason Rawlings has been a mentor and a friend to me throughout my four years at Furman and beyond into graduate life. He pushed me in the classroom as my teacher and in the lab as my research mentor. He has been there when I just needed to talk and when I needed a push. I fully credit him as one of the strong reasons that I am in medical school today.

—Jenna Meredith '15

Dr. Marty Cock, and the entire math department, were wonderful to me during my years at Furman. Dr. Cock sat down with me freshman year and helped me work out how I could double major and also go on foreign study and still graduate in four years. He even taught me one class as an independent study that I wasn’t able to fit into my schedule.

—Meredith Bridwell Smith '99

I went to drop a class and ended up with a job, mentor, and best friend (Margaret Cateriano)! After three years as the costume assistant, and several more theater classes, I learned more than just costume construction. She taught me that patience, grace, and faith can be the best tools of the trade.

—Laura Spahn '89