Student Engagement, Retention, and Success

Experimental Vehicles Program

Dr. Saeed Foroudastan
Experimental Vehicles Program (EVP)

- Student organization focused on the design, manufacture, and racing of experimental vehicles
  - 80 students participate annually
- Uses hands-on learning methods in addition to classroom learning
- Actively recruit STEM students
- Compete nationally and internationally
Experimental Vehicles Program (EVP)

Moon Buggy

Mini Baja

Solar Vehicle

Formula SAE

Solar Boat
Engagement

- Focus on the fun and family aspects of the design competition
- Recruit diverse populations (women, African Americans, Latinos)
- Community outreach
  - Summer camp, Expanding Your Horizons, Career fairs, school visits
Retention

- Collaboration and mentoring from upper division students
- Hands-on learning helps build skillset and retention rate
Success from the EVP

- 95% of EVP students receive highly desired jobs upon graduation
- 2012 Academic Excellence Award from TBR
- Consistently win awards at competitions
Positive Outcomes

- Students have the confidence and skills to pursue an engineering degree with hands-on learning
- Community outreach inspires children to go into engineering
- Active recruiting results in engagement of underrepresented populations
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