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About us.

The UQ Women in Engineering (WE) Program was founded in 2013. The WE Program is an award winning, gender equity program supported by its industry program partners: Rio Tinto and the Australian Power Institute (API).

University-led and industry supported, WE inspires young women to consider a career in engineering. Through various educational activities and events, WE...

- Educate female high school students and teachers about engineering
- Support women studying engineering at UQ
- Connect our female students and graduates with industry players for a smooth transition into the workforce.

So far for 2018, WE have engaged with:

- 1314 students engaged
- 974 female students engaged
- 123 teachers/guidance officers engaged
- 59 high schools engaged

Purpose.

Our world is made by engineers, society’s problem solvers. Therefore, the best engineering team must be as diverse as the society they work in. Diversity is proven to generate better performing teams, yet in engineering, women remain significantly under-represented. At UQ, here’s what we know:

- Employers of engineering graduates have set targets to create a gender balanced workforce. However, the number of female students graduating from engineering will not meet industry demand.
- Female students who study engineering usually stay and graduate. For the past five years, the retention rate for female students studying engineering at UQ has been consistently greater than 90 per cent.
- The number of Queensland female high school students eligible to study engineering at UQ could fill every available first-year placement four times over. In 2015, there were 19,000 female in 2018. Students, parents and teachers are inspired by the stories of recent engineering graduates. However, the number of female students graduating from engineering will not meet industry demand.

What we do.

Educate

The WE Program and its team of engineering Student Leaders educate female high school students about engineering’s possibilities by attending career fairs, high school presentations and career panel nights at high schools across Queensland. The WE Program hosts events on campus including:

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Support

WE focus on supporting female students in the transition from high school to first year university through the following initiatives:

- A welcome phone call. Student Leaders phone every female student who accepts their undergraduate engineering offers were female in 2018.

Our KPI is

- 23.4% of domestic students who accepted their undergraduate engineering offers were female in 2018.
- 30% female participation in engineering undergraduate studies at UQ by 2023.

Connect

We believe that universities need to work together to increase the overall pool of females studying engineering across Australia. Our goal is to Increase gender balance in the Industry, not just at UQ.

WE have organised and hosted a workshop with 18 universities from across Australia and Auckland to meet, share lessons learnt and identify how we can work together to encourage more female students to study engineering. Due to the success of the workshop, it is a biannual event and our next workshop is on the 11th-12th October 2018 in Melbourne.

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In 2015, there were 19,000 female students who studied Chemistry, Physics or Maths C. A high proportion achieved a High Achievement or Very High Achievement in these subjects, indicating they would also achieve the required OP7 for UQ Engineering.

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UQ WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

UQ is the UNIVERSITY OF CHOICE for women studying engineering

#1 in Queensland for graduate employability

Proudly supported by our program partners:
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