UNSW Science 50:50
Inspiring young women into Science

Partner Opportunities
As a modern day “alchemist” UNSW ARC Laureate Fellow and Professor Veena Sahajwalla is revolutionising the way the world thinks about waste by leveraging high temperature reactions to transform waste into valuable raw materials for production. Her world-first ‘green steel’ process turns waste tyres into commercial quality steel. She’s now turning automotive waste and e-waste into metal alloys, safely and cheaply, with more ‘green materials’ in development.

Science 50:50 is being led by Professor Sahajwalla, and is supported by her ARC-funded Georgina Sweet Fellowship.
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We seek:

Science 50:50 aims to build a network of speakers and mentors and to broker new internship opportunities for female students across Australia’s science and technology industries.

**From Industry**: Can your organisation host an aspiring young woman in the form of an internship, cadetship, or work experience - or provide other practical support?

**From Mentors**: Are you an established academic or technician interested in mentoring an aspiring young scientist?

**From Both Organisations and Scientists**:  
– Do you know an aspiring young scientist who you would like to nominate into the program?  
– Can you help publicise 50:50 – for instance, would you like to work with us to produce promotional content that benefits you/your organisation and the program?
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Industry Partner Benefits:

A promoted youth-mentoring partnership with a university program can result in substantial benefits to your business, including:

**External:**
- Flexible and negotiable co-promotion opportunities with UNSW Science
- Positive publicity and improved public profile
- Differentiating your organisation in a competitive market
- Enhanced reputation and level of trust with the public (become known for social responsibility)
- New networking opportunities for your staff involved in the program
- A greater understanding of the issues facing young people in science

**Internal:**
- A competitive edge by association with a university program
- A more skilled workforce: mentors can improve their communication, teamwork and leadership skills
- Mentor training could be part of accredited training (increasing the level of staff qualifications).
- A more skilled workforce - mentors can gain an increased understanding of young people, enabling them to better manage young employees and customers
- More informed decision-making as employees gain an increased understanding of youth mindsets
- More innovative thinking as employees gain a different perspective on the community
- Improved staff morale leading to improved performance, staff retention and reduced absenteeism
Mentor Benefits:

Mentoring gives a mentor the opportunity to facilitate the personal and professional growth of a young person by sharing knowledge learned through years of experience. While the primary goal of the mentor is to challenge the protégé to think in new and different ways, the protégé is not the only one who gains from the arrangement. The mentor benefits as well:

**Enhanced skills.** The experience you gain through the mentoring process can facilitate your own personal and professional growth, making you more of an asset to your organisation. Mentoring strengthens your coaching, supervision and leadership skills through working with young individuals from different backgrounds and with different personality types. The ability to manage people is a valuable skill in any workplace. Mentoring can also improve your performance, as your key responsibility is to set a good example for your protégé. Knowing that you are responsible for providing appropriate and accurate guidance to them motivates you to work harder.

**Develop and retain talent in your organisation.** Your role as a mentor can contribute to the success of your entire organisation. By assisting promising young women to become top-performing scientists, and by providing them with the support needed to keep them in science, your mentoring efforts effectively address issues of succession planning and retention. Establishing a mentoring program helps an organisation develop and retain talent.

**Leave a legacy.** By becoming a mentor, you create a legacy that has a lasting impact on your protégé and the field of science. Not only will you gain the satisfaction of helping to develop future scientific talent, the knowledge you foster in your protégé can inspire new ideas for generations to come.
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What now?

Please contact us with your questions, ideas or feedback about the program

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