

**STEM DIVERSITY:**  
**REPORT ON**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**BEST PRACTICES**

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ACDICT 2017 Council Meeting



# Hello!

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# Barbara Cail STEM Fellowship

Funded by the Chief Executive Women (CEW) Ltd, in partnership with the Australian Government (Office for Women).

[tinyurl.com/STEMfuture](https://tinyurl.com/STEMfuture)

## Engaging the future of **STEM**

A study of international best practice for promoting the participation of young people, particularly girls, in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM)

Authors: Ms Sarah Chapman & Dr Rebecca Vivian

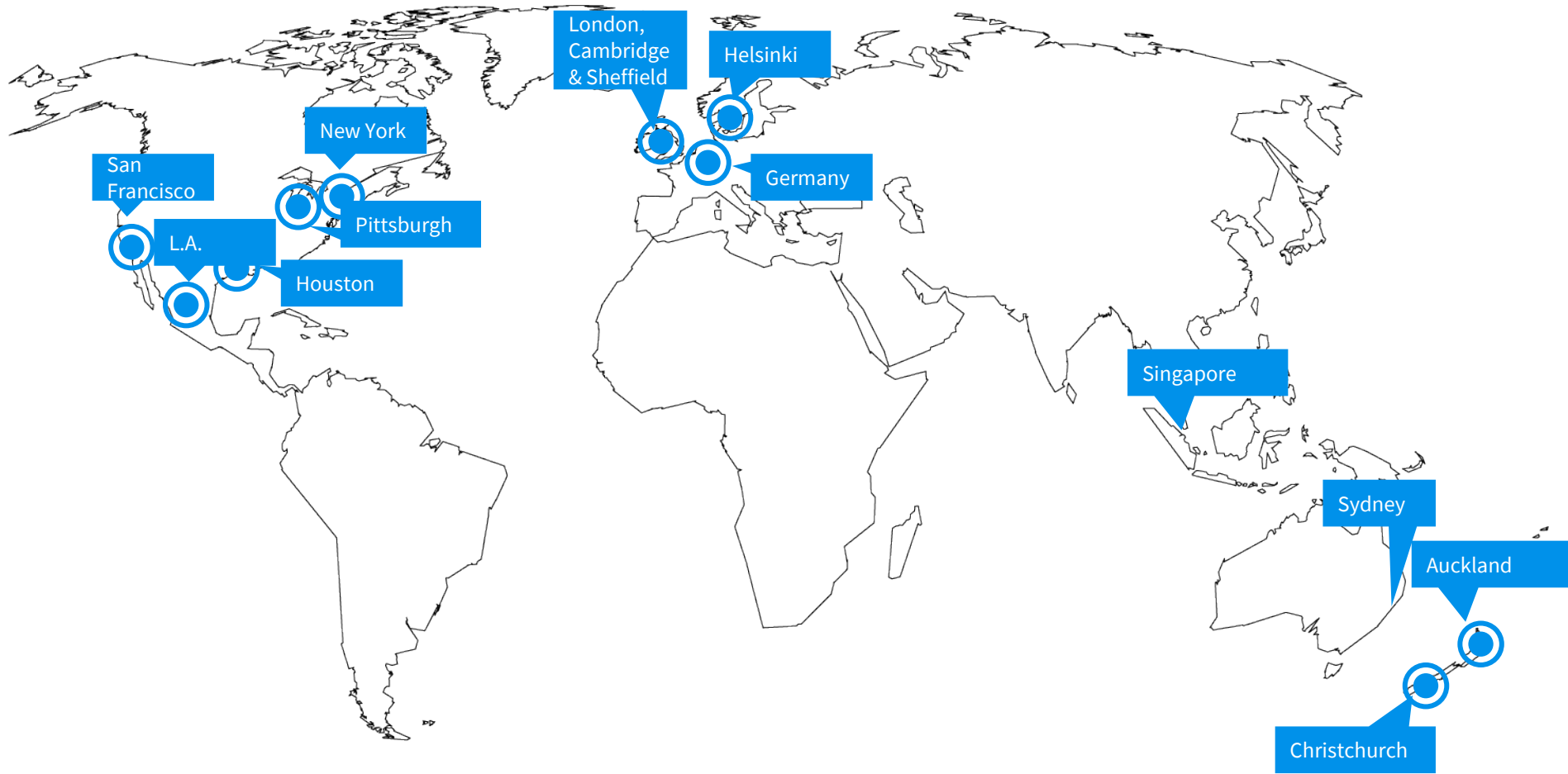
This research was conducted as part of the 2016 Barbara Cail STEM Fellowship and funded by the Australian Government (Office for Women, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet), in partnership with the Chief Executive Women (CEW) Ltd.



