

Dear Pace alumni,

The naming of Pace's mentorship program in my honor is an extremely meaningful acknowledgment of my belief that the University's alumni have a meaningful role to play in helping students find their inspiration, gain confidence, and become the best version of themselves—thereby achieving their unique excellence. Though there are infinite versions, for me, excellence always includes acquiring knowledge, developing skills, maintaining a positive attitude, acting with integrity, and navigating through circumstances with attentiveness to the thoughts and feelings of others.

The most gratifying aspect of being Dean of the Lubin School of Business was earning the trust and appreciation of students and bearing witness to their transformation as young professionals and responsible adults. I consider it a profound privilege to be involved in the lives of students at this critical inflection point of their lives.

As a mentor, alumni have the opportunity to experience the joy and satisfaction of being a positive influence in the life of a young person by affirming their value as individuals and providing guidance born of wisdom gained from experience. Helping students progress from wherever they are to where they have the innate potential to go in life is as meaningful to the mentor as it is to the student.

I encourage all students and alumni to include mentorship in their definition of *Opportunitas* and experience the feelings of mutual respect and personal connection that this special relationship offers.

Sincerely,

Dean Emeritus Neil S. Braun