High School Engineering Institute

Audience
Three separate sessions throughout the summer were attended by 130 total participants with a variety of males and females (20% Minority). The participants ranged from high school sophomores to incoming college freshmen. Students came from all over the United States and other countries including Puerto Rico and Canada, and were selected based on GPA, transcripts, and completed applications.

Funding
Participants paid a fee of $800, which covers all academic sessions, fun activities, as well as room and board.

Objectives
The program goals are to:

- Expose participants to multiple fields of engineering through hands-on activities, short lectures and lab visits
- Learn about an engineer’s everyday work
- Develop teamwork and problem-solving skills
- Introduce participants to the Grand Challenges of engineering and provide opportunities to work through and solve these problems
- Apply Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) knowledge to solve problems
- Analyze and interpret data
- Gain research and professional skills through the development of a poster presentation on a specific field of engineering
- Provide participants with an authentic university environment and experience

Description
Intended for rising high school sophomores and juniors seriously considering engineering as their career choice, the program is designed to give in-depth experiences in different engineering majors. Students explored the various fields of engineering through hands-on workshops, problem-solving activities, short lectures by MSU professors and graduate students, lab and engineering research facility tours and presentations. Presentations by the Honors College, Office of Admissions, Office of Study Abroad, The Center for Spartan Engineering (co-op/internship opportunities), and the Engineering K-12 Outreach Office add an additional level of information for participants. Programs include approximately 35 intentional contact hours each session.

Outcomes
Participants completed a post-evaluation and provided the below feedback on several aspects of the program, including academic sessions, college readiness, staff, social activities, and more.

- The highest-rated benefits of the program were a more clear identification of the student towards engineering, getting to meet people different from themselves, and developing personal skills.
- After participation, 99% of students rated their knowledge of engineering as “Moderate understanding” or “Very good understanding.”
- 94% of participants rated the program as “Excellent” or “Good”
- The majority of participants agreed that both College of Engineering faculty and the mentors were helpful and easy to approach, with specific praise given to student mentors.

Participant testimonials:

- “The best part was being able to experience campus life and identify my preferred field of engineering”
- “The program was excellent, and the social experiences helped me meet new people and make new friends”
- “Through the program, I was able to learn about and experience engineering in a fun and exciting way”

Additional Significant Information
HSEI staff includes personnel from the office of Recruitment & K-12 Outreach, professors from different departments, graduate and undergraduate student mentors. The engineering sessions provide a great opportunity for prospective students to explore engineering at MSU and connect with faculty.

Contact Information
Luis Donado
Assistant Director for Recruitment & K-12 Outreach, Summer Program Coordinator
428 S. Shaw Ln, Room 3200 Engineering Building
East Lansing, MI 48824
Phone: 517-353-7282
Email: donadoto@egr.msu.edu
Website: http://www.egr.msu.edu/future-engineer/programs