



IN2SCIENCE AWARDS 2016

On Thursday 1 December 2016, the In2science Awards recognised and celebrated the outstanding achievements and outcomes in STEM engagement through the In2science Peer Mentoring Program.

Through 2016, In2science has supported STEM education in secondary classrooms across 45 Victorian schools, reaching over 4300 students.

The most exciting examples from across the program, including the finalists and winners of each Award category, were highlighted on the night and captured in this document.



AWARDS 2016

☆ 140 SCHOOLS
☆ ~2,000 MENTORS
☆ 50,000 STUDENTS

In2science started 2004

45 VIC SCHOOLS
& 4,300 STUDENTS
SUPPORTED
BY MENTORS

LAUNCH
OF
e-mentoring
FOR
regional
Students



GENEVIEVE LAZZARI
PROGRAM DIRECTOR



HON PROF. JOHN BRUMBY
IN2SCIENCE CHAIRMAN

FOR SHARING
THEIR
Passion

BUILDING
Students'
Ambition

Thanks & congrats
— TO OUR —
MENTORS.

AWARDS TO:



ANDRES ALZATE
UNI. OF MELBOURNE



SELMA EKRI
SWINBURNE UNI.
OF TECHNOLOGY



TARIK ZEPCAN
LA TROBE UNI.



SHELLEY HASLETT
RMIT UNI.



MITCHELL GRIGGS
LA TROBE UNI.

ENGAGING
STUDENTS

TEACHER AWARDS:

- JESSICA SARTORI
BRUNSWICK SEC. COLLEGE
- KYLIE LAMBERT
MAFFRA SEC. COLLEGE

SCHOOL AWARD:

- BUNDOORA SECONDARY COLLEGE

In2science

IS TEN WEEKLY

= VISITS TO YEAR 8-9

students & teachers

TO SUPPORT

STEM LEARNING

@jcfiction

ROLE MODEL AWARD

MENTOR AWARD FINALISTS

Awarded to the university mentor recognised as an outstanding role model for their student mentees.

Andres Alzate (The University of Melbourne) - WINNER

Graduate Certificate (Pure Mathematics)

Mentored Year 7-10 Maths students at Mount Alexander College

Andres' passion for maths is infectious and was a true strength in his role as an In2science mentor, which allowed him to be a fantastic role model for students. Always with a smile, Andres carefully explained mathematical principles in an easy to understand and fun way. He used relatable and practical examples to show just how important maths is to everyone. Through his In2science placement Andres has discovered a career in teaching, which he will start in 2017.

Fiona (Hasti) Williams (La Trobe University)

Bachelor of Law/Bachelor of Science (Microbiology)

Mentored Year 8 Science students at Heathmont College

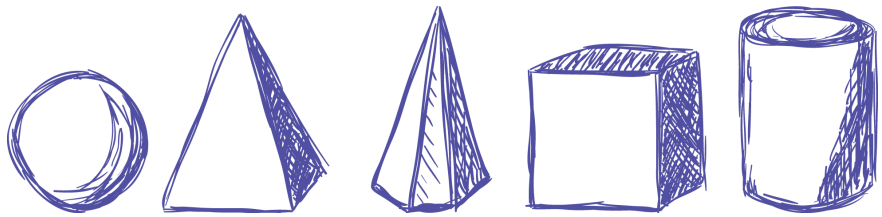
"Hasti always came into the class with a smile and when the students saw her in class, they instantly got a buzz. Her positivity is contagious and she was a pleasure to have in the class this semester. Some weeks she has worked with a small group of high-achieving students, extending them so that they remained engaged. Other weeks, she helped weaker students get up to speed and understand the basics." - host teacher, Heathmont College

Nathan Catania (RMIT University)

Bachelor of Engineering (Computer and Network)

