Hi! My name is Beth Hart. I am a faculty member in the School of Engineering responsible for teaching interdisciplinary engineering courses and am the director of the Women Engineering Program. I have been at UD for more than 10 years after successfully working in manufacturing for several years. As a UD alum, I remember the excitement and nervousness the day I started here as a chemical engineering major. I am here to share the excitement of good news, give support when needed, or point you in the right direction.

Hello! I’m Laura Bistrek, and I am the executive director of the Diversity in Engineering Center, which houses the Women Engineering Program. I’m also a UD civil engineering grad, a licensed professional engineer and have previously worked in industry for several years focusing on water resources engineering. We are excited to welcome you to our Women Engineering Program and look forward to getting to know you during your time at UD!

I am Nan Holler-Potter and I’m the admin for the Diversity in Engineering Center (DEC). I’m a UD grad with a degree in communication and a professional in human resources (PHR) certification. I’ve been at UD 10 years so I’m excited to be part of Team DEC and welcome you to our engineering family.

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WELCOME TO UD!

Congratulations on pursuing a career in engineering. You are choosing a field that is in-demand, high paying and endlessly rewarding. Engineers have a real opportunity to make a difference in our world and your contributions and unique perspective are important.

The University of Dayton School of Engineering makes the recruitment, retention and ultimate success of our female students a priority. That's why our percentage of female students is consistently higher than the national average and we're working toward gender parity. A big reason for that success is the support and resources offered by the Women Engineering Program (WEP).

WEP is here to help you discover your passion in engineering and provide opportunities for networking, service, personal and academic growth. So get involved early to make connections and create lifelong memories and friendships.

EVENTS

When you join WEP, you’ll find an atmosphere of engagement, curiosity, discovery and growth.

We help connect students to resources on campus and to information on jobs, scholarships and networking opportunities. There's no better way to learn more about the Women Engineering Program than by joining us for an event.

One of our yearly events is a dinner where you’ll have the opportunity to have casual conversations with professional female engineers in the Dayton area. We encourage students to get to know each other, too, with programs such as a fall ice cream social and the welcome back chocolate party after winter break. All of our events are opportunities for first-year students to meet their upper-class peers and ask about classes, studying or life at UD. We also work with numerous community partners to hold outreach activities—both on campus and beyond—to let you explore your passions.

Some of the additional programs planned for this year include a primer on co-ops and study abroad opportunities, a service activity and more. We hope to see you there!

OPPORTUNITIES

There’s no better way to experience campus life than by getting involved; you’ll meet new friends, network with professionals and delve into your major. Beyond the Women Engineering Program, you may be interested in these engineering-related groups:

Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

As one of the largest professional networks of women in the nation and on campus, SWE encourages and supports women in their careers as engineers and leaders. As an extracurricular, professional society, you’ll meet other women engineers (professionals and students) through social, service, and professional events. The SWE annual conference is an unparalleled networking and educational event.

Phi Sigma Rho

Phi Sigma Rho, Gamma Chapter at the University of Dayton is a social sorority for women in engineering and technical majors. Through Phi Sigma Rho, sisters gain leadership experience and friendships by planning and participating in philanthropy events, service projects, socials, and formals while supporting each other during academic life and beyond.

WISE Integrated Learning-Living Community (WISE ILLC)

The Women in Science and Engineering Integrated Living and Learning Community (WISE) is a community of learners who take classes together, live together, and have fun together. The shared courses provide a platform for scientific exploration and discussion. In the WISE ILLC, you will interact with science and engineering faculty, upper-level students, and professionals. You will be surrounded by other students with interest in science and engineering and experience a support system to help foster success and community. Plus, it’s a lot of fun. Through the WISE ILLC, you will build personal and professional networks that will last a lifetime.

WISE Special Interest House

Each year, one home in the student neighborhood is designated as the WISE house for upper class students. As you work through your first year of college, they will be here to support you academically with tutoring sessions and also be a resource for your other questions and concerns. WISE residents will be helping to run the special events that go on throughout the year, and look forward to many fun times ahead.