

Diversity is essential to innovation

Diversity is essential to innovation. This well-worn sentiment bears repeating, followed by action. That's what we are doing here at the Jacobs School of Engineering.

My goal is for every single student, faculty and staff member to succeed here at the Jacobs School. That's what equity means to me. Given the world we live in, the Jacobs School is paying particular attention to equity for Black students and faculty, and also more broadly to all students and faculty in traditionally underrepresented groups in engineering, including LatinX, Native Americans, women, and LGBTQ+ communities.

On Oct. 1, we launched the Jacobs School Student and Faculty Racial Equity Task Force. Part of the mission of this task force is to listen, to take a careful pulse of the culture of the school, and to understand what is working and what is not. From there, we develop action plans.

I am committed to seeing this through and doing what's right. One first step to addressing equity issues is to really listen. It's unacceptable to be blind to the issues and claim to be faultless. Every engineer knows you can't solve a problem without first acknowledging it.



Diversity through Research Ethics

We must go beyond traditional definitions of how to conduct research in an ethical way. One important way to do this is to be sure we are supporting diverse voices and perspectives. Only in this way can we fully build trust and open communication within our Jacobs School research enterprise, and achieve the full set of goals for our Research Ethics work. I'm pleased to welcome structural engineering professor Jose Restrepo as the inaugural Faculty Director of the Jacobs School Research Ethics Initiative. Professor Restrepo will build on momentum from the NSF-funded program at the Jacobs School entitled "Empowering Faculty to Cultivate a Culture of Ethics in Engineering."

Fall 2020: Vigilance and Care

Thank you to the campus leadership, and legions of people who are working to keep us safe and productive. As we move through the Fall quarter, I urge everyone to stay informed. The UC San Diego Return to Learn website has an incredible amount of important information, including testing and screening resources for our entire community, both on and off campus.

Institute for Materials Discovery and Design

On Sept. 29, we officially launched the UC San Diego Institute for Materials Discovery and Design (IMDD) and celebrated our NSF MRSEC (Materials Research Science and Engineering Center) at UC San Diego. Through the materials scientists we educate, the advances we make, and the industry collaborations we build, we solve human problems through materials science. It's thrilling to be part of this world-leading group of materials scientists.

You make engineering matter

Engineering and computer science education and research matter more now than ever. I'd like to thank the Jacobs School staff and faculty for the incredible work that each of you do — so much of it behind the scenes. Your efforts make all the difference.

Take care and stay safe. We are all in this together.

-Albert P. Pisano, Dean

UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering

Launching a Student and Faculty Racial Equity Task Force

Diversity is essential to innovation. The UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering has launched a Student and Faculty Racial Equity Task Force and is building on campus-wide initiatives as it works to ensure that all engineering and computer science students, faculty and staff can thrive and innovate. Part of the mission of the Jacobs School Racial Equity Task Force will be to develop a comprehensive understanding of where we stand now, and the existing programs and resources in place, before suggesting solutions where gaps exist.

Learn more: bit.ly/JacobsRacialEquityTaskForce



Introducing the 2020 Racial Equity Fellows



Four engineering students with a demonstrated commitment to racial equity have been selected as the inaugural cohort of Jacobs School of Engineering Racial Equity Fellows. These students, representing undergraduate and graduate perspectives from four different engineering departments, have been specifically invited to serve on our Student and Faculty Racial Equity Task Force.

Learn more: bit.ly/RacialEquityFellows

Celebrating 10 years of IDEA Engineering Student Center success

In the past decade, the IDEA Engineering Student Center has supported thousands of students through to graduation. Programs include summer prep and mentorship programs, peer-led engineering learning communities, and support for student diversity organizations. The IDEA Engineering Student Center supports all students on the challenging path of an engineering and computer science education at UC San Diego, with specific programs that build community, and provide academic and peer support for students traditionally under-represented in engineering and computer science including Black, Latinx and Native American students, women, first generation college students, LGBTQ+ students, and low-income students.

Learn more: bit.ly/IDEA10th



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