



Breaking In Is Not Hard to Do

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“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.” — Benjamin Franklin

Twenty years. Since graduating college and starting my career, I have been fortunate to encounter many individuals throughout my career who have provided me invaluable professional guidance. One of the first pieces of advice ever provided to me was to become a professional in any job I held. That means not just going to work to collect a paycheck, but rather getting involved, making a difference and participating in my profession.

Sometimes students, or those just getting started, may not fully appreciate the value that being a professional can have on their careers; or they are intimidated to do more than what is in their job descriptions. Whether you are a

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seasoned veteran, or have been in the field for just a few years, we all have an opportunity to shape the careers of emerging colleagues and help them appreciate that value. We can guide them by:

- Being a mentor
- Giving them program development tasks to build their skillsets
- Encouraging them to get involved with AACVPR, their affiliate or another organization
- Providing them professional development time to pursue their interests and expand their experiences

An engaged person is a highly productive employee. By empowering people to participate in their profession, you will have an employee who is focused on the care of patients, who wants to develop new programs, and who becomes an example for the next young professional that comes on to your team.

Teach and involve students and young professionals how it truly isn't hard to break in, and participate in, their profession. ■

News & Views

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