

A photograph showing the lower legs and feet of several people standing on a blue carpeted area and a light-colored floor. They are wearing dark-colored sneakers with white laces and white soles. The text "Stepping Out of Isolation" is overlaid in orange, italicized font across the middle of the image.

Stepping Out of Isolation

Supporting Males in Early Childhood Education
through the MENtor Program



Tēnā koutou katoa

Hello from Adelaide,
South Australia

Marni naa pudni



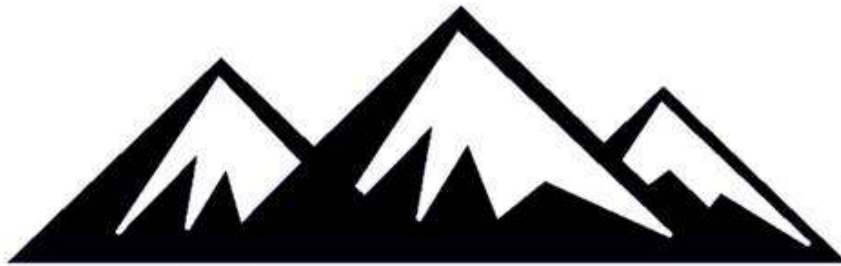
Martyn Mills-Bayne:
University Lecturer


- Social Emotional Development in EC
- Professional Experience Birth-3

Early Career Researcher

Early Childhood Educator

**Coordinator of the MENtor
Program for Males in ECE**



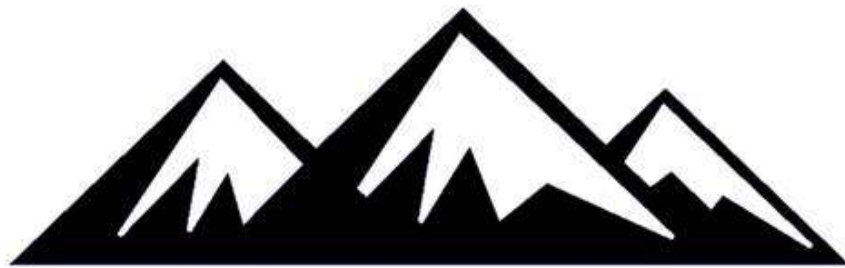
 **MENtor Program for
Males in ECE**

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25
YEARS


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The MENtor Program for Males in ECE

| The MENtor Program for Males in Early Childhood Education | | |
|---|---|--|
| Supporting Pre-Service Teachers | Networking with Others | Promoting Male Educators |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual guidance• Advice for students• Placement with male mentor• Advocacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facebook group network• Social networking events• Connection to interstate and international groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dissemination of research• Engagement with stakeholders• Media and marketing• Career Days/Open Days |



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Males in ECE

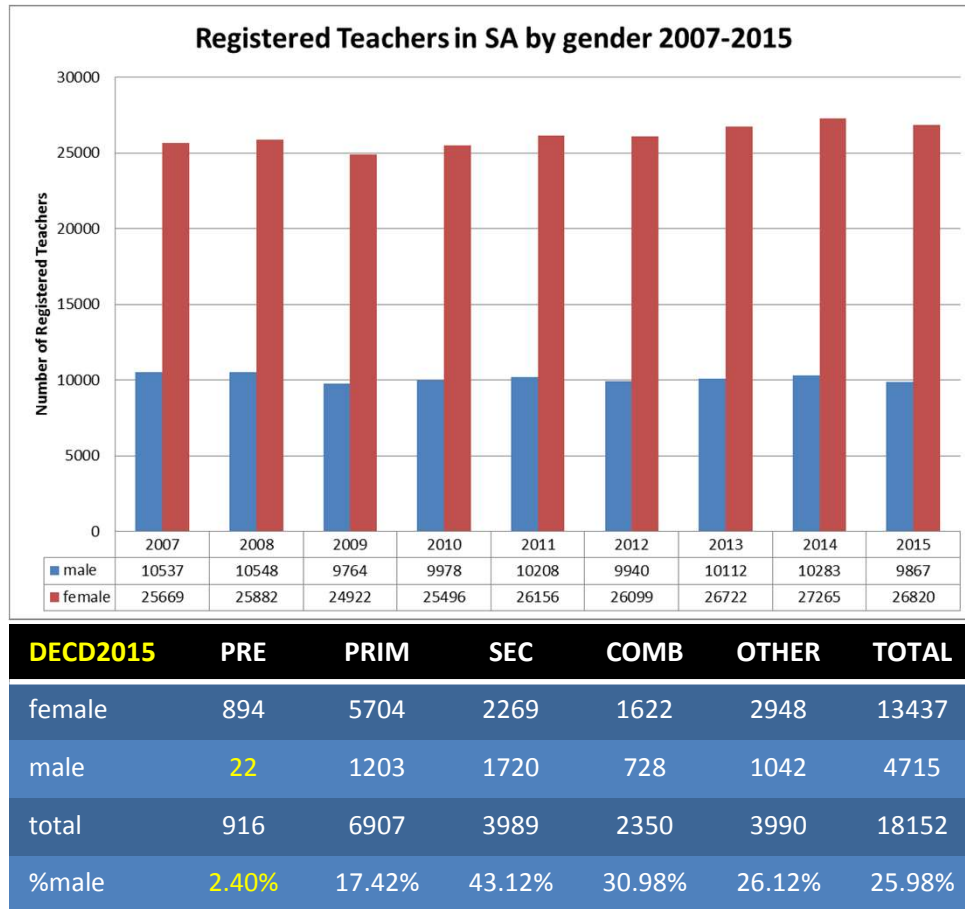
- Supporting male pre-service teachers @ UniSA
- Networking with male ECEs
- Promoting male ECEs

