Dreaming big

MEET JAKE, FORMER LEAP – ROBOTICS PARTICIPANT AND CURRENT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY STUDENT

I attended school in a low socio-economic area of Western Sydney, and for many years I didn’t have high expectations, goals or any plans for my future.

Before I got involved with the LEAP – Robotics Program during my final years of high school, I didn’t have many close friends. But when I joined the program I got to meet a lot of like-minded people and we instantly clicked! They are still my friends and I thank the engagement aspect of the program for that.

The LEAP program encouraged me to study harder and complete my Higher School Certificate (HSC). It helped boost my confidence and interactions with other students. It gave me the life skills needed to grow as a person, and the confidence to think I could attend university.

I’ve got a real passion for sharing my knowledge and inspiring students to learn something new. It is definitely opening up a lot of doors for me. My big dream is to go and live on Mars, and I am in the process of getting there.

In ten years’ time I will hopefully be sitting on a lawn chair on the surface of Mars. If not, I hope to still be involved with the LEAP program in some capacity, to help spread this type of program to schools throughout Australia. Every person should be given the opportunity to attend higher education, just like me. Hear more about Jake’s story:youtu.be/Oh9JevjwAeM