Mentored Year 8 Maths students at Glen Eira College

"Nathan's interest in robotics allowed him to show the students the relevance of mathematics outside of the classroom. For some it created the motivation they needed to spark their interest in maths. He worked primarily with students who were easily distracted and helped to give them focus. I have had many mentors over the years, but I have never had one that was so at ease with the students and they with him." - host teacher, Glen Eira College



Nicholas Robinson (Swinburne University of Technology)

Bachelor of Engineering (Biomedical) (Honours)

Mentored Year 9 Science students at Auburn High School

"Nick fit the brief of a perfect mentor for a challenging Year 9 class. Nick's approach was gentle, humble and was able to deeply empathise with the students. He worked in a class in which students do not often trust new adults quickly... and learnt all the students names by the second session. After a few weeks it was inspirational to hear calls of 'Nick?' 'Nick!' coming from all corners of the room as students wanted help from him." - host teacher, Auburn High School

Zack Yarak (RMIT University)

Bachelor of Engineering (Civil & Infrastructure) (Honours) / B. Business (Management)

Mentored Year 8 Maths students at Mill Park Secondary College

Zack's experience of In2science and his contribution to the program is living proof of its impact coming full-circle: "I had an In2science mentor when I was in high school. I remember the impact it had on me and some of my decisions going into VCE and even university. I am very passionate about engineering and wanted to encourage kids to gain an interest in maths and show them how it can be applied to exciting courses and careers. My placement was an amazing experience. I got to return to my old high school and the kids connected with me even more once they knew I attended the same school as them."

IMPACT AWARD

MENTOR AWARD FINALISTS

Awarded to the university mentor that made the greatest positive impact in engaging students in science or maths.

Selda Ekri (Swinburne University of Technology) - WINNER

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) (Honours)

Mentored Year 9 Science students at Hume Central Secondary College

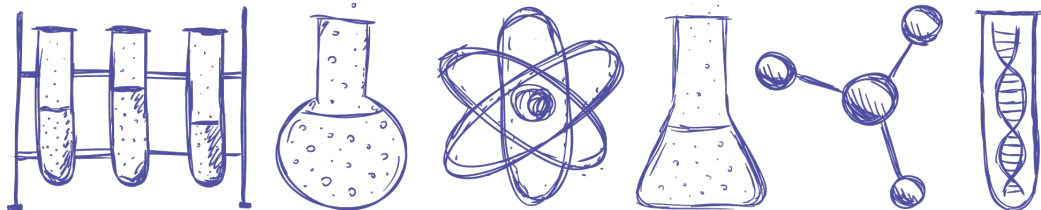
Selda began her first mentor placement in a challenging classroom environment, with a number of disengaged students. After a couple of weeks she had gained the students' respect, leading to them engaging with the class in a calmer, more focussed way than they had previously. By the third week of placement the students had started asking the teacher when Selda would be in next for their science class. With the support of her classroom teacher, Selda was able to share her experience of studying engineering and brought in examples of her project work in CAD modelling and advanced manufacturing.

Charlotte Edwards (La Trobe University)

Bachelor of Outreach and Community Education (Biology)

Mentored Year 8 Science students at Epping Secondary College

"Charlotte was extremely caring with the students and demonstrated a keen sense of empathy for them as individuals. She never hesitated to assist the teacher in the classroom and initiated multiple engaging learning opportunities for the students. She would bring in things she made for lab classes (e.g. leaf samples for plant biology), talk about what she was studying, and have genuine conversations with the students." - host teacher, Epping Secondary College



Nikki McKenna (RMIT University)

Bachelor of Applied Science (Mathematics)

Mentored Year 8 & 9 Maths students at Brunswick Secondary College

"Nikki was amazing working with small groups of students. Often they would even seek her help which to me was a good indicator that she has value in the classroom. She managed to make Maths easy for a group of very disengaged boys and worked one-on-one with a very difficult student. She was clear in her communication and you could obviously tell she was very passionate about Maths. Nikki also stayed behind to work with some Year 10 students who liked giving her a challenging question." - host teacher, Brunswick Secondary College