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The State of Play in SA



Male Registered Teachers in SA:

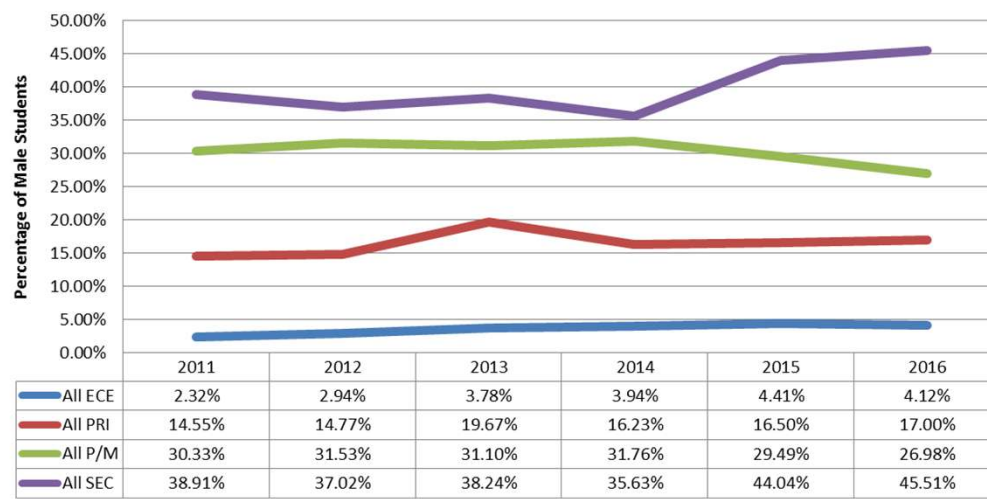
- Decreased by nearly 3% since 2007
- Decreases mainly from retirement

Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) figures

- 22 male preschool teachers employed across SA (2.40%)

The State of Play at UniSA

**All Medici Commencing MBET/MMET Male Students
2011-2016 (% of all Genders)**



Male ECE pre-service teachers @ University of SA:

- Increased by 2% since 2011
- Increases mainly due to International students in MMET
- Less than half of MBET students come directly from high school