STEM report launch at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Sydney.

# PROJECT SCOPE



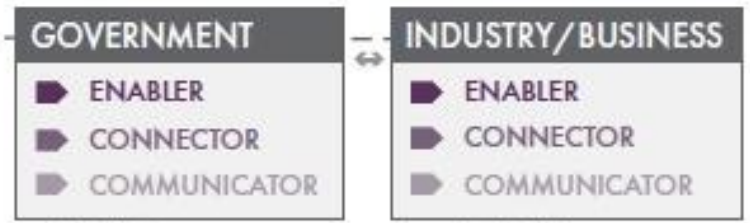


# AUSTRALIAN STEM NETWORK KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- ENABLERS
- CONNECTORS
- COMMUNICATORS
- ENGAGERS

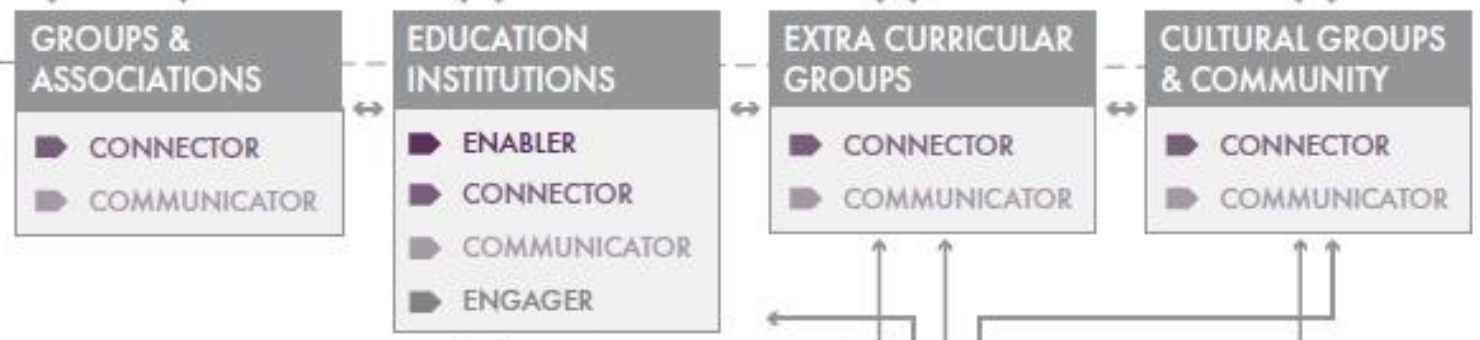
## LEVEL 1

- FUNDING
- POLICY
- RESEARCH



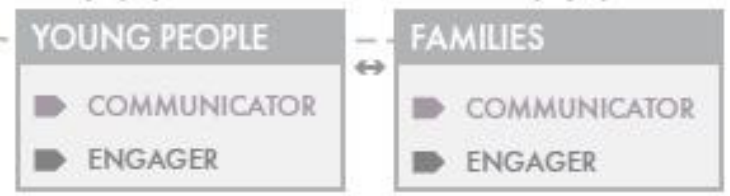
## LEVEL 2

- DESIGN
- IMPLEMENTATION & COMMUNICATION
- ENGAGEMENT



## LEVEL 3

- ENGAGERS
- CONSUMERS
- PARTICIPANTS



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*Everyone can play an integral  
role in Australian STEM  
diversity and engagement.*



