IN PRAISE OF MENTORS [1]

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"There are people here who will remain an important part of my life," Deja Edwards, above, says of her UW mentors. Media credit: Corinne Thrash

Minutes before she was scheduled to present her gender identity research at the 2019 Undergraduate Research Symposium, Deja Edwards wondered whether anyone from her lab would attend. Several people had mentioned they'd try, but most had other obligations.

Then came a text: We're right outside.

“That's when about 20 people from my lab walked into the room,” recalls Edwards, who graduated in June. “I couldn't believe it. It was just the best feeling.” It was also a reflection of Edwards' valued role as part of the research team for more than three...

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