Samuel Parks (The University of Melbourne)

Master of Engineering (Civil)

Mentored Year 7 & 8 Science students at Simonds Catholic College and Thomastown Secondary College

Sam's communication skills have shone through during his In2science placements. He has a warm rapport with students and works with everyone to highlight the importance and real-life applications of science. "Nothing seemed to phase Sam in his placement. He gave valuable insights into how science and engineering are important in the real world." - host teacher, Simonds Catholic College

DEDICATION AWARD

MENTOR AWARD FINALISTS

Awarded to the university mentor that showed greatest dedication and commitment to the In2science program.

Tarik Zepcan (La Trobe University) - WINNER

Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience

Mentored Year 8 & 9 Science, Animal Science & Maths students at Roxburgh College

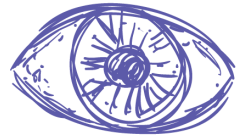
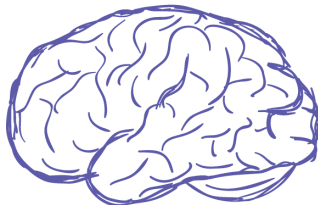
Tarik's knowledge and hands-on-learning ideas have created a richness of tasks in class and engaged students in dynamic scientific investigations. Tarik is passionate about sharing his experiences and the students are always keen to hear about life at university and what his veterinary course entails. He has built such a positive rapport with the students and teachers, that he now volunteers two days a week at his placement school and always exceeds the teachers' expectations.

Jaydene Pearson (Swinburne University of Technology)

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) (Honours)

Mentored Year 8 & 9 Science students at Norwood Secondary College, Bayswater Secondary College, Rowville Secondary College; eMentor at Wodonga Middle Years College

Jaydene has been one of the program's longest-serving mentors, with an incredible contribution made through four placements across four schools since 2012, including taking part in the In2Nanotechnology Gippsland Roadshow. Jaydene has served as a fantastic role model for students across these classes and has generously shared her insights and experiences at training sessions for new In2science mentors.



Vergil Dolar (The University of Melbourne)

Masters of Public Health

Mentored Year 9 Science students at St Albans Secondary College and Maribyrnong Secondary College

Vergil has built caring and productive mentor-mentee relationships during his In2science placements at St Albans Secondary College and Maribyrnong Secondary College. Drawing upon his own experiences in high school, Vergil related to the needs and challenges faced by the students. Greeted by students with a fist pump, Vergil worked hard to develop relaxed interactions with students to discuss all things science including study tips and real-life applications. His communication skills are outstanding and his commitment to In2science has been exceptional.

ABOVE & BEYOND AWARD

MENTOR AWARD FINALISTS

Awarded to the university mentor that showed greatest initiative in engaging students in science or maths.

Shelley Haslett (RMIT University) - WINNER

Bachelor of Applied Science (Food Technology and Nutrition)

Mentored Year 8 & 9 Science students at Glen Eira College and Brunswick Secondary College; eMentor at Wodonga Middle Years College

“Shelley was a positive presence in the classroom and she actively engaged with students and staff. During practical classes she showed initiative to help out in anyway possible, for example helping students, setting up equipment, offering to take groups, and providing relevant examples of the science.” - host teacher, Glen Eira College

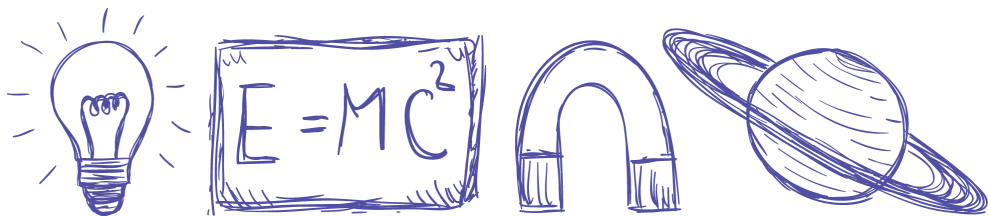
“Shelley was simply fantastic! She worked really hard to ensure that she embedded herself in the culture of the class as quickly as possible. Her knowledge of science is fantastic and she was able to help students for a variety of topics.” - host teacher, Glen Eira College

