

EOC's Zicklin & Weissman Academic Year-Long Mentoring Program Meet & Greet

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This year is a record year for EOC: over 400 Zicklin and Weissman students applied to our cornerstone initiative, the Academic Year-Long Mentoring Program! On September 18th, our Meet & Greet event launched the Class of 2015 Zicklin and Weissman Academic Year-Long Mentoring Program. The purpose of this event was for students to meet and speak with as many potential Mentors as possible, which would inform their Top Ten Mentor choices portion of their application; it was also a great opportunity for students to practice their networking and communication skills!

The morning kicked off with an open networking breakfast, where EOC Mentors and Baruch students mingled over coffee, fruit and egg sandwiches. This portion of the morning engendered more informal interaction and allowed students that had class at 9:00am to participate and meet potential Mentors. During the breakfast, former Mentees—members of the Mentee Alumni Program (MAP), circulated encouraging students to approach the Mentors and introduce themselves.

After breakfast, Professor Myung-Soo Lee, the Interim Dean of the Zicklin School of Business addressed everyone, introducing EOC, our programs and one of our co-founders, Dick Merians. Dean Lee spoke about EOC becoming a real brand on campus, and how valuable EOC mentoring program have become to Baruch students. Mr. Merians spoke about the importance of mentorship, of giving back and of community. Our Director, J. McLoughlin followed Mr. Merians explaining the event instructions and next steps in the application process.



The formal portion of the event consisted of group networking sessions at 38 tables, with 3 to 4 Mentors and 4 to 5 students at each table. Mentors facilitated round-robin discussions at each table, giving all the Mentors and Mentees an opportunity to speak. Students gave personal pitches, spoke about why they wanted a Mentor; Mentors shared their experiences and interests and why they want to mentor.

In all, 150 Mentors and 251 students attended the Meet & Greet event! We wanted to share some feedback we received from both Mentors and students with our readers. We are very excited about this coming year of EOC mentoring, and hope you are too!

All of the prospective Mentors were very engaging. I was able to meet and speak with many interesting professionals, who were honest about their expectations and also shared valuable insight into their career fields.

[A] truly wonderful Mentor event; the level of executives that were in the room and their willingness to help/provide expertise was extraordinary.

It's humbling to see such a turnout. Was very impressed by the students I met and would be happy to work with any of them.

...you really fostered a generous community environment; I spoke to so many genuinely helpful and caring Mentors. Apart from whoever my future mentor is, I'm definitely going to keep in touch with at least three people I met today.

I have never met so many professionals before! At the event I realized how important it is to have someone guide me, give me suggestions, help me through my career development process. I think the Academic Year-Long Mentoring Program will really expand my horizons, and I will discover many new opportunities.

The students are great and I want to share my perspective with them!

I loved the EOC event today. I was able to make more connections this morning than I could make in a year!

