

# Priyal Suneja

*IDEA Center's Spotlight on UCSD's Future Engineers*



## Quick Facts

**Grade:** Junior

**Major:** Computer Science

**Outside Interests:** Reading, Running, and Listening to Music

## Questions:

### **When did you know you wanted to be an engineer?**

Picking engineering as my major was actually a very spontaneous choice. I knew I loved math and wanted to learn how it was applied to create the technology revolution, which is why I picked CS. It was only after I took CSE 30 in Spring quarter of my freshmen year that I really felt like I wanted to be an engineer as my career choice.

### **What do you love so far about the engineering program here at UCSD?**

The best part about the engineering program at UCSD for me is the immense amount of support we have for both academic and non-academic situations. I have always been able to talk to someone about things that are worrying me, and they have helped me think through the situation and figure out a way that would work out for everyone. As a college student, one often finds themselves in challenging situations that make us feel incapable but the people here at UCSD never fail to remind me that I can tackle any challenge that comes my way, and that is what I love the most about them.

## **How did you get started with WIC?**

I got started with WIC after attending their GBM in my freshmen year and joining the outreach committee. I started out by volunteering on their high school centered events like Shadow Day and GDO and attending other general body events.



## **How has your experience, as a WIC member and officer, been so far?**

Being a part of WIC has been one of the highlights of my experience here at UCSD. Very often, being an engineering student is associated with a general lack of participation within the community and talking only about school-related things. Being a part of WIC not only gives me a break from constantly worrying about homework, but it also makes me a part of this amazing community that cares about social issues in STEM and wants to make it a more accepting and diverse place, all while making sure to take breaks and have fun. That is why being in a leadership role with WIC is so important to me, because it enables me to provide others with this incredible space to help them succeed and do my part to thank all the others that did the same for me.

## **What advice do you have for peers and incoming students who are interested in joining student orgs?**

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## What other UCSD programs are you active in?

Other than WIC, I am a part of the CSE DEI Committee and am currently helping plan the UCSD CSE Celebration of Diversity.

