



MAMUNAH KHAN

Computer Science Graduate and Solutions Engineer, VMware



“Any student that is interested in a career in STEM should definitely attend STEM Women events. It’s such a great way to network, understand what’s out there and also discover what career path best suits you. You could also secure a job because of the event!”

Mamunah studied Computer Science with a Professional Placement at Brunel University and attended our in-person London STEM Careers Event in Autumn 2019. At this event, she secured her role as a **Graduate Solutions Engineer at VMware** and in 2021, she returned as an employer speaker at the STEM Women UK Graduate Careers Event, representing VMware!

Mamunah's experience at a STEM Women Event as an attendee

“I loved it! The best thing about the day was just being surrounded by such amazing women in STEM careers. It was such an inspiration. The event was interactive and gave me more confidence to find the right role for me. The variety of companies who attended the event was great and it allowed me to have a better perspective into which direction I could head down. I really liked how engaging the speaker and panel sessions were, I was able to ask questions to women working in STEM careers. They gave some really great advice which was hugely motivating.

After attending the event, I had a better idea of the different roles and opportunities that existed. However, the role that really stood out for me was the Graduate Solutions Engineer role with VMware, which was the role I secured!”

The recruitment process and your role at VMware

“I had two telephone interviews and an assessment centre. The first call was with the recruitment team where we discussed my CV, and the second was a telephone interview with one of the Solution Engineering managers. At the assessment centre I had the opportunity to meet the hiring managers and previous graduates who were working in the role I applied for. This really helped me to better understand the role, and a few days later, I was offered the job!

My job as a Solutions Engineer is basically to be a trusted advisor. I work with a variety of customers to understand their technology strategy, architecture and roadmap. I really enjoy my role because I am able to help customers with their challenges and talk through a variety of our solutions. Every day is different at VMware which I love. I can also get involved in projects around technologies I am passionate about.”

Returning to a STEM Women event as an employer

“My experience was great! I hosted a speaker session and found it really interactive! It was great to see so many inspirational women at the event giving out tips similar to those I heard when I was a student. It makes me happy to see where I was when I first attended the event as a student and to where I am now. Because of this event and the advice I heard, I’m in the position where I’m working for a great company like VMware. VMware have always been a dedicated client to STEM Women and have hired lots of talented women from these events!”



WATERS CORPORATION

"We would 100% recommend STEM Women to other employers. The events are really well organised, enabled people from across our company to be involved and was a really easy way to meet and engage with qualified and talented people."

Laura Spyrou, Talent Acquisition Manager, Waters Corporation

STEM Women have worked with Waters for just over a year and have welcomed them to **three of our virtual events** over this period. They first exhibited at the England and Wales STEM Careers Event, followed by our Benelux STEM Careers Event, both in October 2021. These events were so successful for the company, they returned to exhibit at the UK STEM Careers Event in February 2022. Most recently Waters recruited Chichi, a PhD graduate in Mechanical Engineering for one of their software engineering roles!

Why did Waters attend the STEM Women event?

"The event looked like a great opportunity for us to meet talented individuals ready to consider what was next for them after graduation. At Waters we use science to solve problems that matter and we are keen to meet people from all kinds of backgrounds and disciplines to support us in our mission - the event was a great opportunity for us to do this! The event was extremely well organised and our virtual stall looked great - we could share information about our company as well as relevant vacancies."

How did you find the event day and the platform?

"On the day we had a speaker, Stephanie Turnbull, who shared her career history and what she has learnt throughout her journey in STEM, as well as being part of the Q and A panel. Stephanie really enjoyed engaging with the other speakers and students, and we had some great feedback after the event. The platform was very easy to use and we were able to set up our stall with information about the attendees, life at Waters and relevant jobs in advance of the day. On the day we could reach out to attendees via a number of methods which was great; we took direct questions from people "visiting" the stall and also reached out to people on email and direct message to entice people to find out more about the company. We had a number of video as well as webchat chats and followed up with everyone after the event."

Chichi's journey into Waters

After studying Mechanical Engineering at university and graduating with her PhD, Chichi attended the STEM Women England and Wales Event in October 2021. During the event, she watched speaker sessions and networked with the employers. During the event, Waters Corporation reached out to her and invited her to apply for their Software Engineering role. Today, Chichi is a few weeks in at her new role at Waters and is really enjoying it!



"During the event I watched several employee reps present, including Waters Corporation. I hadn't heard of Waters before the event and wanted to find out more by watching their talk. I was approached by the Waters recruitment team via the webchat on the platform. I found chatting to the employer this way really good, and very helpful."



AMBER HARRISON

Graduate Associate in Digital Audit, PwC



"This was a great opportunity to hear about a graduate's first-hand experience in the company and made me feel motivated to apply."

Amber Harrison, MChem student at the University of Manchester, secured her dream graduate role at PwC after attending a STEM Women event. PwC exhibited at the event and delivered an employer talk.

How did you find out about the role at PwC?

During the STEM Women event, PwC hosted a live speaker session, and the representative discussed the different graduate roles available. I found myself interested in the technology and digital roles and was encouraged by the speaker to apply despite not having a technology background. This was a great opportunity to hear about a graduate's first-hand experience in the company and made me feel motivated to apply. Previously, I had never dreamed of working for one of the Big Four without having an accountancy or finance background. I was really impressed by the sound of the community and team-based culture at PwC and the various progression opportunities that the graduate scheme could lead on to.