Alaric Sanders (The University of Melbourne)

Bachelor of Science (Physics)

Mentored Year 9 Science students at Rosehill Secondary College

“Al did a phenomenal job. Apart from engaging with the kids, relating his work to their topics and answering questions, he went out of his way to help the students understand topics better. He wrote code for a program to demonstrate heat and kinetic energy. He brought in his own resources as they related to the subjects being covered in class. He was also able to link what the students were doing to very high level physics concepts - I learned a lot from having him with the group! Above all else, his enthusiasm and passion for science and his desire to share that with students was great and had a very positive effect on the class.” - host teacher, Rosehill Secondary College



Alex Newsome (La Trobe University)

Bachelor of Electronic Engineering

Mentored Year 8 & 9 Maths and Robotics students at William Ruthven Secondary College and Bundoora Secondary College

"I have worked with In2science before and know the calibre of the high quality mentors we work with, however Alex has brought a new level to our Robotics project. He has been able to bridge the gap for our junior students and myself, from knowing nothing about Robotics, Arduino and associated integrated circuits to having a working set of paint ball battle tanks. We have worked together to bring eight young students along a complex journey through the new and exciting STEM world that has erupted at our school." - host teacher, Bundoora Secondary College

Harry Bennett (Swinburne University of Technology)

Bachelor of Engineering (Robotics & Mechatronics) (Honours)/B. Computer Science

Mentored Year 8 Science students at St Joseph's College Ferntree Gully

Harry has undertaken two consecutive placements in a Year 8 Science class at St Joseph's College this year. Over these placements he has shown outstanding initiative as an In2science mentor: bringing a NAO Robot into the classroom, joining the class for a space science excursion to VSSEC, and helping to run workshops at a Quantum Victoria/ In2science special event. His commitment is matched by his clear fit for the mentoring role. As he puts it: "STEM education has been a big part of my life, it only seemed natural that I should help communicate my experiences and ideas to younger generations who might be interested in pursuing a future in engineering or science."

EMENTORING AWARD

MENTOR AWARD FINALISTS

Awarded to the most dedicated university mentor in the online eMentoring program.

Mitchell Griggs (La Trobe University) - WINNER

Bachelor of Biomedical Science

Mentored Year 9 Science students at Mill Park Secondary College, Roxburgh College; eMentor at Cobram Secondary College

Mitch has participated in multiple in-class and online placements. He contributed to the development of the eMentoring pilot program and provided valuable feedback that has helped In2science improve the eMentoring experience. As an eMentor Mitch was able to help increase student engagement far beyond his mentoring sessions by discussing and extending what the students had learnt in class. His support also allowed the students to access resources that aren't available at school. Mitch firmly believes that science communication and scientific literacy is critical to a healthy society. He finds the opportunity to share his enthusiasm about science and to encourage students in their science studies really rewarding.

Jessie Clare (Swinburne University of Technology)

Bachelor of Science (Biotechnology)

Mentored Year 8 Science students at St Joseph's College Ferntree Gully; eMentor at Maffra Secondary College

"One day Lily and Narelle came back from the eMentoring session with Jessie with grins on their faces and a spring in their steps. Never had I seen the girls so motivated and excited in class. Jessie must have instilled something in them that is very rare and hard to achieve in a secondary college - intrinsic motivation. Jessie has a great talent in working with young people and I am very pleased we have had the opportunity to have her work with Lily and Narelle through the In2science eMentoring program. " - host teacher, Maffra Secondary College

