

Building a network of support

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“In short, my schedule was beyond hectic and overwhelming, and at times I felt like I was building my airplane as I was flying it.”
– On the Cutting Edge Participant from 2014, one year later.

What are your existing
networks of support?

Models of Support/ Mentoring

- Traditional view: “guru” mentor who shows you the ropes
- Alternative view: network of mentors and supporters, playing different roles
- Something to think about... what role will Cutting Edge play for you?

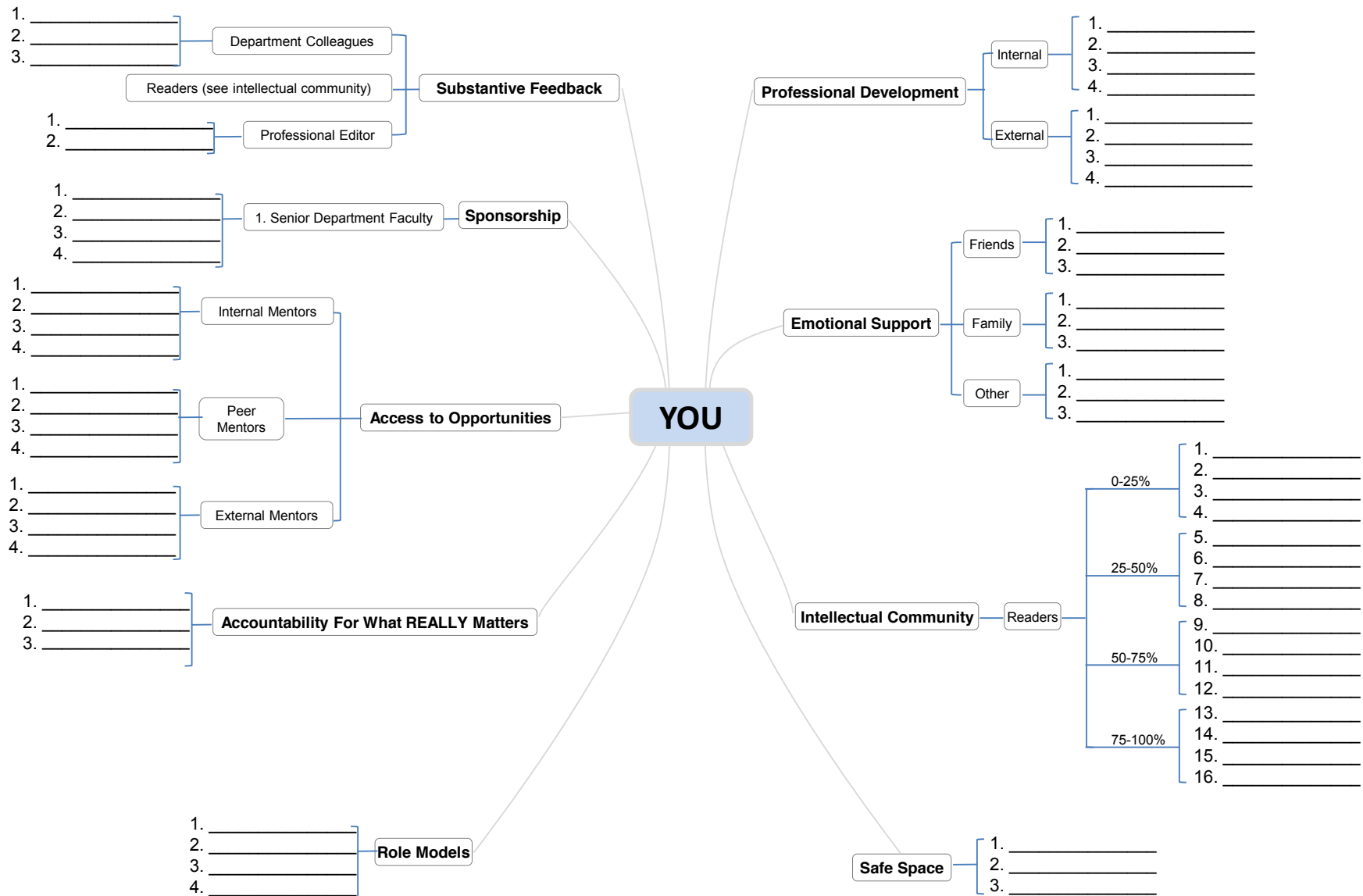
The Guru Mentor

“Many new faculty members ... imagine that they will have a single guru-like “mentor” who will sense their needs, generously dispense wisdom, care deeply about their success, and gently guide them along the path to tenure and promotion.” –Kerry Ann Rockquemore, President, National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity

This model doesn't work well, because:

- It is unsustainable for mentor and mentee
- Many faculty don't have access to such a person
- Some faculty are 'paired' with mentors that can do more damage than good

NCFDD MENTORING MAP



On the Cutting Edge Participants say...

- “I don't know what I would have done without the support of the folks I met at last year's workshop.”
- “My network helped me navigate tricky situations as they arose.”
- “My network has been able to get together at conferences and at workshops.”
- “I have invited another CE participant to give a seminar, attended another NAGT workshop, and a few of us started a writing group.”
- Another participant and I email twice a week: Sunday to set writing goals for the week, and Thursday to follow-up.”
- “In the past year, I have seen four colleagues from the workshop at meetings.”

How does Cutting Edge play a role?

- Attendance at future workshops (professional development)
- Regional network of colleagues (perhaps those sitting at your table)
 - Host seminar visits
 - Provide support and encouragement
- Research/teaching network – potential collaborations
- Make a plan for how you intend to foster your “Cutting Edge Connections”

Next Session

- For the next session, please sit at a table according to the highest degree your department offers
- Please avoid sitting at a table with people who are
 - From the same institution
 - A family member
 - A close collaborator
 - A former mentor (leader)