

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

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This meeting provided the first forum for representatives from colleges and universities with engineering technology (ET) programs to share their concerns regarding the underrepresentation of women in ET education. Most data indicates that there is a smaller ratio of women to men in ET and in engineering. There is also a smaller ratio of women in ET to women in engineering. With industry's continuous demand for graduates with degrees in ET, the issue of underrepresentation raised more interesting questions than answers at this session. As compared to existing engineering programs with a better representation of women students some of the following queries were:

- * What strategies are being used for recruitment and retention in ET programs?
- * Are retention problems different in ET programs?
- * Are the ratios of female-to-male faculty different?
- * What type of support programs should be available to women in ET programs?
- * Which schools are having greater success attracting and retaining women in ET? Why?
- * Each program represented at this meeting was unique in its own way. Some stood alone; some were part of the engineering college. Some were at the main campus; some were not. What type of role, if any, does program structure play on student numbers?
- * What other variables can be influencing the issues of underrepresentation?

For those who attended, this meeting was an opportunity to share information about various ET programs around the country. The time was too brief for brainstorming on the issues, but it was the consensus of the group that the representatives from engineering technology programs need to continue to network and we look forward to an opportunity to meet again, hopefully at WEPAN '92.

APPENDIX

