# Educating the Engineer of 2020 Alumni Survey

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

1	. What was your undergraduate maj	or?
	O Bio-medical/Bio-engineering	O General engineering/Engineering Science
	O Chemical engineering	O Industrial engineering
	O Civil engineering	O Mechanical engineering
	O Electrical engineering	O Other (please specify):
2.	When you entered the institution wh	nere you earned your bachelor's degree, were you a:
	O First-time college student	
	O Transfer student with an associate	e's degree from a community or two-year college
	O Transfer student without an asso	ciate's degree from a community or two-year college
	O Transfer student from a four-year	institution
	O "3+2 program" transfer from anot	her four-year institution
3.	. What is your gender?	
	O Man	
	O Woman	
4.	Are you: (Please select all that app	ly.)
	O African American	O Caucasian/White
	O Asian American	O Foreign national (citizen of another country)
	O Hispanic or Latino/a American	O Naturalized U.S. citizen
	O Native American	O Other (please specify):

5. What is the highest level of formal schooling that each of your parents/guardians have completed? (Mark ONLY ONE oval per column).	Mother/ Guardian	Father/ Guardian
Did not finish high school	0	0
High school graduate/GED	0	0
Attended college but did not receive a degree	0	0
Vocational/technical certificate or diploma	0	0
Associate or other 2-year degree	0	0
Bachelor's or other 4-year degree	0	0
Master's degree (M.A., M.S., M.B.A., etc.)	0	0
Doctorate degree (Ph.D., J.D., M.D., etc.)	0	0

6.	Did you take the SAT or ACT tests? (Please select all that apply.)
	O No. I did not take either exam.
	O Yes, I took the SAT exam, and my scores were approximately:  SAT Verbal SAT Math SAT Math
	O Yes, I took the ACT exam, and my Composite score was approximately:

7. What was your approximate overall academic average in high school and in your engineering program?

	High School	Engineering Program
1.49 or below (below C-)	0	0
1.50 - 1.99 (C- to C)	0	0
2.00 - 2.49 (C to B-)	0	0
2.50 - 2.99 (B- to B)	0	0
3.00 - 3.49 (B to A-)	0	0
3.50 or above (A- to A)	0	0
Not applicable	0	0

#### **ENGINEERING SKILLS**

<u>Instructions</u>: In the following section, you will be asked to think about your level of ability in college <u>when you were a graduating senior</u> and your <u>current level of ability</u>. If you're unfamiliar with, or have had no experience with, any of the following, select the "Weak/none" option.

**8. Define Problems and Generate Design Solutions.** Please rate your ability to do each of the following (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

5	SENIOR YEAR				Ability to	NOW						
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5		
0	0	0	0	0	Define design problems and objectives clearly and precisely.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Ask questions to understand what a client/customer really wants in a "product."	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Undertake a search (literature review, databases, benchmarking, reverse-engineering, etc.) before beginning team-based brainstorming.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Take into account the design contexts (social, cultural, economic, environmental, political, ethical, etc.) and the constraints they may impose on each possible solution.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Generate and prioritize criteria for evaluating the quality of a solution.	0	0	0	0	0		

	SENIOR YEAR				Ability to	NOW							
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5			
0	0	0	0	0	Brainstorm possible engineering solutions.	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Apply systems thinking in developing solutions to an engineering problem.	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Develop pictorial representations of possible designs (sketches, renderings, engineering drawings, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Evaluate design solutions based on a specified set of criteria.	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Produce a product (prototype, program, simulation, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0			

**9. Manage a Design Project.** Please rate your knowledge and ability in each of the following areas (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

SENIOR YEAR					Ability to			NOW				
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5		
0	0	0	0	0	Break down a design project into manageable components or tasks.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Identify team members' strengths/weaknesses and distribute tasks and workload accordingly.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Recognize when changes to the original understanding of the problem may be necessary.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Monitor the design process to ensure goals are being met.	0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0	Put aside differences within a design team to get the work done.	0	0	0	0	0		

**10. Engineering Contexts.** Please rate your knowledge and ability in each of the following areas (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

SENIOR YEAR					Knowledge and Ability to			NOW						
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5				
0	0	0	0	0	Knowledge of contexts (social, political, economic, cultural, environmental, ethical, etc.) that might affect the solution to an engineering problem.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Knowledge of the connections between technological solutions and their implications for the society or groups they are intended to benefit.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Ability to use what you know about different cultures, social values, or political systems in developing engineering solutions.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Ability to recognize how different contexts can change a problem solution.	0	0	0	0	0				

**11. Communication.** Please rate your ability to do each of the following (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

	SENI	OR Y	EAR		Ability to			NOW						
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5				
0	0	0	0	0	Write a well-organized, coherent report.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Make effective audiovisual presentations.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Construct tables or graphs to communicate a solution.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Communicate effectively with clients, teammates, and supervisors.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Communicate effectively with non-technical audiences.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Communicate effectively with people from different cultures or countries.	0	0	0	0	0				

