

## Burgmann Alumni & Friends Mentoring Program



The Burgmann Alumni & Friends Mentoring Program aims to connect Burgmann residents with mentors from our esteemed Alumni and Friends Community who share their field of interest.

Through this unique initiative, mentors inspire and guide the next generation of professionals, providing invaluable insights into future career options and opportunities, and assisting with their movement into their chosen professional field.

The BAM program currently pairs around 100 alumni mentors with Burgmann residents, across a variety of disciplines, with the program taking place in the second semester of each year.

Individual residents are introduced to their mentors via email and are encouraged to contact their mentor with a view to participating in two informal meetings or skype sessions between August and November within the same year. Additionally, the College hosts an annual mentor/mentee networking event.

BAM is one of the many ways our alumni and friends give back to the College and support the next generation of Burgmann residents. It's always nice to see when a connection turns into a career opportunity and seeing Alumni and residents sharing stories about their time at College.

**Taryn Stasakova** Deputy Principal



Joe wrote to me after we first met on Zoom, 'I can't believe how quickly the time went by'. It's been the same for me. Joe's an incredibly engaging and interesting person, and I've often left our sessions wondering who's been mentoring who! We are separated in age by almost 30 years and come from very different backgrounds, but we have discovered we have very similar interests, aspirations and concerns about the directions in which Australia and the world are heading. I have no doubt that the shared experience of living at Burgmann and its mentoring program have brought our two lives together, which would never have intersected otherwise. I am grateful for this.

Tim Payne (1991–1993)
Joe's Mentor

The college mentoring program has been program has been rewarding on so many levels. On an interpersonal level, I've really enjoyed connecting with Tim and sharing stories about life at university. On an educational level, it's been a privilege to have a mentor who is so generous with his time and knowledge—our Zoom catchups always leave me with numerous new ideas swimming round my head. Last, on a personal level, I'm extremely grateful to have Tim as a sounding board when musing upon the formative experience that is university.





I was paired with a large-scale event organiser who owns his own company in Sydney. For those who know me, this was a perfect pairing! In my application, I mentioned I was interested in the organisational side of business and that I enjoy organising events. It was great to hear about my mentor's experience of getting to the stage of owning his own company, and also about some of the events he has been involved in. It's really useful to hear what a mentor's career path has been and how they arrived at the job they have today. A key learning I took from conversations with my mentor was that you will not always follow the traditional path of your degree. Instead, you can end up doing—and loving—a job that is not related to your degree at all.

Lucy Coote (2019–2021)
Mentee

BAM gave me a great opportunity to meet with someone experienced in the field I was interested in. Being able to have candid conversations and discuss the industry is an opportunity that was really valuable to me. I was fortunate to be paired with senior manager Peter Micalos at Geocon in 2018. After our initial meeting, I kept in touch and secured an internship at the start of 2019. This eventually led to a part-time role once uni came back, and fulltime once I had graduated.

Callum Read (2016-2018)

Mentee



Your mentor profile details assist us in matching you with the most suitable mentee. Together, let's connect our community and support the next generation of Burgmann residents.

Enquiries: bam@burgmann.anu.edu.au