

NAE Workshop on Sharing Exemplary Admissions Practices that Promote Diversity in Engineering

Diane Rover and Sriram Sundararajan
Iowa State University
May 24-26, 2021

Iowa State University Admissions Policies and Practices



admissions.iastate.edu

engineering.iastate.edu

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

State of Iowa Board of Regents Schools



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

Regent Admission Index

- Unified minimum criteria for all three regents universities

RAI FORMULA

ACT composite (or **converted SAT**) score x 3

+ Cumulative GPA x 30

+ Number of years of high school core courses x 5

RAI (Regent Admission Index)

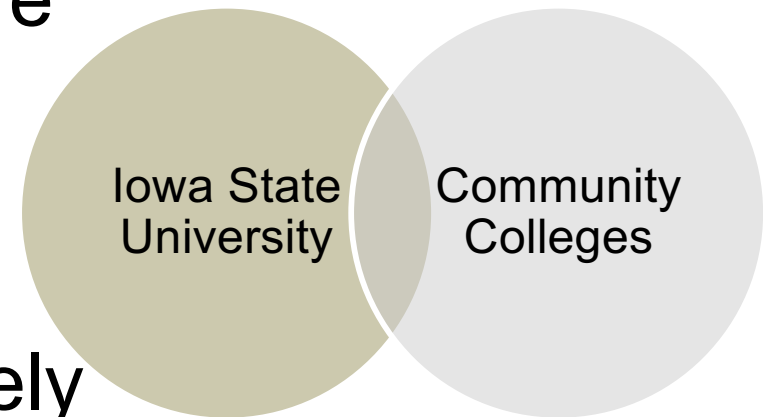
Engineering Specific at Iowa State

- RAI + 2 years of foreign language
- Open 'Liberal Arts and Science' track for students who do not meet the RAI
 - Pathway to taking basic program and transitioning to engineering



Admissions Partnership Program

- Guaranteed admission to Iowa State provided requirements are met
- Personal academic advising and mentoring
- Degree planning to ensure timely graduation
- Real-time degree audit information



Engineering Scholarships

- Stackable onto central packages
- Merit based qualifications
- Rated on two essay questions
- College wide faculty and admissions staff review of applications

Scholarship Yield

- Yields have increased from 30% in 2018 to 61% in 2021
- Scholarship Cohorts
 - 2018: 14% women and 6% multicultural students
 - 2021: 27% women and 11% multicultural students

Student Success Structures

- Learning Communities (LCs)
- Academic Program for EXcellence for Engineers (APEX-E)
 - 8 week summer program
 - Coursework + Research

Lead

LEADERSHIP THROUGH ENGINEERING
ACADEMIC **DIVERSITY**



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

Student Success



45%

Continued
research
engagement

95%
participation
in LCs



ERSHIP THROUGH ENGINE'
EMIC DIVER'

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

Iowa State University Partnerships and Practices



NSF S-STEM
and RED
Programs



WiSE
Program



Student
Pathways &
Experiences

"...the **culture in engineering** is completely different...It's a very **technical field**, so a lot of the students are very like, "Oh, I need to do this math; "I need to get the right answer."...

I think I feel **more like an engineer now** that I'm my later years...more projects, interacting with other people, because I'm also a TA, so I feel like that has helped me ... "I can do it. I am an engineer." Definitely doing more projects has made me more confident as an engineer, **especially as a female.**" (Anita)

