

WISE PROGRAM STUDENT PROFILE

THY PHAM

Bachelor of Engineering (Civil), 2012 – 2016

Thy Pham was in her final year of a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) when she joined the WiSE Program in the first semester of 2016.

In the following semester, she applied for the Mentoring Strand was paired with Gavin Bradford, Construction Director, Transurban.

In her monthly mentoring updates, Thy reported visiting Gavin on-site and receiving advice, such as, “Gavin asked me to revamp my resume and cover letter and pushed for me to apply for a few jobs”.

She followed her mentor’s advice and was shortlisted for a role with the Melbourne Metro Rail Authority. She reported, “I was very surprised that I got shortlisted to the first stage of interviews, it was just a video interview and I did find it very difficult. I was contacted again to send in a quick response answering a series of questions. However, I was unfortunately unsuccessful.”

With encouragement from her mentor, she continued to apply for jobs and shortly afterwards, she reported, “I was fortunate enough to land myself a graduate/junior role in March 2017. It was really exciting as I had only just finished my Bachelor’s degree December 2016, and was stressing in between those months about finding a full time job. I am currently employed as a Junior Engineer to deliver the viaduct track on Sydney Metro Northwest. [Sydney Metro: Thy Pham, a day in the life \(video\)](#).

“In the past year, I have learnt so many things and have met some really great and supportive professionals in the industry to guide me through the early stages of my career.”

Thy continues to be involved in the WiSE Program. For example, she attended the WiSE Program Launch the year after her graduation, and she keeps in contact with her mentor Gavin.

In mid-2018, she contacted the WiSE Program Team with the following offer: “I would really like to get involved with the WISE program and really try and give back. It gave me such great exposure to the industry and I am finally settling in (a year or so later!)”.

As a result of her offer, Thy has been paired with a second year civil engineering student who says she “would like to have a mentor who I can look up to, help me in my own development as a student engineer and help me put myself out there to find connections. I would like to know more about her experience as a graduate engineer. Also, how she applied and got to her position of where she is now.

“It would be an excellent opportunity for me to learn more about what she does in the field, comparing it to university theoretical work. Also, as I’m in second year I’m deciding what path to go down for third year, either structural or water, or to do both. As she is a graduate it may help me to decide what path I want to go down.”

Thy says, **“I am looking forward to it, I am nervous and excited! I still can’t stop talking about how much WiSE has helped start my career during the short time I was involved.”**



Mentor Gavin Bradford and Thy Pham