# RESEARCH FINDINGS



# CHALLENGES

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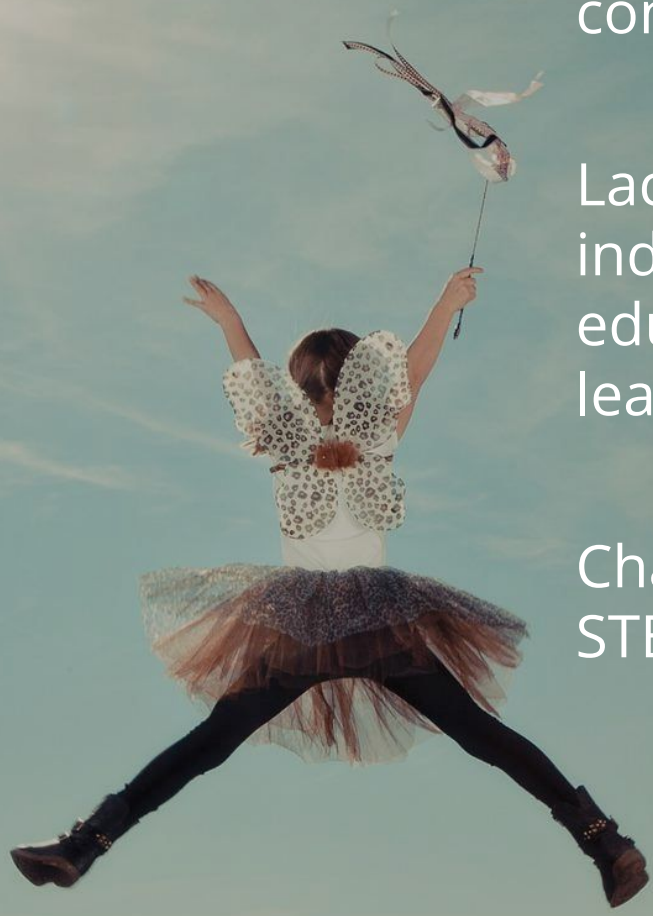
Engaging girls and women



Lack of relevance to everyday life -  
STEM being an abstract construct.

Lack of links to the 'humanness'  
around STEM.

Lack of clarity on STEM careers  
(including job titles) and  
professional activities.



Fear of failure and lack of confidence in STEM.

Lack of role models in STEM industries and postsecondary education, particularly in leadership.

Challenges around the culture of STEM industries.



Parents/caregivers lack of understanding and lack of support towards STEM pathways.



# CASE STUDIES





# LUMA Centre, Finland

Umbrella organisation brings together Finnish university Science, Mathematics, and Technology faculties to implement STEM education & outreach.

“Together we are more!”



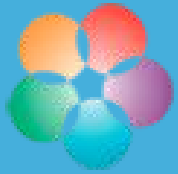
# LUMA CENTRE

→ Umbrella organisation with a common national strategy.



- Cross-disciplinary collaboration - STEM faculties.
- StarT - STEM project-based learning challenge.
- Teacher training (in-service & pre-service).
- Clubs & resources.
- LUMAT publication.





LUMA CENTRE FINLAND

# Jippo

LUONNONTIETEITÄ, MATEMATIIKkaa JA TEKNOLOGIAA LAPSILLE

Ihmettele  
Löydä  
Opi



front page

Virtual clubs homepage

virtual Clubs

Choose your age group:

