

Using Participatory Methods to Foster Inclusion for Women in Engineering

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Overview

Participatory methods involve an approach to research, program development, and action planning in a manner that captures diverse voices and involves stakeholder input in the development, implementation, and dissemination of work within their own community or institution. Implementing participatory methods in your own organization, department, lab, or classroom allows for including and valuing all voices at the table, while also creating collaborative, actionable change and gender-equitable spaces in engineering.

In this workshop, Drs. Batsheva Guy and Brittany Arthur will demonstrate unique ways with which to implement participatory methods with your collaborators and stakeholders in multiple settings in order to foster a more inclusive and innovative environment, while producing impactful output and programs for women in engineering. Presenters will share information on their successful participatory research projects with women in engineering. Drs. Guy and Arthur will also guide participants through a collaborative activity, in which they will leave with the tools they need to facilitate a participatory method with women in engineering.

Agenda

The agenda for this 90-minute workshop will be as follows:

00:00-00:15 Introduction & Ice Breaker

00:15-00:30 Overview of participatory research & participatory methods

00:30-00:45 Examples of implementing participatory methods with women in engineering

00:45-1:15 Activity, collaboratively planning a participatory method to address an issue or problem surrounding gender equity in engineering

1:15-1:30 Wrap up & final activity

Learning Outcomes

After completing the workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the key tenets of participatory research
2. Define what characterizes a participatory method
3. Describe the processes and characteristics of three distinct participatory methods (Future Creating Workshop, Photovoice, and Group-Level Assessment)
4. Analyze an issue in their organization that can be addressed via participatory methodology
5. Design their own Group-Level Assessment and develop a series of prompts