During the event, I started a webchat with a PwC representative and asked lots of questions about the roles available, what they involved and what a typical working day looks like at PwC, etc. All of the representatives were very friendly and helpful; no question was a silly question. I was encouraged to apply and guided through what the typical application process looks like. Most of all, it was very interesting to speak to someone who currently works in the role I was interested in and hear about their first-hand experiences and what they love most about working at PwC.

How was the application process?

The application process was quite short (around 2 months from application to accepting the offer) and was quite enjoyable! The first stage involved a series of games-based assessments which made me feel a bit more comfortable and less under pressure than the typical SJTs and numerical/verbal reasoning tests. The rest of the process involved interviews and centre assessments and at each point, there were recruiters available to contact if you had any concerns. It was my first ever assessment centre and I went into it very nervous and unsure, but I really enjoyed the day and met lots of friendly, like-minded people.

Did you know what kind of career path you wanted to take before attending the event?

Before the event, I felt a bit lost with regards to job applications. I have a chemistry background but knew I didn't want to work in a lab or do a PhD like most of my other course-mates. In some ways, I felt like I had wasted my degree on a subject I didn't plan on working within! I've always had a passion for technology and I'm currently taking a Nanotechnology unit at university, so I decided to look further into the technology graduate schemes available for my background. The graduate scheme I have chosen will allow me to explore my interest in tech and innovation, and also work towards various technology qualifications.

How did you find the STEM Women Event overall and would you recommend it?

I found the event super helpful and I am so grateful to everyone involved. I found it very insightful and had the opportunity to talk to women from lots of different industries and backgrounds. I learned about graduate jobs I had never even heard of before and was given advice about what to expect during the application processes. The event was very well organised and we were all made to feel very welcome, encouraged to ask questions and get involved by the host, Sophie.

I would recommend any students who are interested in the STEM Women events to register and attend, whether you know exactly what you want to do when you graduate or if you were like me and had no idea where to get started! It's a great chance to speak to reps from lots of different companies and find out more about jobs you may not know even exist. It's also really comforting to hear from speakers' personal experiences and find out exactly what the roles available actually involve, which sometimes isn't clear on a job description! Personally, one of the best things about the day was feeling reassured that I could be successful in an area outside of my degree discipline. I'm so grateful for this event and for all of the lovely speakers and organisers, I don't think I would have achieved this if I hadn't attended the event!



QA

"We would without a doubt recommend the digital services and events STEM Women offer. They use excellent, easy to use systems with a strong product offering that suits our needs exactly."

Roxanna, QA

STEM Women have worked with QA since 2020, promoting their technology roles through job board and sourcing packages, and welcoming them to three of our virtual events. QA first exhibited at one of our Autumn events in 2020 and following its success they purchased an unlimited job posting package, our candidate sourcing package and booked two more of our virtual events!

QA are a world-leading tech and digital skills organisation who train, empower and nurture tech talent through market-leading programmes. QA have hired four STEM Women candidates via our events and digital services.

QA have found partnering with STEM Women hugely successful - promoting greater diversity in the workplace and affecting change

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Roxanna, QA

Leah's journey into QA

After studying Maths and Astrophysics at Keele University, Leah was searching for her dream role within technology when she came across the STEM Women careers portal. She became a member of STEM Women and began researching roles and industries.

She saw the QA advert for technical roles and knew it was something she was interested in straight away. She applied for the role, made it through the application process and is now working with a top QA client as a ServiceNow Specialist!

FURTHER FEEDBACK FROM QA:

"A brilliant and inspiring experience"

"The perfect partnership"

"Excellent services"



SOPHIA COGAN

Artificial Intelligence student, National University of Ireland, Galway



"I found the speaker wonderfully passionate and before the talk had even finished, I had applied. I really liked the sound of the company and its products! Overall, the STEM Women event was very well organised, straightforward and easy to navigate."

Sophia Cogan received an amazing offer for VMware's graduate program following a STEM Women Ireland Event.

Sophia studied Artificial Intelligence at the National University of Ireland Galway. Interested in starting her career within IT, she attended a STEM Women Ireland event. Following the event, she received an offer to start the graduate program with VMWare, a position she applied for during the event. Sophia explained how the event helped her find the perfect graduate program for her!

Could you describe how you found the STEM Women event and how it helped you apply for the role at VMWare?

Thank you so much for hosting the event, I really enjoyed it and I am very happy with my offer! My profile had a very high percentage match on the jobs section, so after seeing that I attended the VMWare speaker session to learn more about the company. I found the speaker wonderfully passionate and before the talk had even finished, I had applied. I really liked the sound of the company and its products!

Overall, the STEM Women event was very well organised, straightforward and easy to navigate.

How was the application process?

The application process was very quick! I had a job offer within 3 weeks of first applying.

Would you recommend that other students attend STEM Women events?

I would definitely recommend the event to other students. It introduces you to a number of wonderful companies you might not have heard of. It also gives you the opportunity to have a one on one discussion with people already employed in your desired field. Everyone throughout the event was super friendly and helpful.

Find out more at www.stemwomen/for-employers