

Examples of Departmental Events

Coffee & Conversation Hour

Informal drop-in session where faculty chat with students over coffee/tea and light snacks.

Game Night + Pizza with Professors

An evening of board games, card games, and casual bonding over pizza. Creates low-pressure, fun interactions.

“Cookies & Careers” Panel

Faculty share personal stories about their career paths and college experiences, followed by an open Q&A.

Speed Mentoring Mixer

Students rotate through short conversations with faculty from various departments to explore interests and build early mentorship.

“Faculty Faves” Mini Lecture Series

Short, TED-style talks by professors on topics they love, designed to spark curiosity and highlight the passion behind academic fields.

Faculty Ice Cream Social or Root Beer Float Meet-Up

A relaxed outdoor gathering where students can meet faculty while enjoying floats or ice cream.

Collaborative Art or Vision Board Project

Faculty and students co-create a piece that reflects their shared hopes and values about the college experience.

A Talk (Plus Food)

Having a guest lecture on campus? Invite students and faculty to a lunch, dinner or quick snack before the lecture starts, then head over together!

Movie & Major Night

A themed movie screening followed by a casual discussion hosted by faculty. (e.g., Hidden Figures with STEM faculty)

Ask Me Anything Pop-Ups

Faculty host informal “AMA” stations in visible campus spots where students can stop by to chat or ask questions.

Welcome Picnic

Low-stakes lunch at the beginning of the year or semester to bring faculty and students together