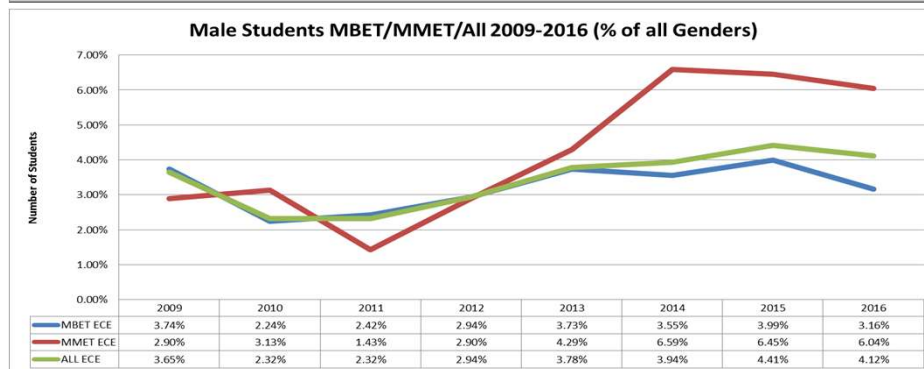
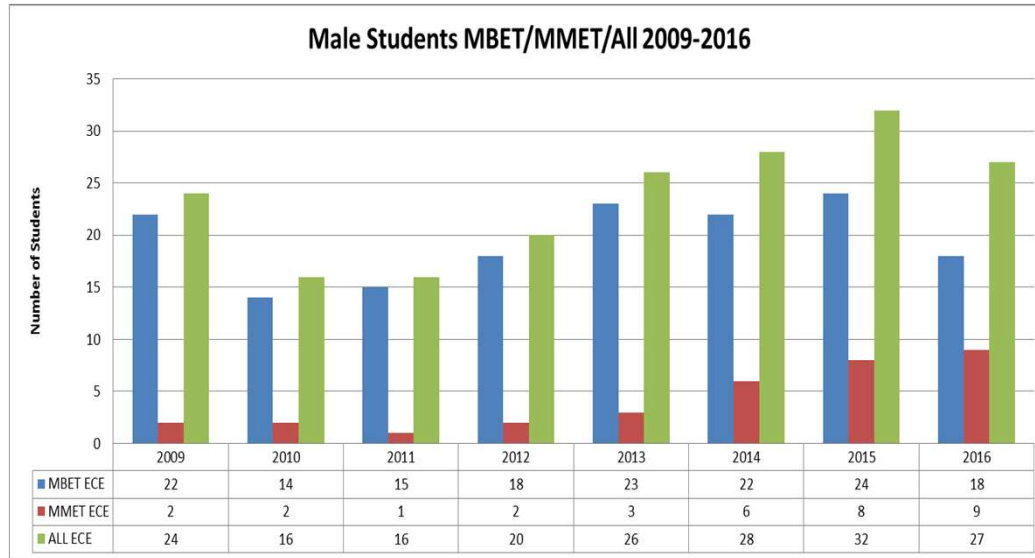
| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| MBET | 22 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 23 | 22 | 24 | 18 |
| MMET | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 9 |
| ALL | 24 | 16 | 16 | 20 | 26 | 28 | 32 | 27 |

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The State of Play at UniSA ctd.

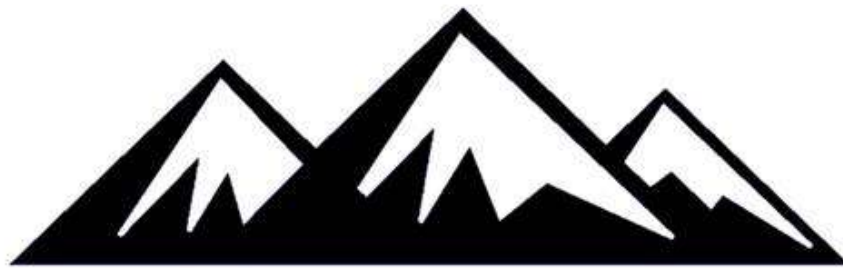


Who are the male ECEs studying @ University of SA:

- Significant increase in men studying Master of Teaching (ECE)
- In 2015: 7 out of 8 students were international
- In 2016: 7 out of 9 students are international
- Less than half of male students enter UniSA via SACE pathways (high school graduates)

Raising Awareness of Males in ECE

#MenInECE



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Media profile

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-02-22/number-of-male-teachers-dwindling-isolating-experience-for-men/7178766>

Student-led Initiatives

<https://youtu.be/4xJX-hSg3Lk>

Social media

MENtor4MalesInECE@MeMales

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/242796672474560/>

Dissemination & Dialogue

Conferences / Journal Articles / Citations / Books
etc...

