



School of Mathematics and Statistics - Learning and Teaching Presentations

Balancing the Equation: A mentoring program for first-year female students enrolled in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)

Presenter: Jackie Reid, Lecturer in Statistics and First Year Learning and Teaching Coordinator (Science and Technology), University of New England.

Time: Thursday 27th August, 3-345pm .

Location: Richard Berry-M01 (Russell Love Theatre)

A mentoring program designed to assist female students to make appropriate choices in pursuing and achieving STEM-related career goals during and after university is being implemented at UNE in Trimester 2 2015. Students are matched with both an academic mentor and an industry-based mentor.

This project will benefit both mentorees (students) and mentors (academics and professionals). For mentorees, the program offers assistance in recognising and addressing potential roadblocks to a sustained and successful career, in building confidence in pursuing career goals, and in developing sound decision making skills in study and career planning. For mentors, the program offers professional development opportunities related to STEM education and careers, including workshops and networking. Jackie will discuss the motivation for the program and its implementation, describe its various components, and provide some early results and feedback.

Jackie Reid is a lecturer in Statistics at the University of New England, Armidale, NSW. She is the First Year Learning and Teaching Coordinator (Science and Technology) and project leader for *Balancing the Equation*.

Her research interests include statistics education, STEM education with a focus on the development of students' quantitative skills in the STEM curriculum. She is also a member of a \$1,000,000 OLT project: *It's Part of My Life*: engaging university and community to enhance science and mathematics education.

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