



Career Conversations: Different backgrounds can lead to careers in construction



Women from across the Rozelle Interchange Project recently shared insight into how they ended up with a career in construction at the Harding Miller Education Foundation Career Conversations and Awards event.

The foundation provides support to academically talented, socio-economically disadvantaged young women. Their stated goal is for the young scholars to reach their potential and build direct pathways to tertiary education. The event celebrating girls in Year 9 who have been accepted into the scholarship program in 2022, was an opportunity for a number of women from across the project to talk about their career journeys and to provide insight into the different careers available and how they might align with the schoolgirls' current study pathways.

The backgrounds of our representatives could not have been more diverse as the girls heard from Project Controls Lead Planner, Sarah Sharpe; Tunnelling Undergraduate Engineers, Evie Angelopoulos and Emily Lockey; Environment Manager, Kathy Lloyd; John Holland Senior People Advisor, Sara Galloway; Senior Community Relations Advisor, Elke Davis; Communications Graphic Designer, Elysse Turner; Commercial Senior Legal Counsel, Carment Peter; and Senior Environment Advisor, Ciara Moriarty.

A common theme across their experience was that it is okay not to have it all planned out in high school, with many highlighting that experiencing a number of different jobs helped them to discover their passion.

“When the time comes, if considering a career in the construction industry, or any industry, it is beneficial to pick a field of practice you are passionate about and inspired by. In picking a career you enjoy you will be inspired by the work you do and consistently challenged to learn and achieve more. Personally, I am inspired by my work in the construction industry as I am contributing to the development of infrastructure which will be used by millions of people for decades.” shared Evie Angelopoulos, our second speaker at the event.



“When considering a career in the industry, it is important to find an area that interests you and where your naturally creative, technical or problem-solving skills or abilities can be applied.” was Carmen Peter’s advice to the schoolgirls.

“We absolutely need more women across all of the diverse professions that make up our industry and when I look at the list of you who attended I’m impressed by both the calibre and diversity of the roles you fill. I’m very proud that we are supporting Harding Miller, but also that you are all able to represent the Rozelle Interchange Project.”
Steven Keyser, Project Director

Jenny Chaw, one of the 70 students in attendance, had this to say about the panel: “A lot of the women in construction described how it was a good learning experience for them. Ever since I got the scholarship I’ve had a passion for learning and experiencing new things and I’d never thought about engineering so I want to try it.”

The Project Team were thanked for contributing to an inspirational afternoon for the schoolgirls as they consider a career path in construction.