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNER SCHOOLS

Metropolitan Schools

Antonine College
Auburn High School
Bayside P-12 College
Bayswater Secondary College
Brighton Secondary College
Brunswick Secondary College
Bundoora Secondary College
Caroline Chisholm Catholic College
Collingwood College
Copperfield College
Dandenong High School
Eaglehawk Secondary College
Epping Secondary College
Essendon East Keilor District College
Footscray City College
Glen Eira College
Glenroy Secondary College
Heathmont College
Hume Central Secondary College
John Fawcner Secondary College

Lalor North Secondary College
Maribyrnong Secondary College
Mill Park Secondary College
Mount Alexander 7-12 College
Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College
Reservoir High School
Rosehill Secondary College
Rowville Secondary College
Roxburgh College
Simonds Catholic College
St Albans Secondary College
St Joseph's College Ferntree Gully
Templestowe College
The Grange P-12 College
Thomastown Secondary College
Wantirna College
Wellington Secondary College
Werribee Secondary College
Westall Secondary College
William Ruthven Secondary College

Regional Schools - eMentoring

Cobram Secondary College
Distance Education Centre Victoria
Euroa Secondary College
Maffra Secondary College
Merbein P-10 College
Wodonga Middle Years College

MENTOR SUPPORT AWARD

TEACHER AWARD FINALISTS

Awarded to the classroom teacher that provided the most supportive mentoring environment.

Kylie Lambert (Maffra Secondary College) - WINNER

Kylie has been a fantastic support for online eMentors at Maffra Secondary College. After the first week of eMentoring, Kylie shared positive feedback about the eMentors and the fantastic work they were doing with her year 8 students. She's been a superb advocate of the program since then. She regularly emails mentors to provide them an overview of what topics will be covered each week and praises their efforts. In reflection of this, online eMentors partnered with the school have had rewarding and highly enjoyable placements. The online eMentoring sessions have been so successful thanks to her commitment and constant support.

Kathryn Sobey (Auburn High School)

Kath, the link teacher at Auburn High School and a former In2science mentor herself, has been incredibly supportive of the program and of her mentors. She provided a very warm welcome to all mentors, as well as outlines of what will be covered in each class. She integrated the mentors into the class and gave them useful advice about how to work with the students, based around the students' learning needs and behaviours. She also took the time to share positive feedback about the mentors and to let them know how good a job they've been doing. All of this reflects her efforts to help mentors actively reflect on how they can have the greatest impact in the classroom and make them feel valued in the work that they do.



Tabetha Spiteri (Pascoe Vale Girls College)

Tabetha is a strong advocate for the In2science program at Pascoe Vale Girls College, especially increasing the profile of STEM (which has traditionally struggled to draw in female students) with the assistance of the In2science mentors. The school became an In2science partner in 2016 and since then Tabetha has hosted two mentors in her classes. She has offered extensive support for the mentors, including suggesting novel ways for them to engage the girls in the classroom.

PROGRAM COMMITMENT AWARD

TEACHER AWARD FINALISTS

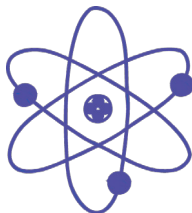
Awarded to the classroom teacher that showed the greatest commitment to the In2science program

Jessica Sartori (Brunswick Secondary College) - WINNER

Jess, the link teacher at Brunswick Secondary College, has been instrumental to championing the introduction of In2science mentors into science classes at her school. She recognises the value of using mentors to both raise the profile of science within the school and add to the development of the teaching staff. She is always able to accommodate mentors regardless of their availability. She has hosted mentors in her classes over 2015-2016, all of whom have given fantastic feedback about her teaching methods and the overall engagement of the school students. Jess has also given In2science mentors the opportunity to participate in high school engineering projects and science fairs.

