Peer Mentoring@UNSW

Established in 2002 to implement, foster and coordinate the provision of Peer Mentoring programs for first year students across UNSW, Peer Mentoring @ UNSW is now a significant part of the UNSW strategy for enabling the transition and retention of commencing students. It has also evolved into a major vehicle for professional and personal development for Mentors to acquire graduate capabilities, employability and life skills.

**Program Reach**

![Graph showing the number of Mentors and Mentees from 2014 to 2016.](#)

**Benefits**

**Top 3 benefits of being a Mentor:**
1. Improved Leadership skills
2. Improved Communication skills
3. Increased self-confidence

**Top 3 benefits of having a Mentor:**
1. Knowing I had someone to ask if I needed to
2. Understanding what is required of me to be successful at university
3. Finding my way around the university

**Impact**

- **93%** of Mentees who regularly engaged with the program feel that participating in Peer Mentoring made their transition to university easier
- **88%** of Mentees who regularly engaged with the program feel that participating in Peer Mentoring helped them feel a part of the university
- **96%** of Mentees who regularly engaged with the program would recommend to a first year student to join a Peer Mentoring program

**Student Voices**

- "I had a really great time getting to know the people in my group, then seeing them around campus and having someone I knew at uni. Also, having a mentor that can understand where you’re coming from and help you out was really fantastic." (Mentee, Psychology Peer Mentoring Program, 2016)
- "Just being able to help someone out with things that I knew I struggled with when I was in their position. These sessions also helped reaffirm my own skills in my degree and gave me more confidence in my own work and knowledge." (Mentor, BESA Peer Mentoring Program, 2016)

*as described by students in the 2016 Peer Mentoring Evaluation survey*[Peermentoring.unsw.edu.au](http://Peermentoring.unsw.edu.au)