Lehigh MSE - Diversity Equity and Inclusion

Welcome to the monthly newsletter from your Lehigh Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee! This newsletter is intended to highlight DEI-related events, resources, and activities in our Lehigh community and beyond.

Did you know that Microsoft developed an adaptive controller in partnership with AbleGamers for Xbox in 2019 that helps make gaming more accessible for those with limited mobility? Learn more here
The MSE DEI Committee was formed in 2020 and includes MSE faculty, staff, and graduate and undergraduate students. Every semester, the MSE DEI committee will reevaluate departmental practices related to DEI and anti-racist action and provide recommendations to the department to reinforce our ongoing commitment to our goals. Our overarching goals include the following:

• We, the faculty and staff in the MSE department, have formed a committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) that meets at least once per month.

• All MSE department faculty and staff will attend annual DEI training offered at Lehigh University.

• We are devoting at least the first five minutes of every departmental faculty and staff meeting to discuss DEI topics. These discussion topics may include vignettes specific to Lehigh, reviews or discussions of related publications, an examples of best practices.

• We will communicate a summary of ongoing DEI activities in the department, college, and university to our student body each semester.

• We will share mechanisms to report feedback and incidents within the department and beyond.

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• Our departmental DEI committee will also coordinate with other DEI and DEI-related actions at the college and university level each semester to maximize impact across campus and beyond.

We have created a website that includes DEI-related resources, vignettes, and a google form to submit suggestions and feedback*. We strongly encourage everyone in our Lehigh MSE community to check out the website and actively engage with the members of our community on these topics.

The MSE DEI Committee is looking for one undergraduate student and one graduate student representative to join our committee in Fall 2022. The student representatives will serve on the committee for the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters and are expected to participate in monthly committee meetings and actively contribute to advancing our goals to make our department a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment. If you are interested or would like to nominate an undergraduate or graduate student, please submit your nomination(s) or self-nomination to mse-dei-committee-
please submit your nomination(s) or self-nomination to mse-dei-committee-list@lehigh.edu by Friday, May 20, 2022 at 5 pm ET. The nomination should include a brief paragraph (½ page maximum) indicating why you or the student would like to participate. No previous experience is required. If you have any questions, please contact mse-dei-committee-list@lehigh.edu and/or feel free to reach out to our current student representatives for more information.

MSE DEI Committee

Joshua Agar (Faculty), pronouns: he, him, his;

Savannah Buzzeo (Undergraduate Student), pronouns: she, her, hers

Lesley Chow (Faculty), pronouns: she, her, hers

Laura Moyer (Staff), pronouns: she, her, hers

Siddha Pimputkar (Faculty), pronouns: he, him, his

Em Soule (Graduate Student), pronouns: they, them, she, her

Nicholas Strandwitz (Faculty), pronouns: he, him, his

John Tolbert (Graduate Student), pronouns: he, him, his