Clinton Hale (Maribyrnong Secondary College)

Clinton has consistently hosted two mentors each of the three semesters that he has been involved in the program. He has shown great support for each of the mentors, acting as a fantastic role model for them as they progress through their placement. Clinton comes from a university research background and shows mentors just how enjoyable and varied the teaching experience can be. Both he, link teacher Victor Sam and all teachers at Maribyrnong Secondary College have been huge advocates of In2science from the start of our current funding, hosting a total of ten mentors in Semester 2 2015 alone.



Emily Brown (Glen Eira College)

Emily has worked with the In2science program as a link and host teacher at Glen Eira College for several years. Emily has been instrumental in leading the development of the program in her school, including expanding placements to both maths and science classes and encouraging open lines of communication between staff and mentors. Emily has herself hosted three mentors. She has been superb at encouraging the mentors to bring their science into the classroom and helping mentors to engage students by connecting what they are learning to the outside world.

Samantha Holt (Epping Secondary College)

Sam is a very enthusiastic link teacher, having hosted four mentors in 2016. She is incredibly proactive and responsive, quick to reply to correspondence from coordinators and mentors, keeping them in the loop about upcoming pracs and classroom activities. Sam is very generous in her support of the mentors, often giving them opportunities in class to contribute examples of science topics, sharing their scientific expertise as well as their university study experiences.

PROGRAM COMMITMENT AWARD

SCHOOL AWARD FINALISTS

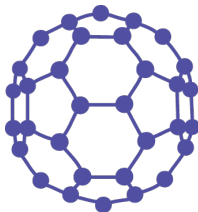
Awarded to the school that demonstrated greatest engagement with the In2science program

Bundoora Secondary College - WINNER

Bundoora Secondary College has been a strong supporter of the In2science program since 2007. Over this period, host teachers have creatively integrated their mentors into a range of science activities, ranging from pond projects to constructing solar powered buggies and paint ball battle tanks. This year, link teacher Ross Goddard had a very clear vision for how an In2science mentor could benefit his robotics elective. He has worked in close collaboration with mentor Alex Newsome to make the most of Alex's expertise in electrical engineering, programming, 3D design and printing to extract the most benefit for the students. Ross has also mentored Alex along the way, helping to enhance Alex's communication of complex scientific ideas in a high school classroom setting.

Cobram Secondary College

Cobram Secondary College has been an eMentoring partner school since taking part in the online mentoring consultation process in 2015. Hazel Buchhorn, the link teacher at the school, has always been very supportive in promoting the program amongst her teacher colleagues. Thanks to her support, an eMentor placed with the school was able to build an incredibly successful one-on-one mentoring relationship. The mentor was provided with information about the students' science interests so that she could tailor her sessions from week 1. In2science is very grateful to Hazel and the other teachers at Cobram Secondary College for helping to make eMentoring such a success!



Footscray City College

Footscray City College have been an exceptionally supportive school, with the longest commitment to the In2science program dating back to 2005. All host teachers at the school have been very helpful and encouraging of mentors, while also allowing flexibility in how mentors interact with students. Adam Taylor has been an enthusiastic and welcoming link teacher throughout this time. Host teacher Jodie O'Connor has been very supportive to four mentors. In the words of one mentor: 'Jodie is a very passionate and inspiring teacher... She makes science come to life through well thought out experiments and spontaneous discussion about science in the real world. If I were to continue the path of teaching, Jodie would definitely be the sort of teacher I would like to be.'

St Joseph's College Ferntree Gully

St Joseph's College Ferntree Gully joined the In2science program in Semester 1 2016. It has since hosted eight mentor placements across five Year 8 & 9 science and mathematics teachers: Karen Davies, Carl di Stefano, Tom Fay, Ashleigh Fleming and Nick Harvey. Nick, the link teacher for the school and a former In2science mentor himself, has been an outstanding supporter of the program. His valuable guidance and encouragement for teachers and mentors new to the program has been instrumental to making its introduction at the school such a success.



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