Distance travelled: supporting women returning to STEM careers

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Distance travelled: supporting women returning to STEM careers
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The Open University (OU) is passionate about supporting women returning to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers. To address this, the OU developed the Distance travelled: supporting women returning to STEM careers programme (SET) and the Returners’ Network, both aimed at returning women and those seeking to support returning women.

The OU has a strong track record of supporting women returning to STEM careers. The SET programme, launched in 2008, was designed to support women returning to STEM careers. The programme aimed to increase the number of women returning to STEM careers, and to create a supportive network for returning women.

The SET programme included a range of activities, such as workshops, webinars, and a networking event. The programme also provided returning women with access to resources and support, such as career coaching and mentoring. The programme was evaluation showed that participants reported increased confidence, improved networking skills, and a greater sense of community.

The Returners’ Network was launched in 2010 as a support network for returning women in STEM. The network aimed to increase the visibility of women in STEM, and to provide a platform for sharing experiences and advice. The network included events and activities, such as webinars and networking events.

The Returners’ Network has continued to grow and evolve over the years. The network now includes a range of events and activities, and provides a supportive community for returning women in STEM. The network is open to all women returning to STEM careers, and is a valuable resource for women looking to return to STEM careers.

The OU is committed to supporting women returning to STEM careers. By offering programmes such as the SET programme and the Returners’ Network, the OU is helping to break down barriers and create a more welcoming environment for returning women in STEM.

The OU also offers a range of resources to support women in STEM, such as the OU’s gender and diversity strategy. The strategy aims to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for women in STEM, and to promote diversity and inclusion in all aspects of the OU’s work.

The OU is proud to be a leader in supporting women returning to STEM careers. By offering programmes and resources to support returning women, the OU is helping to create a more diverse and inclusive STEM workforce.

The Returners’ Network is open to all women returning to STEM careers. To find out more about the Returners’ Network, please visit the OU’s website or contact the OU’s Gender and Diversity Team.

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