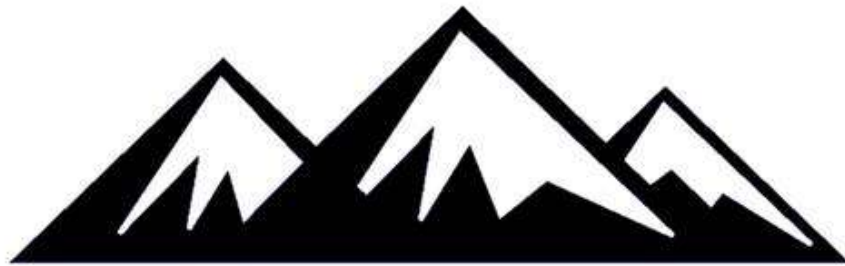
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Stepping into a Larger World

“When a man makes his career choice where primarily women work, he is challenging an economic and gender segregated system; he shifts societal expectations about what roles men and women can perform” (Bryan Nelson)



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International links

- EC-MENz
- UK Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI)
- University of Wisconsin (UW-Stout)
- University of Cyprus
- Men in Early Childhood-Colorado
- MenTeach-New England
- Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI)

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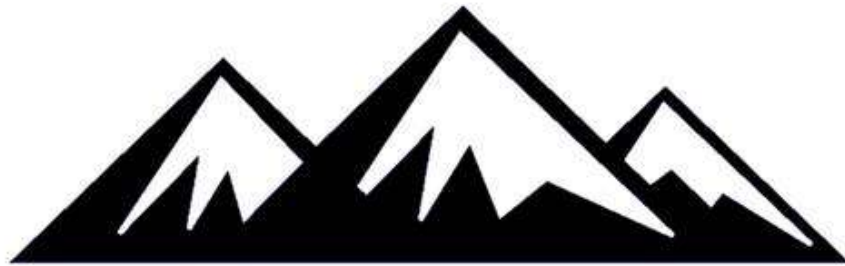
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The MENtor Manifesto 2016 - 2020

10% by 2020



MENtor Program for
Males in ECE

- Supporting students at UniSA with at least one Professional Experience placement with a male mentor teacher
- Networking with leading organisations and researchers who have aligned goals for male ECEs
- Promoting the need for men in ECE study/careers through secondary schools, media, research, and academic avenues

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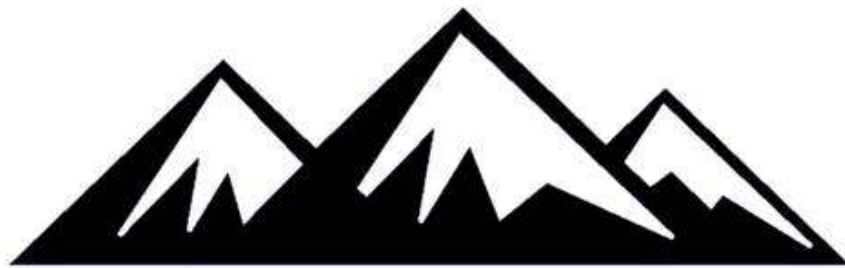


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The Barriers we Face

‘Whitehead (1996) concluded boys were avoiding [advanced study] courses they perceived as feminine at much higher rates than girls were avoiding courses they perceived as masculine’

(Moritz Rudasill & Callahan 2010, p. 304).



MENtor Program for
Males in ECE

- High profile cases of men in caring roles perpetrating child abuse (Families SA)
- Long-held gender roles and stereotypes held by societies, communities, families, parents, children
- Change is slow unless funding and support from government is provided

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An Australasian Men in ECE Network

Oceania?
Trans-Tasman?
Southern?

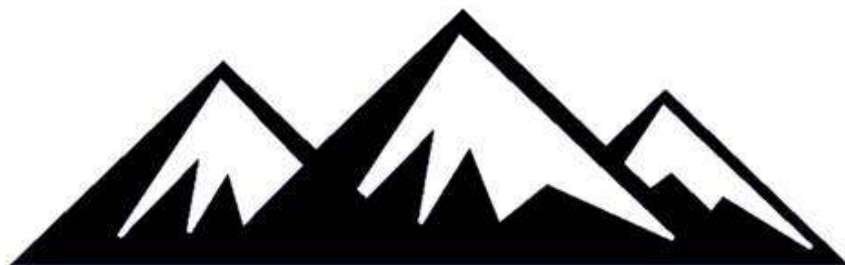
New Zealand
Australia
New Guinea
Fiji
Samoa
Tonga
New Caledonia
Vanuatu
Solomon Islands
Indonesia
Philippines
Singapore



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Let's work together to achieve better gender diversity in ECE



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Males in ECE

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