Hello!

Welcome to this month’s issue of the ECE DEI Committee Newsletter! The committee was formed in October of 2020 to ensure that our department sustains a welcoming, encouraging, and equitable environment that recognizes, respects, and values differences.

Recent Events

Thursday, May 9, 2024: In honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month the ECE DEI committee offered a tasty spread of Asian snacks. Hope you all enjoyed them!

Upcoming Events

Summer 2024: ECE will participate in the LLE’s 2024 Broad Exposure to Science and Technology (BEST) Research Program. The BEST program engages underrepresented Rochester Central School District high school students and teachers in various aspects of science and technology. ECE will participate by leading 1–2 days of the summer 2024 programming at East High School. Any faculty members, post-doctoral associates, or graduate students interested in participating should reach out to Tre DiPassio (jdipass2@ur.rochester.edu) or Michael Heilemann (mheilema@ur.rochester.edu). We look forward to sharing ECE’s BEST experience in the fall!

Diversity Spotlight

The David T. Kearns Center profiled two new Hajim School graduates who are off to exciting next steps, including ECE’s own Oswald Garcia ’24, who is headed to Chandler, Arizona after landing an engineering job at the global tech company Arm. The setting will be familiar for Oswald since he spent last summer completing a hardware engineering internship at the company. Oswald is the first person from his family to graduate from college, something he says he is extremely proud of. Congratulations to Oswald and please read more about his journey at UR and plans for the future here.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all of you that joined in on our various events this academic year, we truly appreciate your support in our efforts to enhance the culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our
ECE department. We’d also like to thank the 2023-2024 ECE DEI committee for all their work this year: Tre DiPassio, Michele Foster, Evelyn Goldman, Nazmul Hasan, Michael Heilemann, Brian Ly, Gonzalo Mateos, Caleb Oshinsky, Kyle “Newt” Perlman (not pictured), Jack Rochkind, Linda Weidman, and Hui Wu.

Here’s a brief summary of our accomplishments this year:

- Published a monthly ECE DEI newsletter.
- Refreshed our lending library.
- Refreshed our web site.
- Hosted a lecture/lunch with by ECE Professor Gonzalo Mateos in celebration of Hispanic Heritage month.
- Provided UR LGBTQ+ Safe Space training for all interested department members.
- Hosted a department end-of-semester celebration which included a collection drive for the UR Food Pantry.
- Connected with the UR LLE DEI team to tour the LLE and plan ECE’s inaugural participation in the LLE BEST program.
- Participated in evaluation of candidates for ECE faculty positions.
- Hosted a movie screening/dinner in celebration of Black History Month and Women’s History Month.
- Created a department billboard map to highlight ECE’s international roots.

**WE NEED YOU!**

There are many ways you can help advance our department DEI goals. Here are just a few:

- GET TO KNOW US: Visit our web site and take a look around. We share lots great of information and resources.
- JOIN: If you are interested in joining the ECE DEI committee for the 2024-2025 academic year, please reach out to one of our committee co-chairs, Evelyn Goldman (evelyn.goldman@rochester.edu) or Michael Heilemann (mheilema@ur.rochester.edu) The committee meets on the second Friday of every month from 12:00P – 1:00P in CSB 426.
- ATTEND: The committee works hard on programming interesting events and training (with some great food), we’d love to have you come learn with us!
- SHARE: We’d love to hear from you. Please share any comments, questions, concerns, or recommendations via our inquiry form.