3-6 years of age

7-10 years of age

## Science Theatre: The ball end Magician and Magic

Video Club 7-10 years



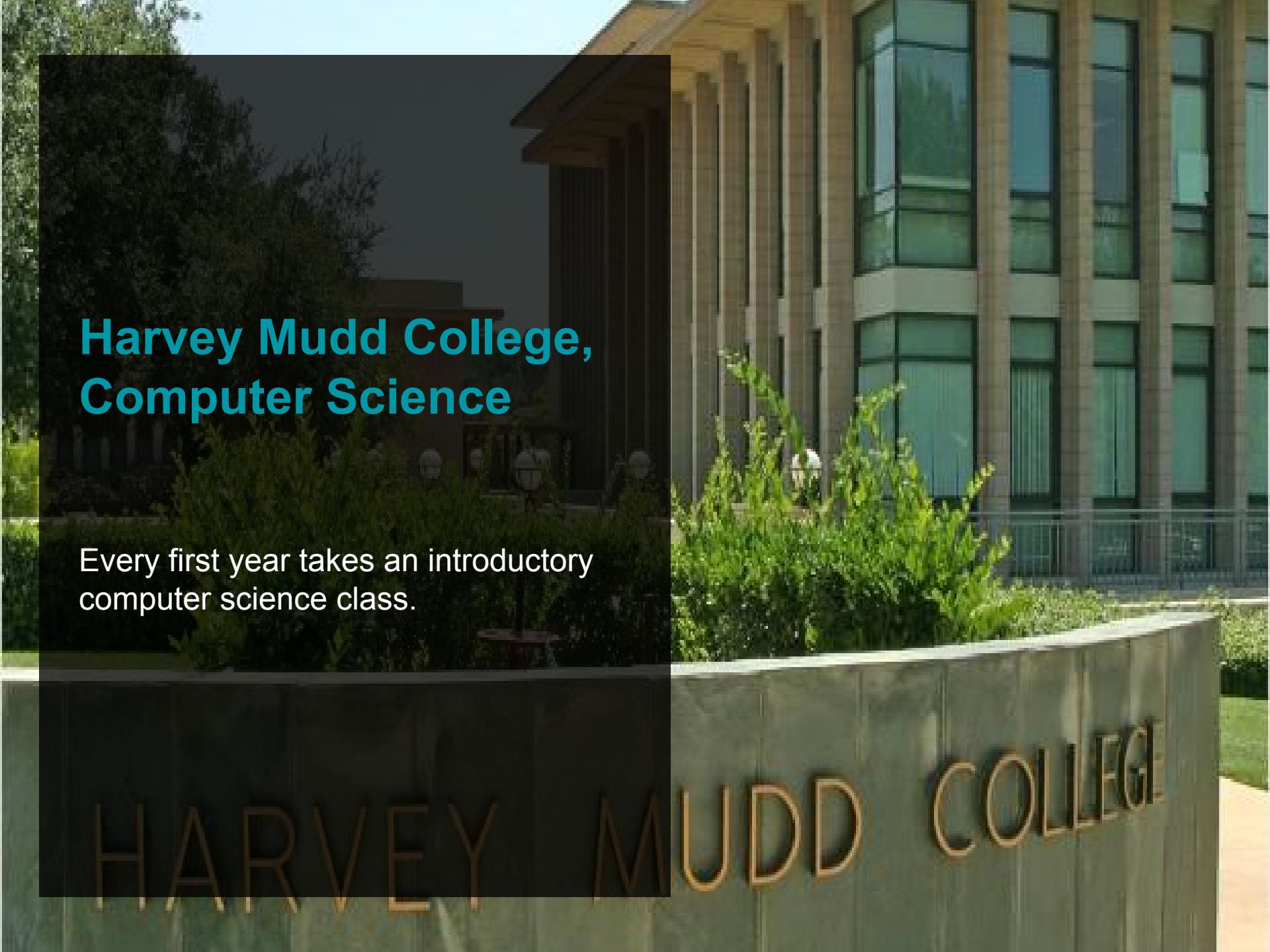
In this work, we learn theatrical ilmapallontäyttymisen seemingly out of nowhere. In the background is anyway a rigorous science.

This last science theater video will encourage all club members to use some of the skills learned tiedeteatterilemmettejä and develop their own small science theater performance! raffle presentation will award three distinguished performances.

### The bill should be

-päähenkilö, which is a human or a doll (pehmoeläin, hand puppet, stick figure doll, legoukko ...)

