paradIGMS

transition to research

BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES TO QUALIFY AS A MENTOR

- make time (for both one-on-one & group meetings)
- advocate for your mentees
- be aware of the messages you might be sending through your (in)actions
- leave space for everyone to be themselves

FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT FOR GROWTH

- model my own learning - eg through performative question asking
- show vulnerability, apologize, admit mistakes
- normalize feedback
- criticize/correct in private
ATTEND TO YOUR LANGUAGE

• avoid pernicious tropes “as you learned in kindergarten”, “trivial”, “recall”
• a PhD does not presuppose any particular career path
• respond to questions in a way that encourages your students to ask more
• point out how mathematical age/experience colors our interactions

TRANSCEND HIERARCHIES

• if it’s worth someone doing, it’s worth being done by ME
• for advice, I give an argument + then its counterviewpoint (and leave it there)
• your mentees can also be mentors
• but don’t forget you are not like their peers and not in the same place

WORK IN PROGRESS / STILL FIGURING OUT

• navigating appropriate boundaries w/ students + postdocs
• connecting with + supporting students who prefer to learn on their own
• allyship across differences