**12. Teamwork.** Please rate your ability to do each of the following (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

SENIOR YEAR					Ability to			NOW					
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5			
0	0	0	0	0	Work with others to accomplish group goals.	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Work in teams of people with a variety of skills and backgrounds.	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Work in teams where knowledge and ideas from multiple engineering fields must be applied.	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	Work in teams that include people from fields outside engineering.	0	0	0	0	0			

**13. Leadership.** Please rate your ability to do each of the following (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

	SENIOR YEAR				Ability to			NOW						
1	2	3	4	5	1=Weak/none 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent	1	2	3	4	5				
0	0	0	0	0	Help your group or organization work through periods when ideas are too many or too few.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Develop a plan to accomplish a group's or organization's goals.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Take responsibility for a group's or organization's performance.	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	Motivate people to do the work that needs to be done.	0	0	0	0	0				

**14. Interdisciplinary Knowledge and Skills.** Indicate your level of agreement with the following (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

	SEN	IIOR Y	EAR		Agreement with  1=Strongly disagree 2=Disagree			NOW		
1	2	3	4	5	3=Neither agree nor disagree 4=Agree 5=Strongly agree	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	I value reading about topics outside of engineering (history, business, politics, the cultures of other parts of the world, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I enjoy thinking about how different fields approach the same problem in different ways.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	Not all engineering problems have purely technical solutions.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	In solving engineering problems I often seek information from experts in other academic fields.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	Given knowledge and ideas from different fields, I can figure out what is appropriate for solving a problem.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I see connections between ideas in engineering and ideas in the humanities and social sciences.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I can take ideas from <u>outside engineering</u> and synthesize them in ways that help me better understand or explain a problem.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I can use what I have learned in one field in another setting or to solve a new problem.	0	0	0	0	0

**15 Recognizing Perspectives.** Indicate your level of agreement with the following (1) when you were a graduating senior (SENIOR YEAR) and (2) currently (NOW):

	SENIOR YEAR			Agreement with  1=Strongly disagree 2=Disagree		NOW				
1	2	3	4	5	3=Neither agree nor disagree 4=Agree 5=Strongly agree	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	I often step back and reflect on what I am thinking to determine whether I might be missing something.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I frequently stop to think about where I might be going wrong or right with a problem solution.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	If asked, I could identify the kinds of knowledge and ideas that are distinctive to different fields of study (chemistry, psychology, literature, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I recognize the kinds of evidence that different fields of study rely on.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I'm good at figuring out what experts in different fields have missed in explaining a problem or proposing a solution.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	I usually know when my own biases are getting in the way of my understanding of a problem or finding a solution.	0	0	0	0	0

## **UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM EMPHASES**

**16. Topics in Engineering.** Overall, (1) how much did the <u>courses in your undergraduate engineering program emphasize</u> each of the following and (2) how important are they <u>in your work now?</u>

BAC	BACHELOR'S PROGRAM		RAM	Emphasis on			IMPORTANCE NOW				
1	2	3	4	5	1=Little/none 2=Slight 3=Moderate 4=High 5=Very high	1	2	3	4	5	
0	0	0	0	0	Ethical issues in practice.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	The importance of life-long learning.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Examining my beliefs and values and how they affect my ethical decisions.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	The value of gender, racial/ethnic, or cultural diversity.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Working with people who differ from me in gender, race/ethnicity, or cultural background.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Creativity and innovation.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Current workforce and economic trends (globalization, outsourcing, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Emerging technologies.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	How theories are used in practice.	0	0	0	0	0	

**17. Professional Skills.** Overall, (1) how much did the c<u>ourses in your undergraduate engineering program emphasize</u> each of the following and (2) how important are they <u>in your work now</u>?

BACHELOR'S PROGRAM			PROG	RAM	Emphasis on	IMPORTANCE NOW					
1	2	3	4	5	1=Little/none 2=Slight 3=Moderate 4=High 5=Very high	1	2	3	4	5	
0	0	0	0	0	Professional skills (knowing codes and standards, being on time, meeting deadlines, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Written and oral communication skills.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Leadership skills.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Working effectively in teams.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Working with multinational groups or teams.	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	Project management skills (budgeting, monitoring progress, managing people, etc.).	0	0	0	0	0	

**18. Problem Solving.** Overall, (1) how much did the <u>courses in your undergraduate engineering program emphasize</u> each of the following and (2) how important are they <u>in your work now?</u>

