

# Philosophy, Vision, and Mission Statement

## **Program Philosophy**

The Bepko Learning Center's programs are based on the philosophy that highly successful academic students can play an integral role in the academic development of their peers. Collaborative learning, role modeling, peer interaction, and peer support are all components of the mentoring process.

Academic mentoring involves a facilitative learning style in which students are encouraged to work collaboratively to answer each others' questions and learn to empower themselves in their academic endeavors. Since the inception of this program, students who have actively participated in mentoring have consistently experienced an increase in their overall academic performance. Those students who attend academic mentoring regularly experience an average increase of up to one full letter grade difference over students who do not attend. In addition to the impact on the students' GPA, mentoring provides an overall enhancement of the students' academic experience by helping students create networks that will last throughout their college careers.

Mentoring is different from tutoring in that students are not provided with the answers to their questions, but are guided in the right direction by their mentors and through collaborative interaction with other students. This process allows the students to learn valuable skills that will be beneficial to them throughout their academic careers.

## **Vision and Mission**

Many learning support centers in higher education recommend that a learning center has a mission congruent with its division and institutional mission. The Bepko Learning Center's vision, mission, and goals closely align with IUPUI's mission statement, the mission of University College, and integrate the Principles of Undergraduate Learning set forth by the university in endorsing the areas of core communication and quantitative skills; critical thinking; integration and application of knowledge; and intellectual depth, breadth, and adaptiveness.

## **Vision**

As the Bepko Learning Center progresses forward in the twenty-first century, our vision is that of a learning support center which solicits the contributions of all students, staff, faculty, and administrators in order to provide a valued educational experience on campus and statewide. We support a continuously ongoing process of improvement through assessment of our vision, values, practices, and mission.

## **Mission**

The mission of the Bepko Learning Center is to enhance the opportunities for undergraduate students to achieve educational goals and to facilitate their personal, social, academic, and institutional adaptation to college life through the guidance of more experienced student peers.