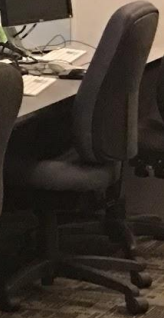
-jokin little story. The story may be similar to the stories of the examples were

A photograph of a modern, multi-story building with large windows and a stone facade. In the foreground, there is a large, dark stone wall with the words "HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE" in raised, gold-colored letters. The background shows greenery and a clear sky.

## Harvey Mudd College, Computer Science

Every first year takes an introductory  
computer science class.

HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE









# Carnegie Mellon University, SCS4ALL

A student-run, non-profit organization that works to develop a program of social and professional activities and leadership opportunities to broaden participation and interest in computing by underrepresented groups.



# ■ Bias Busters @ CMU

- Workshops for CMU faculty, staff and graduate students.
- Adopting train-the-trainer model to scale.



*"You won't change everyone, but you can build the status quo."*



# ACCESSIBILITY IN COMPUTING



Partnered with Washington University, AccessComputing - experts.

Workshop for awareness-raising.

Empowering students with disabilities to be active participants and creators of technology.

The image is a composite of two photographs of Stanford University buildings. The left side shows a building with a prominent red dome tower, likely the Hoover Tower, under a dark, overcast sky. The right side shows a large, multi-story building with a red-tiled roof and arched windows, set against a bright, blue sky with light clouds. In the foreground of the right side, there is a green lawn with several golden urns and a low stone wall.

# Stanford University, Office of Science Outreach

RISE - Raising Interest in Science and  
Engineering

Summer Research Program for  
Teachers.

Engaging students and teachers in  
authentic research experiences.



# RISE

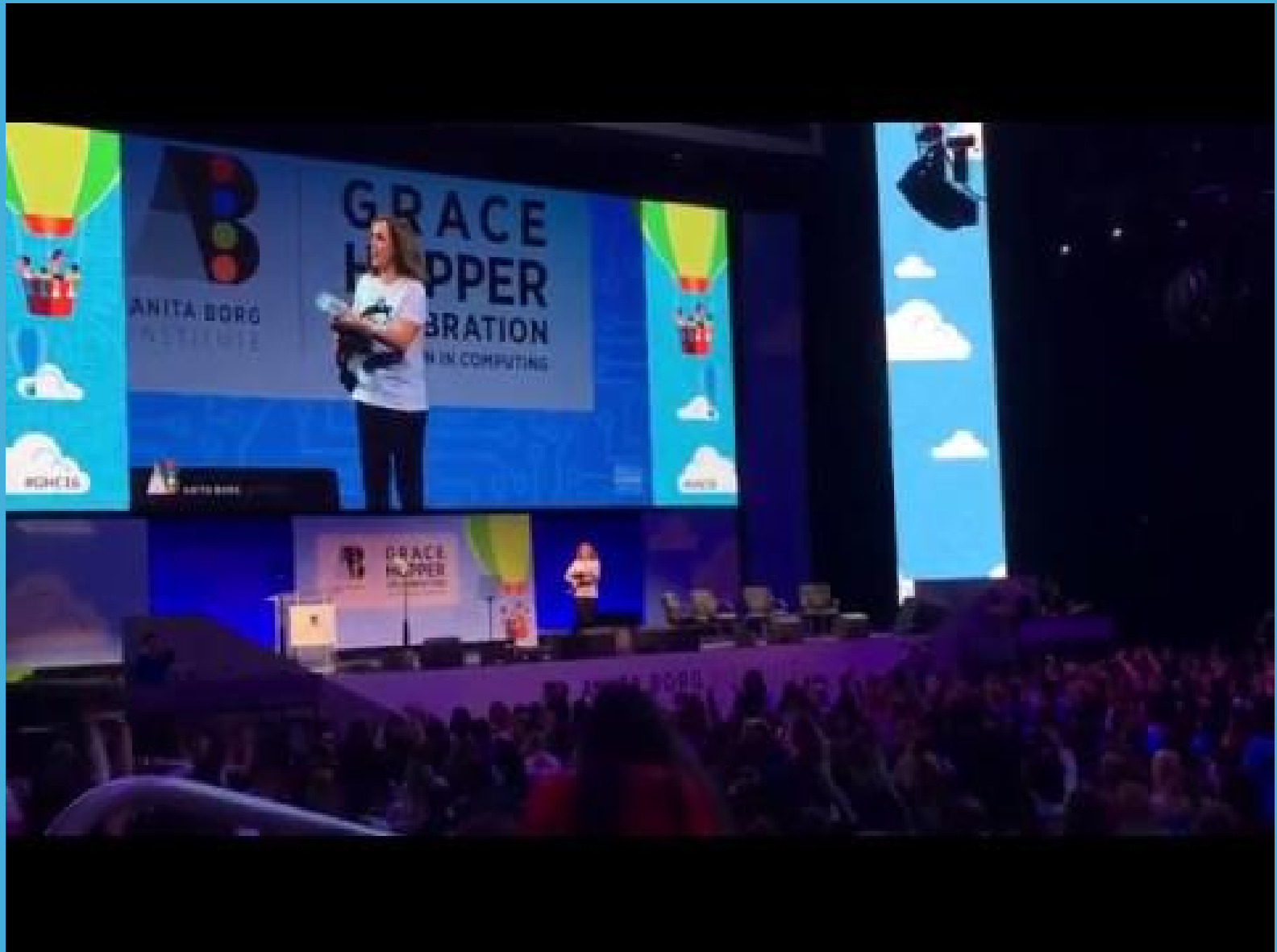
- 7-week STEM research placement.
- Authentic STEM experience.
- Low-SES targeted.
- Stipend.
- 95% of alumni receive a degree and ~80% major in a STEM subject.



