Engineering Fundamentals Welcomes Female Freshman Engineers

Engineering Fundamentals welcomed the largest female freshman engineering class in recent history with an ice cream social on the first Friday afternoon of classes. The social provided the incoming female freshman engineering students an opportunity to meet each other, meet female faculty and administrators in the college of engineering, and to meet several practicing female engineers. 19% of our incoming freshman engineering class is female. Overall, there was a 9% increase in freshman engineering students over last year, with the number of female freshman engineering students up over 40% from last year.

100% Success Rate at RISER Math Boot Camp

Ten students attended the NSF funded RISER (Research and Instructional Strategies for Engineering Retention) math boot camp. The 1½ week residential program was designed for students who barely missed meeting the requirements for Calculus and Engineering Fundamentals. The participants received math and English instruction, were introduced to various aspects of college life, and completed a mountain challenge course. At the conclusion of the camp, all ten students were successful in passing a math test, placing them in Calculus I and Engineering Fundamentals 151. Dr. Claudia Rawn, Materials Science and Engineering, is the Principal Investigator on the project, and Prof. Mike Gilbert provided the math instruction.

Smartphone and Tablet Ownership

76% of our students report owning a smartphone, while only 18% report owning a tablet. Will Schleter has enhanced our image upload system (see March 2011 Inside Engage) to make it easier for students to upload images of their homework using a smartphone. With 1-2 clicks, students can send an image of their work to our website when needing help from Engineering Fundamentals staff.