# Dartmouth ManyMentors NEWSLETTER Spring 2020







Hello Dartmouth Mentors, and welcome to Spring 2020,

Spring term is bringing unique challenges, not just to our mentoring group, but to the entire Dartmouth community and world at large. While the shutdown of campus means that our in-person events are on hold, the need for STEM mentoring is greater than ever. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, k-12 schools throughout VT and NH have taken a break, leaving thousands of students at home without scheduled schooling.

In response to this, our team is ramping up our Zoom-Ins (formerly known as Skype Seminars) and expanding our e-Pen Pals program to help keep students engaged in STEM during this break from school. We urge all of our mentors to join us during this trying time both to help keep yourselves engaged and occupied and to make a difference in the lives of our mentees and their families.

We are entering this term from a very successful Winter quarter, which saw our group continue to work with Lebanon High School students at their Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) program and Mascoma students through virtual Zoom-Ins. In addition, we launched a new STEM Pen-Pal partnership with Albert Bridge elementary students and achieved our long-time goal of getting Dartmouth mentors to first in-classroom visit to Mascoma Highschool.

As the new term begins, let's keep this momentum and enthusiasm going. I know our mentoring community can and will come together to continue to support our mentees during these difficult times.

Happy Mentoring!

-The Dartmouth ManyMentors Team

We are Dartmouth
ManyMentors- a Graduate
Student Council recognized
service group that encourages
and inspires the next generation
of STEM professionals through
peer support.

We use in-person mentoring to make STEM opportunities more visible, viable, and valuable for underrepresented k-12 students in rural VT and NH. All Dartmouth students are welcome to join us!

Learn more and join us: dartmouthmanymentors.org

# **NEWS AND STORIES (cont. next page)**

## Zoom-Ins: Skype Mentoring Opportunity

For the past year our group has been very successful holding "Zoom-Ins" (previously referred to as Skype Seminars) in which Dartmouth faculty or graduate students lead short discussions with mentees...

cont. under Zoom In next page

# e-Pen Pals: STEM Mentoring by Mail!

Looking for a flexible way to help mentees stuck at home during school shutdowns? We are expanding our Pen Pals program and moving it online to help engage more elementary school students in the area and could use your help! cont. under e Pen Pals next page

## Mascoma Mentoring, Pen Pals, and Lebanon ELO- A Review of Winter 2020

Last term we were involved in a number of new and continued mentoring events throughout the Upper Valley. We continued to work with Lebanon High School mentees as they conducted science projects relating to biology... cont. under W20 Recap next page

#### **Dartmouth Mentors- Get Started**

#### Join our website!

Our official website is now live! It has:

- An event and news blog
- Mentoring opportunities by term
- Events Calendar
- An internal member's page!!

Go to dartmouthmanymentors.org to register as a mentor!! Click "Mentor Signup and Login" at the top of the page! Check the Internal for Members page to finish setting up your profile.

#### Lead a project!

Interested in taking a more direct role in Dartmouth ManyMentors? Need something to add to your resume?

Check out a list of collaborations and events we can use **your** help starting! Go to <u>dartmouthmanymentors.org/lead-a-project</u> to get started! (Make sure to make an account first)

#### Start mentoring!

Ready to start inspiring mentees? Go to

https://www.dartmouthmanymentors.org/spring-2020-covid-19-response

to sign up for our remote mentoring opportunities,

including
Skype and e-Pen Pals!



# **NEWS AND STORIES (cont. from front page)**

**Zoom In...** on a topic relating to mentee class material. These talks have ranged in subject from wondering if there is life on

Mars to exploring the physics of car racing.

In an effort to continue to reach as many mentees as possible during public school closures in Vermont and New Hampshire, we are continuing to offer this program to individual mentees and families in the area. Any mentors interested in giving a talk on any relevant STEM topic should signup via <a href="Excel doc">Excel doc</a> on the Spring 2020 page of the website. For any questions, please email Keighley Rockcliffe at <a href="keighley.e.rockcliffe.gr@dartmouth.edu">keighley.e.rockcliffe.gr@dartmouth.edu</a>. We encourage mentors to provide a video clip or engaging article related to their topic to mentees at least one day before the scheduled Skype call.



Professor Erich Osterberg discusses glaciers and the geologic history of our planet with Mascoma mentees and some of our mentors over Skype.

e-Pen Pals... As a mentor, you will regularly correspond with mentees to discuss their STEM questions, both of your

academic and professional interests, and any other fun science related topics you can think of! To signup, just add your name <a href="here">here</a>. We'll be in touch as soon as you're matched with an email address to which you can send your introductory letter. To encourage time away from the computer, we are asking mentors and mentees to write their letters by hand and then scan or photograph them to be transmitted via email. Questions or concerns? Contact Hannah Margolis at <a href="https://hannah.k.margolis.20@dartmouth.edu">Hannah.k.margolis.20@dartmouth.edu</a>.



W20 Recap... chemistry, and geology/engineering as part of the Lebanon Extended Learning Opportunity (in partnership with NHAS). Although the NH Expo where they originally planned to present has been canceled, we hope mentors can join us April 1<sup>st</sup> for an online culmination and presentation of student projects. In addition, we continued our Zoom-In Sessions with Mascoma (formerly "Skype Seminar" calls). Throughout the term, Professors Erich Osterberg, William Leavitt, and Marisa Palucis initiated discussions with mentees on oceanography, deep-sea brines, and the geology of Mars. These talks helped engage our Mascoma mentees in material directly relating to their unit on earth science and geographical processes.

In addition to these continued connections, we also began two new mentoring events this winter. To help mentors with more inflexible schedules, we started a STEM Pen-Pal program with Albert Bridge School in West Windsor, VT. For this event, our mentors wrote elementary and middle school students about their research and interests to begin what will hopefully turn into a long-lasting correspondence. This program will continue next term, but with hand-written letters scanned and emailed directly between mentors and mentees. We also achieved a long-time dream by making our first in-classroom visit to Mascoma High School in Canaan, NH. Mentors worked with students as they started their physics unit and enjoyed some engaging outdoor learning. Once in-class work resumes, we look forward to joining the students as they work on their first ever long-term science project!



mars research with Mascoma mentees

during a Zoom In session.