

Women in Engineering

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Ryerson's Women in Engineering (WIE) is an award-winning program offering engineering career information to high school and university women. We promote a friendly and supportive environment for women pursuing engineering studies.

The program was founded in 1989 with committee members representing staff, faculty and students from the University's Faculty of Engineering and other departments. In 1991, WIE created the high-school-oriented Discover Engineering Summer Camp with the support of industry partners. The program has since expanded with events for girls and women from primary school to university.

An open resource

The WIE Office is headquarters for all Discover Engineering programs and is an excellent resource for high school and university students, as well as high school teachers and guidance counsellors. A full-time coordinator hosts regular drop-in hours, and can provide students with academic, career and personal counselling and referrals. The WIE coordinator is also the contact for teachers and guidance counsellors who would like to learn more about our programs or book visits to their schools.

WIE publishes articles and presents at conferences around the world. An up-to-date list is available from our website.



Discover Engineering

A career to discover

Discover Engineering was founded in 1991 as a summer camp. It now includes visits to high schools, a career conference at Ryerson University, and a program for Girl Guides. Most of the programs are at no cost to the participants.



Discover Engineering Summer Camp

Discover Engineering Summer Camp is a week-long day camp that brings the science of engineering to high school women. Camp counsellors are female undergraduate engineering students who guide participants in sessions led by Ryerson faculty, staff and alumni.

Discover Engineering Career Conference

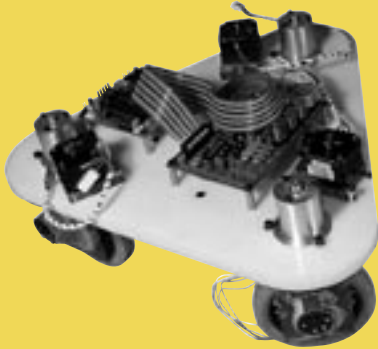
This one-day conference is held for women in grades 10, 11 or 12, along with parents, teachers and guidance counsellors. Participants attend panels and workshops focused on careers in engineering and meet with women working in engineering-related careers.

Discover Engineering High School Workshops

These 70-minute workshops are offered to co-ed classes but are led by female faculty, staff, and engineering students. Discussions cover the way engineering applies to our daily lives, as well as opportunities in the field. There are hands-on activities, too, followed by question-and-answer sessions.

Discover Engineering Girl Guides Conference

This conference is a half-day event for Girl Guides, ages nine to 12. The Guides learn about different types of engineering and how engineered devices have improved the way we live. They try hands-on activities, and earn an Engineering badge for their day's work.



Women in Engineering

A career to build

WIE has a number of programs to support Ryerson's women engineering students. We also offer volunteer and paid opportunities to broaden the learning experience and build professional networks.

Welcome Event

WIE hosts an annual Welcome Event at the beginning of each academic year. First-year Ryerson WIE students are welcomed by women engineers, senior WIE students, staff and faculty.

Mentor-Link and Student-Link

Mentor-Link brings Ryerson's WIE students together with mentors who are accomplished women engineers. Student-Link matches junior students with senior students in their program. Students receive guidance and support from their mentors via e-mail, with facilitation from the WIE Office.

Lunch & Learn

WIE sponsors guest speakers throughout the year for co-ed student audiences. The technical topics are presented by representatives of engineering firms and engineering-related businesses.

Job Opportunities

Ryerson engineering students can apply to be instructors, camp counsellors and research assistants for the Discover Engineering program. In fact, the WIE Office employs at least 20 students each year!

Social Events

Each year, WIE Student Committee members plan social activities (such as movie nights, pub nights and rock climbing) to network and interact with other students in the faculty.





WIE Committee

If you are a Ryerson staff or faculty member and would like to participate in the WIE Committee, give us a call. In addition to program planning, WIE Committee members often assist as instructors with the Summer Camp or High School Workshops.

WIE Students

If you are a woman engineering student at Ryerson and would like to receive information on events and job opportunities, join the WIE e-list. Contact the WIE Office to be added!



The brand new \$72 million dollar Centre for Computing and Engineering brings together--under one roof--the Aerospace, Computer, and Electrical Engineering programs, Computer Science, and Civil Engineering labs.

Get involved

There are many ways to get involved, from cash and in-kind donations, to inviting us to your school, speaking to our students and/or sitting on the WIE Committee.

How to support us

We have three levels of donation support: Patrons (\$5,000 and up), Partners (\$2,000 – \$4,999), and Donors (up to \$1,999). Other options include Summer Camp Participant support (\$80 per student) and Materials or Facilities support. All levels are tax deductible. Our supporters are recognized in a variety of public ways and we have many opportunities for visibility at presentations to schools and conferences.

Speak at Ryerson, speak at your school

Call us or send us an e-mail:

- If you are a woman engineer and would like to be a presenter to our students — we welcome speakers from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives.
- If you are a teacher or guidance counsellor and would like a Discover Engineering workshop at your high school.

International Recognition



▲ Lisa Anderson, Ryerson University, receiving Michael Smith Award, November 2002.

► The 2002 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Michael Smith Award for Science Promotion.



▲ Lisa Anderson, Ryerson University, receiving CEMF Award from Deborah Wolfe, Canadian Council of Professional Engineers, May 2002.

► The 2002 Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation (CEMF) Award for outreach programs deemed most effective at attracting senior high-school students, particularly women, to engineering.

► The 2001 Women in Engineering Programs & Advocates Network (WEPAN) Women in Engineering Program Award; first Canadian university to receive this award.

Contact WIE

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