# TEACHER FELLOWSHIPS



# GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION





**15,000**

attendees



**1,300** | **400**

Organisations

Academic institutions



**200**

Expo booths









Every day is a new challenge.  
A chance to break down the status quo  
and embrace the unique.  
To change lives with every new innovation.  
To go further, think smarter, be bolder.  
An opportunity to  
rise above expectations and say  
**CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.**





  
**DisneyTECH**

At **Disney**, we're storytellers. We make the impossible, possible. We do this by utilizing and developing cutting-edge technology and allowing our Technology teams to push the envelope to bring stories to life through our movies, products, interactive games, parks and resorts, and media networks around the world.

LOS ANGELES  PALO ALTO  
SEATTLE  NEW YORK CITY  
ORLANDO  PITTSBURGH  
SAN FRANCISCO  BRISTOL



“Technology is part of the DNA at Disney.” -Michael  
Senior Vice President & CTO

**DisneyTECH**

# PROGRAM CHALLENGES

## ATTRACTING DIVERSITY

Connecting with underrepresented & under-resourced communities; broadening 'diversity' strategies.

## LACK OF RESOURCING

Reliance on volunteers; change driven by a small group; physical distances or space; financial.

## MEASURING IMPACT

Collecting and managing data; evaluating impact; longitudinal analysis; identifying effective programs.

## INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Inclusive environments; institutional processes; diversity in population & leadership; retaining students; changing culture.



# REPORT OUTCOMES

- **Benchmarks for effective STEM programs** - includes factors to ensure successful and sustainable STEM programs
- **Four core strategies for engaging girls** in STEM - includes specific examples and resources
- Identification of **key components within an effective STEM ecosystem** - how each stakeholder plays an important part