BACHELOR'S PROGRAM		RAM	Emphasis on		IMPORTANCE NOW					
1	2	3	4	5	1=Little/none 2=Slight 3=Moderate 4=High 5=Very high	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	Understanding how a solution can be shaped by environmental, cultural, economic, and other considerations.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	<u>Understanding</u> how knowledge from several fields can help solve a problem.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	Applying knowledge from several fields to solve a problem.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	Systems thinking.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	Defining a problem.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	Generating and evaluating ideas about how to solve an engineering problem.	0	0	0	0	0

## **UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCES**

19. As an undergraduate student, approximately <u>how many months</u> did you spend participating in each of the following:

# of

	mor	<u>ıths</u>
Undergraduate research activities		
Engineering internship(s)		
Engineering cooperative education experience		
Study abroad or an international school-related tour(s)		
Working on humanitarian engineering projects (Engineers without Borders, etc.)		
Non-engineering related community service or volunteer work		
Student design project(s)/competition(s) beyond class requirements		

## 20. As an undergraduate student, how active were you in the following activities:

	Not active	Slightly active	Moderately active	Highly active	Extremely active
An engineering club or student chapter of a professional society (IEEE, ASME, ASCE, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0
Other engineering-related clubs or programs for women and/or minority students (e.g., NSBE, SHPE, SWE, WISE, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0
Other clubs or activities (hobbies, civic or church organizations, campus publications, student government, Greek life, sports, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0

## 21. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

During my undergraduate career:	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Some engineering students used offensive words, behaviors, or gestures directed at students because of their gender.	0	0	0	0	0
Some engineering students used offensive words, behaviors, or gestures directed at students because of their race/ethnicity.	0	0	0	0	0
My gender influenced my choice of engineering field.	0	0	0	0	0
My <u>race/ethnicity</u> influenced my choice of engineering field.	0	0	0	0	0

## **CURRENT PROFESSIONAL SITUATION**

## 22. What degree(s) do you hold? (Please check all that apply.)

	In Engineering	Outside Engineering
Bachelor's	0	0
Master's	0	0
Doctorate	0	0

ON C		
O Yes →	24. What degree are you seeking?	
	O MA/MS/M Eng	
	O MBA	
	O JD	
	O MD/DDS	
	O PhD	
	O Other	
	25. In what field will you earn your graduate degree?	
	O Bio-medical/Bio-engineering	
	O Chemical engineering	
	O Civil engineering	
	O Electrical engineering	
	O General engineering/Engineering Science	
	O Industrial engineering	
	O Mechanical engineering	
	O Other engineering field	
	O Business	
	O Law	
	O Medicine	
	O Other field (not in engineering)	
_		
at is your	<u>primary</u> employment status?	
) Employed	d full-time	
) Employed	d part-time	
Self-empl	loyed	
Comployed Services	d as a graduate assistant	
O Not curre	ntly employed	
ce comple	eting my undergraduate degree, I have: (Please select a	I that apply.)
Taken cre	edit-bearing courses from a college or university (in any forr	nat)
	ted in required training through my employer	
•	ted in voluntary training through my employer	
•	urses offered by an organization other than my employer ar	nd not associated with a university or
O None of the		, ,

<u>Directions</u>: If you are presently employed, please complete the questions on this page. If you are not presently employed, please continue to Question 31 on the next page.

28. Which <u>one</u> of the following best describes activity? [Categories of the North America	your (if self-employed) or your employer's primary business n Industry Classification System]						
O Accommodation or food services							
O Administrative or support or waste manage	ement remediation services						
O Agriculture, forestry, fishing or hunting							
O Arts, entertainment, or recreation							
O Construction							
O Educational services							
O Finance and insurance							
O Health care or social assistance							
O Information							
O Management of companies or enterprises							
O Manufacturing							
O Mining (including oil and gas)							
O Professional, scientific, or technical service	es						
O Public administration (government, civil se	rvice, military)						
O Real estate or rental leasing							
O Retail trade							
O Transportation or warehousing							
O Utilities							
O Wholesale trade							
O Other (please specify):							
29. Which one of the following best describes	your primary job function?						
O Business/finance	O Marketing/sales						
O Consultant	O Production, installation, delivery of services						
O Faculty/academic professional	O Supervisor of professional/technical/research personnel						
O Human resources	O Professional/technical/research personnel						
O Information/technology/network support	O Research/development/testing						
O Management/administration/executive	O Other (please specify):						
30. How closely are your current job responsib	oilities related to your undergraduate engineering degree?						
O Directly related							
O Somewhat related							
O Not related							

31. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
My gender has been a disadvantage in my engineering career.	0	0	0	0	0
My race/ethnicity has been a disadvantage in my engineering career.	0	0	0	0	0

32. Have you taken the Fundame	entals of Er	ngineer	ing (FE) exam?	
O No				
O Yes, in (most recent year):			Did you pass? O Yes	O No
33. Do you have, or are you work	king toward	ds, you	r professional engineer's	(PE) license?
O Yes				
O No				

Thank you very much for your participation! Please return the survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.