Research &
Evaluation

ecsel.ece.iastate.edu

engineering.iastate.edu

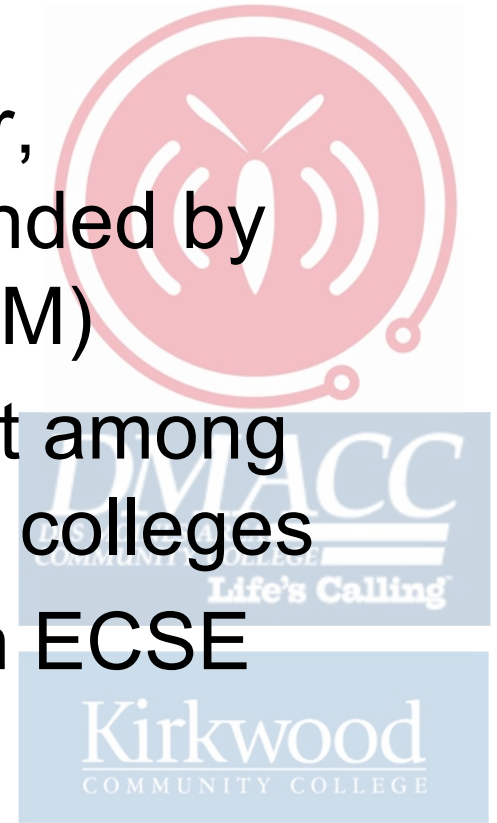
wise.iastate.edu

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

NSF S-STEM Grant in ECE Department

- ECSEL (Electrical, Computer/Cyber, Software Engineers as Leaders) funded by NSF Scholarships in STEM (S-STEM)
- Multi-institutional collaborative effort among the department and two community colleges
- Scholarships for diverse students in ECSE majors (or preparing to transfer)



Engineering Scholarships



ECSEL/IOWA STATE

Electrical, Computer, and Software Engineers as Leaders

Renewable \$8000/academic year scholarships!

Scholarship Requirements

- U.S. Citizen
- Enrolled in Electrical, Computer or Software Engineering at Iowa State
- Demonstrated financial need through FAFSA



ECSEL student experience through WiSE and ECE Department

- Learning communities
- Leadership development
- Professional development
- Academic advising and support
- Mentoring
- Co-curricular and extracurricular activities



For more information and to complete application: <https://ecsel.ece.iastate.edu/students/interested-students/>



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

Partnership with ISU WiSE Program

- Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) programming and practices as models of inclusion and equity
- Leadership development
 - Help students from marginalized social groups understand underlying structural and cultural inequities in organizations



Partnership with ISU WiSE Program

Our Mission: **Enhance STEM experiences for women by advocating for diversity and inclusion through opportunities, resources, and support.**

Goal 1 : **Prepare global citizens for 21st century careers through experiential learning and leadership opportunities.**

Goal 2: **Enhance and cultivate environments where women in STEM are safe, feel welcomed, supported, included, and valued.**

Goal 3: **Provide opportunities, support, and intervention to ensure each individual reaches their potential.**

We value:

- people as individuals;
- integrity and accountability;
- inclusion;
- collaboration;
- continuous learning;
- leadership; and
- excellence in all we do.



BE BOLD

DREAM BIG

LEAD THE CHANGE



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

Student Pathways and Experiences

- Recruitment of scholars along different pathways into majors
- Community of scholars
- Support and mentoring
- Professional and leadership development



Conference Experience

- AfroTech
- Grace Hopper Celebration
- IEEE WIE Leadership
- Richard Tapia Celebration
- SACNAS Diversity in STEM
- SHPE Convention
- Women in Cybersecurity

 **ISU ECpE**
@ISU_ECpE Following

"I never thought I would be able to see over 100 women in tech in a room, let alone 18,000," Full story: goo.gl/2xkTvD



ECpE Women Inspired By Grace Hopper Celebration

[Read More](#)

1:26 PM - 11 Dec 2017

Engineering Identity Research

- R. Friedensen, E. Doran, and S. Rodriguez, “**Documenting Engineering Identity: Electrical and Computer Engineering Departmental Documents and Student Identity**,” Proc. ASEE Annual Conference, 2018.
- S.L. Rodriguez, K. Cunningham, R. Estes, and M. Sissel, “**SSTEM Successes and Challenges: Engineering Identity Development for Women in Computer, Electrical, and Software Engineering**,” American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, 2018.
- S. L. Rodriguez, K. A. Hensen, and M. L. Espino, “**Promoting STEM Identity Development in Community Colleges & Across the Transfer Process**,” Journal of Applied Research in the Community College, 26(2), 2019.

Evaluation

- Enrollment progress
 - D. T. Rover, M. Mina, A. R. Herron-Martinez, S. L. Rodriguez, M. L. Espino and B. D. Le, "**Improving the Student Experience to Broaden Participation in Electrical, Computer and Software Engineering**," ASEE/IEEE Frontiers in Education Conference, 2020.
 - Frontiers in Education Conference Best Diversity Paper Award



This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant number 1565130. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Engineering



**Learn more at
engineering.iastate.edu**