# tiny.cc/SIGCSEdiversity

<p><b>Customisable &amp; Accessible</b> Customisable to suit audience needs. Accessible to different audiences and contexts.</p>	<p><b>Retains and extends</b> Designed to sustain engagement and exceed single events/experiences. Links to computing pathways for the intended audience to stay engaged.</p>
<p><b>Open</b> Resources are free to use for education purposes or available for remixing and re-sharing for non-commercial/education purposes.</p>	<p><b>Scales</b> Considers opportunities for scaling programs to for greater reach, sustained impact, and efficiency.</p>
<p><b>Evidence-based</b> Established on empirical evidence around the best practice for promoting and sustaining engagement in Computer Science.</p>	<p><b>Supports key influencers</b> Develops resources, or curates existing resources, that can inform and support key influencers.</p>
<p><b>Evaluated</b> Systematic evaluation of program effectiveness and impact is integrated into the program. Measurements focus on both reach and impact.</p>	<p><b>Partners</b> Links to relevant industry, business, education, community organisations that can inform and enhance the program(s), and/or vice versa.</p>
<p><b>Designed for diversity</b> Targeted strategies or support to effectively engage and build aspirations for underrepresented groups.</p>	<p><b>Real-world relevance</b> Links to relevant and real world learning opportunities or experiences.</p>

# STEM Program Benchmarks

<b>Customisable &amp; Accessible</b> Customisable to suit audience needs. Accessible to different audiences and contexts.	<b>Retains and extends</b> Designed to sustain engagement and exceed single events/experiences.
<b>Open</b> Resources are free to use for education purposes or available for remixing and re-sharing for non-commercial/education purposes.	<b>Scales</b> Considers opportunities for scaling programs to for greater reach, sustained impact, and efficiency.
<b>Evidence-based</b> Established on empirical evidence on best practices.	<b>Supports key influencers</b> Develops resources, or curates existing resources, that can inform and support key influencers.
<b>Evaluated</b> Systematic evaluation of program effectiveness and impact is integrated into the program.	<b>Partners</b> Links to relevant industry, business, education, community organisations for mutual partnerships.
<b>Designed for diversity</b> Targeted strategies or support to effectively engage and build aspirations for underrepresented groups.	<b>Real-world relevance</b> Links to relevant and real world learning opportunities or experiences.

# ■ KEY AREAS FOR ENGAGING GIRLS

- ❑ Effective messaging
- ❑ Providing girls-only opportunities
- ❑ Family involvement
- ❑ Developing authentic STEM connections

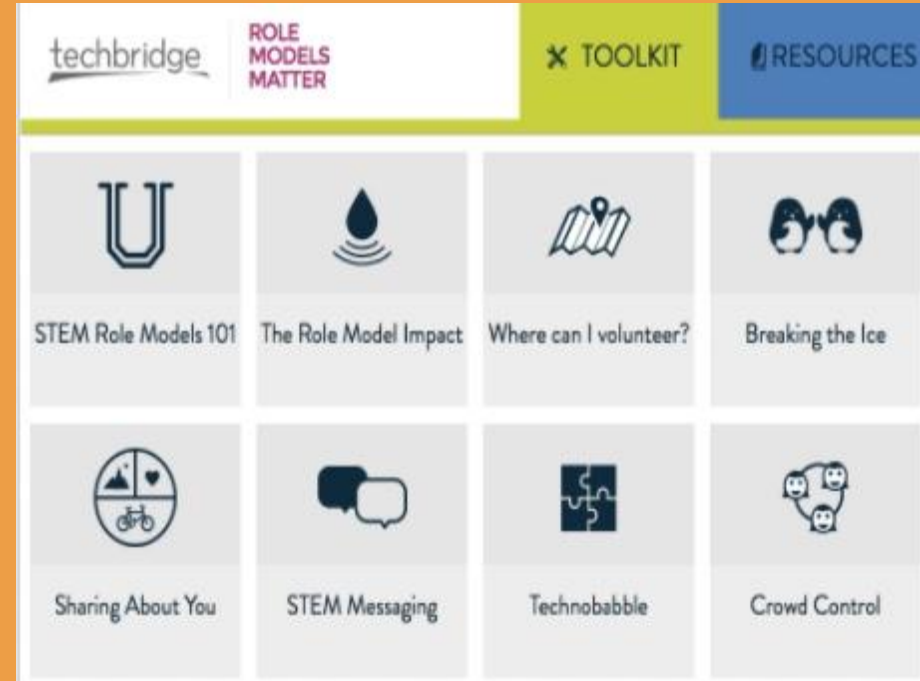
# ■ EFFECTIVE MESSAGING

- ★ Redesigning materials to use adjectives to describe STEM professions and activities.
- ★ Having role models and volunteers share their interests and activities outside of their STEM-related activities.
- ★ Developing resources for specific STEM fields with targeted messaging and information.
- ★ Evaluating media for unconscious bias, and ensure diverse representation in media.

