Author: Yen-Chia Huang

Title: Issue of Diversity in Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

About the Author:

Keywords: ECE, engineering, diversity, race, gender

Abstract: Is ECE a diverse program?

Initial Exercises:

Question: In my research project, I would like to compare the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and that of Mechanical Engineering in engineering school. I am in Electrical engineering major. According to my observation, there are many international students in this program compare to another department. Besides that, look at the composition of American students, whites and Asian Americans account for most of them. Moreover, there are only seven percent of female students in this program. My question is why this happened? Who make those decisions of admitting whom? Also, I would like to know how other people in ECE feel about this issue. Do they think this department is diverse because of many international students? Or they do not think so because there is only a small amount of female students? I would like to look at the statistic of the composition of student body, and compare this to the one of mechanical engineering. See if those conditions happen also in another department. Moreover, I would like to interview those who make decisions in admitting students. What is their standard of doing so? Have they ever tried to balance those inequalities? Or they tend to make it like that on purpose?

Data:

Discuss:

EUI Links:

Reflect: I remembered in the beginning of the semester, when I realized that it is a writing class all about race issue. At that time, I just don’t think it is a good idea to take this class. One month after the class began, I started having fun from reading those articles about race issues. For me, they provide different point of view of race issue that I have never thought about before. Though I really the first article is too abstract, that after reading it I start worried about what will come the next. Besides, articles like the minority quarterback, is very interesting. For me, the real world example related to the race issue, is more powerful to support that the racism is still exist today. When start
writing the research paper, it is a good opportunity for me to explore more about my major and the program itself. For example, knowing how other students in my program think of ECE by interviewing them. Doing observation and actually how students in ECE working together. Looking at the statistic knowing how many international students we really have. The data also surprised me that there are more than twenty percent of international students in ECE, which is lots more then I imagined. The process of writing the paper also helps to refine my writing skill. Moreover, I learn how to connect different ideas together in the paper, and how to analyze the article in order to write a thoughtful paper. After all, it is a very useful class.