Dr. Matei Ripeanu is one of Canada’s most outstanding graduate student mentors. A Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of British Columbia since 2006, he has supervised 6 PhD students and 12 Master’s-level students to completion of their degrees.

Dr. Ripeanu models excellence in scholarship, professional conduct, and integrity, and he instills in his graduate students a desire to emulate these qualities. He frequently brings together collaborators in academia and industry to provide world-class training for his students, and he helps them to build valuable professional networks within these communities, both before and after graduation. Since arriving at UBC, more than ninety per cent of Dr. Ripeanu’s publications have been in collaboration with his students, and many of his graduates have published their work independently in leading journals. “Dr. Ripeanu is an outstanding role model,” reflects a former student, “and he has made a lasting impact on my professional and personal growth through his mentorship.”

Dr. Ripeanu is known for investing significant amounts of time and energy into each of his graduate students. He pushes them to ask probing questions, and to constantly refine their methods and approaches. “What stands out is Dr. Ripeanu’s dedication to his students,” writes a former PhD graduate, “and his commitment to creating opportunities for them to reach their full potential.” During weekly meetings and strategy sessions, Ripeanu encourages his graduate students to think big, and to embrace the challenges and opportunities of bold ideas. “He inspires us to broaden our horizons,” reports a group of current graduate students, “while ensuring we work on projects that align well with our personal interests and skill sets.”

His current graduate students are unanimous: “Prof. Ripeanu has inspired us to achieve excellence in our studies, and his mentorship has had a profound and measurable impact on all of us.”