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"Thriving vs. Surviving" A Four Frame Model for Creating Inclusive Learning Environments



Beth M. Holloway (Purdue University)



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EIT Project Team



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EIT Project Goal & Strategies

To create engineering learning environments that support the persistence and success of all students, especially diverse women and minority men, by:

- Tailoring time-effective resources to engineering educators
- Distilling key research findings
- Sharing practical teaching advice
- Delivering convenient live/recorded webinars
- Providing easy-adoption checklists/resources



Beth Holloway



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How many years have you been an educator?

- 1 year
- 2-5 years
- 5-10 years
- 10+ years





- Provided special training for Under-Represented Group (URG) members (e.g. spatial visualization training, special classes or additional exercises)
- Organized class teams to ensure more than 1 URG member/team, if possible
- Highlighted the contributions of URG members within the discipline
- Emphasized the broader impacts of the engineering concepts taught in the class



A Framework for Promoting Equity

Adapted From: CGO Insights, Briefing Note No. 1, Simmons Graduate School of Management, http://www.simmons.edu/som/docs/Insights_01.pdf.



Frame 1 Equip the URG Member (Underrepresented Group)

Minimize differences in experience and knowledge so that students can compete as "equals." Focus is on the individual. Focuses on eliminating barriers that are biased against URG member and impede advancement. Interventions tend to be policy-based. Focuses on valuing difference rather than eliminating difference.

Places equity within a broad diversity perspective. Diversity seen as an important contributor to innovation and performance. Focuses on underlying systemic factors that lead to inequity.

Interventions change the culture by addressing underlying assumptions, norms, and practices.

Frame 1: Equip the URG Member

- Assumption that URG members are deficient
- Remediation program examples:
 - Special machine shop training for minority men
 - Special training for women on spatial visualization skills





If you agree with the statement below click your "hand" icon:

"In educational environments with which I am familiar, there is little need to 'level the playing field' for students who are Under-Represented Group (URG) members."





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Frame 2: Create Equal Opportunity

Examples:

- Require teams have more than one URG member.
- Require that team roles rotate or are pre-assigned so that all have equal opportunity to serve in leadership and team-support roles.





If you agree with the statement below click your "hand" icon:

"I make a point of bringing in presenters who are URG members."





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Frame 3: Value Difference

Examples:

- Make a special point to talk about the contributions of URG members to the field
- Encourage students members to take on team roles that best fit their strengths





If you agree with the statement below click your "hand" icon:

"I have had discussions with colleagues about what an inclusive engineering culture would look like."





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(Underrepresented Group)

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Create Equal

Opportunity

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Value Difference

Frame

5

es Frame 4 Re-Visio

Re-Vision Engineering Culture

Frame 4: Change the Culture

- Changing the Engineering Conversation
 - Reframing of what engineering means making sure to emphasize the socio-cultural aspects of engineering
 - Thriving dialog instead of surviving dialog
- Curricular Changes
 - Fundamental shift in pedagogy
 - Teamwork
 - Active learning
 - Collaboration
 - Instruction and levels of support
 - Inclusive examples
 - Innovation





Reflection

How are these frames valuable to the educator?

- 1. Equip the URG member
- 2. Create Equal Opportunity
- 3. Value Difference
- 4. Re-vision Engineering Culture



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Summary of Key Points

- Frames 1-3 are traditional ways that people have tried to address equity
- Frame 4 is a emerging perspective for crafting equitable practices.
- All frames have (+) and (–) aspects and there are appropriate times and places to use strategies from each of the frames
- Educators need to understand the down sides of each frame so that you can mitigate negative impacts







Action Check-list (www.WSKC.org/EIT)

Frames	Reflections
Frame 1: Equip the Under-Represented Group (URG) member	 Am I making an assumption that URG members need special assistance to be successful? Are there individuals in my classroom that need special assistance and am I aware of a variety of resources to help provide students an array of support, including URG member-specific support? Do I share opportunities for skill enhancement with all members of the class? Or only with URG members? Am I equally committed to the success of <i>ALL</i> students, not just the "best" students, and am I willing to do what it takes to provide opportunities for all to "thrive," not just "survive."
Frame 2: Create Equal Opportunity	 Are there barriers, within the learning environment created, that may inadvertently impact some students more than others based on their URG member status? Are there specific policies or procedures I follow to ensure equity (e.g., selection process for teamwork,) am I aware of the implications of the selections strategies I am using, and do I have alternative strategies to mitigate unanticipated negative consequences? Are my classroom policies transparent and designed to ensure fairness? Are critical accommodations necessary for diverse learners?
Frame 3: Value Difference	 Do I provide reference to and/or showcase diverse engineers as a regular part of what I do in class., not simply as something "special." Do I seek to value and acknowledge the contributions and engagement of all the students, not just individuals that look like me. Do I share diverse perspectives in problem solving engineering solutions? Do I model support for and understanding of different perspectives? Do I help students develop team-building and inclusive leadership skills?
Frame 4: Revision Engineering Culture	 Do I talk about "social" aspects of engineering that influence equity, such as implicit bias, micro-inequities, "fixed vs. growth mindset," the 'masculinization' of engineering? Do I seek input from students regarding their experience of equity within the classroom? Do I talk with colleagues about what equity in engineering education and culture looks like? Do I continue to reflect on how I can help prepare students for the diverse world in which they live and work?

Four Frames Action Assessment

Frames	Activity or Action Taken		
	(+)	(-)	
Frame 1: Equip the Under-Represented Group (URG) member			
Frame 2: Create Equal Opportunity			
Frame 3: Value Difference			
Frame 4: Revision Engineering Culture			
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Asking Questions and DiscussionType questions in to "Questions Pane"



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Faculty Professional Development

Personalized "To Do"

Now that you have heard this information, what are some things that you might want to do?





Next Steps

- Provide us Feedback
- Go to our website: <u>www.WSKC.org/EIT</u>
 - Participate in other live or recorded webinars
 - Use the Action Checklists & recommended reading
- Share this information with colleagues!





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Together we can engage all minds in engineering the future!

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