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

![Graphs showing number of Mentors and Mentees over the years: 2015, 2016, 2017.]

Benefits*

Top 3 benefits of being a Mentor:
1. Improved Communication skills
2. Improved Leadership skills
3. Identifying with my school /faculty /university

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. Accessing university services and resources

Impact*

97.5% of Mentees who regularly engaged with the program feel that participating in Peer Mentoring made their transition to university easier

96% of Mentees who regularly engaged with the program feel that participating in Peer Mentoring helped them feel a part of the university

100% of Mentees who regularly engaged with the program would recommend to a first year student to join a Peer Mentoring program

Student Voices

“I really enjoyed meeting up with my mentors every week. They were helpful and the experience strengthened my bond with not only the optometry cohort, but also with the university community. My mentors were funny and made me feel more comfortable in my transition to uni.”
(Mentee, Optometry Mentoring Program, 2017)

“One of my most enjoyable experiences in the Peer Mentoring program was being able to share my experience with mentees and seeing how this helped them and made their experience at UNSW better.”
(Mentor, Mature Age Mentoring Program, 2017)

* as described by students in the 2017 Peer Mentoring Evaluation survey

Peermentoring.unsw.edu.au