# EFFECTIVE MESSAGING



WISE Campaign - Careers information packs



Techbridge - Training materials

## ■ KEY ACTIONS

- Establish a national coordinated strategy for building teacher capacity in STEM.
- Map Australia's STEM ecosystem, identifying key stakeholders, programs and best practice.
- Develop a STEM framework, building on the report benchmarks.
- Establish a Celebration of Women in STEM conference - modelled off the Grace Hopper Celebration.

## ■ KEY ACTIONS CONT...

- Expand industry research partnerships into STEM education, into targeted STEM topics.
- Develop, in collaboration with industry, a national student STEM mentorship program, including real-world placement experiences.
- Develop STEM engagement resources, tailored to the Australian STEM context and for STEM disciplines.



# START SMALL



Pick one problem/challenge that you would like to address or expand. Build from there.

# LEVERAGE



Build on what is already freely available. Find programs/people who are working in the space. Seek partnerships.

# SCALE



Consider ways to scale existing programs.  
Use resources (people and finances)  
creatively and efficiently.

# THANKS!

## Any questions?

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**REPORT:** [tinyurl.com/STEMfuture](http://tinyurl.com/STEMfuture)

**SLIDES:** [tiny.cc/ACDICTstem2017](http://tiny.cc/ACDICTstem2017)



# ■ CREDITS

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)
- Photographs by [Pixabay](#)

# University of Sheffield, Faculty of Engineering

The university work together, with a shared goal, to increase female participation and leadership in engineering, and to raise the profile of engineering.

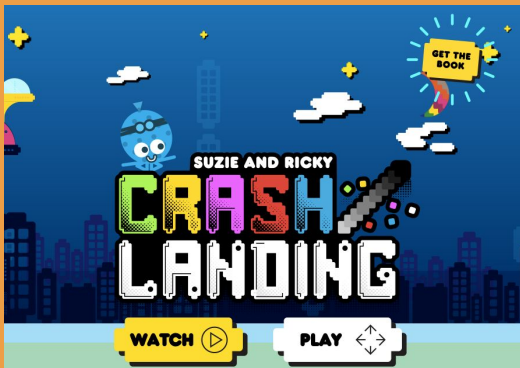
Women in Engineering, HR,  
Recruitment & Careers,  
Communications, Engineering Student  
& WIE President



# UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

## Women in Engineering

Student-run initiatives.  
Staff support & males.  
Developing family resources and outreach.



## Enhancing Visibility

Opening up lab spaces.  
Raising profile of Engineering areas.  
Visibility of support and network groups.  
More female leadership on-campus.  
Carefully designing Open Day spaces.

## Institutional processes

Changing recruitment and promotion processes.  
Adopting unconscious bias research.  
Support for female leadership.



# Project Space & Machine Shop.

## Experienced by students studying:

- Aerospace Engineering
- Civil and Structural Engineering
- Electronic and Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Foundation Year
- Interdisciplinary Engineering (MEng Engineering)
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering

In the **Project Space and Machine Shop**, students have access to a wide range of engineering equipment, including hand tools, drills, saws, casting, milling machines and laser cutting.

The **Project Space** features state-of-the-art apparatus, including a range of 3D printers, which are available for course-related activities and extracurricular projects. It also includes workstations for learning workshop fabrication skills and a flexible workspace for design-and-build activities.

The **Machine Shop** features 16 manual lathes, as well as CNC machines and band saws, allowing students to get hands-on experience, whilst receiving support from a team of dedicated technicians with specialist machining skills.

