
Breaking Barriers: Empowering Women in Nanoscience Through Early Gender Collaborations and Supportive Environments

Mimoza Basholli Salihu

Aida Loshaj Shala, Toske Kryeziu

University of Prishtina, Faculty of Medicine, Bulevardi i Deshmoreve, Prishtina, Kosovo

Mimoza.basholli@uni-pr.edu

This presentation, titled “Breaking Barriers: Empowering Women in Nanoscience Through Early Gender Collaborations and Supportive Environments,” examines the critical need to address gender disparities in nanotechnology and nanoscience from the early stages of education and career development. Despite significant advancements in these fields, women continue to face barriers that limit their participation and advancement, often beginning in their formative years.

We explore the impact of early collaborations and supportive environments in fostering interest and engagement among young women in science and technology. By analyzing successful initiatives such as outreach programs, mentorship schemes, and collaborative projects that connect female students with role models, we highlight how these frameworks can inspire and empower the next generation of women in nanoscience.

Our findings suggest that cultivating a culture of inclusivity and support not only enhances the visibility and retention of women in these fields but also drives innovation by bringing diverse perspectives to research. This discussion emphasizes the importance of proactive measures from educational institutions, industry stakeholders, and policymakers in creating pathways for young women to thrive in nanotechnology.

We advocate for a comprehensive approach that begins in early education, ensuring that diverse voices contribute to the advancement of nanoscience. By empowering women from an early age, we can break down barriers, enrich the scientific community, and ultimately develop solutions that address the complex challenges facing our world.