Let’s Start Here Survey

Dear FAMU and FSU students at FAMU-FSU Engineering:

With Let’s Start Here (https://www.eng.famu.fsu.edu/news/lets-start-here) we are beginning in earnest a new step in our journey to increase equity, diversity and inclusion on our unique campus. A first important step is a survey to determine where we are in relation to these dimensions, and to hear from all of you about your personal experience at FAMU-FSU Engineering.

You received an email from me on Oct. 1 asking you to participate in this survey, conducted independently for us by the HEDS Consortium. This is not a phishing attempt (I know they happen all the time, sometimes with my email address) or an attempt to “check the box” with regard to these issues. This survey is hugely important because we must hear your voice and understand the issues on our campus and ecosystem.

Please take the survey at the link in your email. The link is unique to you so we can avoid duplication. It will take you only 10-15 minutes to complete, and I hope you do so thoughtfully. You may get a series of reminder emails until you actually click the link and take the survey, so please take it early! This opportunity to hear from you is open from Oct. 1-15 only. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me or Tisha Keller, our survey leader, know.

Let me also reiterate that your response will be anonymous. The survey data is being
accumulated by a highly reputable national organization that will only provide us with aggregated information. I hope you will be comfortable telling us how you truly feel and sharing your experiences.

I sincerely appreciate your time and your thoughtful responses. Together, you, me and the Let’s Start Here leadership committee will help take FAMU-FSU Engineering to the next level in which every one of our people feels equally empowered and supported.

Thank-you in advance.

Murray Gibson

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**University and College News**

**Opportunity: Machine Learning in Science & Engineering**

*The Columbia University Data Science Institute is hosting a virtual conference and offering a research submission opportunity that may be relevant for students across engineering, math, computer science, and technology disciplines.*

**What:** [Machine Learning in Science & Engineering (MLSE 2020)](#) will demonstrate how data-driven approaches can help solve emerging challenges. With 11 dedicated Tracks, the event will bring together 1,000+ participants, 150+ speakers, and dozens of posters, papers, panels, research, and job listings. MLSE 2020 is supported by an NSF TRIPODS+X award.

**Event Dates:** December 14-15, 2020 - Virtual

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED:**

[Submit Research.](#) Several MLSE 2020 Tracks are looking for posters, abstracts, panelists, and speakers. We encourage faculty and students from your university to submit research for inclusion. Deadline: Thursday, October 15 (Midnight ET)

[Registration is FREE for students!](#) Please encourage students to attend to network with leaders in science and engineering. Undergraduate, graduate, PhD, and postdocs can all register for free. Students can also [volunteer](#) for more dedicated networking.

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**Please Answer 644-5555: FSU's assessment and contact tracing**

Hope you’re *staying* well and *doing* well in your classes this Fall. I’m writing to ask for your cooperation with FSU’s contact assessment efforts to keep us all safe.

*Especially for those of you who are taking in-person classes or are in Tallahassee, if you receive a call or voicemail from 850.644.5555, please answer it.* The call is from FSU’s SAFER team. Your answering will help ensure that the university’s contact assessment/tracing efforts remain robust.

I’ve been told by the SAFER Team that positivity rates have been declining since the initial peak in early September, but we need to work to keep it that way.

Also, use the [Daily Wellness Check](#) app to report a positive test result or if you think you’ve been exposed. The app is available on [my.fsu.edu](#) or in the [MyFSU](#) app.

Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE
Stop the spread! Support cybersecurity at FSU

You are essential in stopping the spread of cybercrime. Join FSU for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and learn how to stay safe online wherever you are connecting, either on campus or virtually. Together, we can help keep ourselves and others safe in today’s virtual world.

- Take the [Seminole Safe Exam](#)
- Join a [Virtual Cybersecurity Session](#)
- Practice Healthy Online Habits
  1. **AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH CYBERSCAM**s Delete phishing emails and voicemails
  2. **COVER YOUR PASSWORD** Never share your password with anyone
  3. **DON’T UNMASK YOUR IDENTITY** Use 2FA for an extra layer of protection
  4. **DISINFECT YOUR DEVICES** Run antivirus software regularly
  5. **STAY HOME** Avoid public Wi-Fi or use a VPN to connect if not using your home network

African Americans in STEM: Request for Participants

My name is Sahran Hamit, and I am a doctoral student in counseling psychology at Howard University. I am currently conducting a dissertation study regarding African American junior and senior undergraduate students and the impact of parental influence on their career development. I would greatly appreciate it if you would forward this information to junior and senior undergraduate students you may know.

This survey should take about 20-30 minutes to complete. You are not obligated to participate in this survey. However, should you choose to complete the
In order to participate you must (a) identify as African American, (b) be a junior or senior at a four-year institution, and (c) have declared a major.

This study has been approved by Howard University Institutional Review Board (IRB# IRB-19-ED-14).

Take the Survey

Or copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser:

https://howard.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_823kGit0VULQ8NT

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at hamitresearch@gmail.com or Dr. Shareefah Al’Uqdah shareefah.aluqdah@howard.edu.
Join us for our weekly workshops & group sessions! Open to ALL students.

**Maximum capacity for each session is 10 participants each week**

To register for each workshop or group, click on the picture or visit our website at www.famu.edu/counseling

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**Man Talk** *(maximum capacity does not apply to this group)*

This is an interactive discussion group for male students to come together and discuss various topics surrounding healthy masculinity in a safe, yet candid environment.

Every other Thursday at 4 p.m.
September 17 – November 12

Facilitated by Mr. Stancil & Dr. Stewart

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**Self Esteem**

This workshop is designed to ultimately help participants develop a meaningful understanding of how we value ourselves.

Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
Thursdays at 12 noon

Facilitated by Dr. Harrison & Ms. Boyd

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**CBT (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy)**

This group is designed to improve participants' capacity for improved coping by challenging and changing unhelpful distortions and behaviors.

Tuesdays at 12 noon
Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Harrison & Ms. Boyd

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**Decision Making**

In this workshop, we will discuss multiple steps that will include effective decision making as well as characteristics of good decision-makers.

Thursdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Ms. Mozell

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**Trading Places**

This group is an informal discussion series to gain information regarding sexual assault and to increase participants' understanding of what it's like to be in the place of someone who has been victimized.

Wednesdays at 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Jackson & Dr. Stewart

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**Can We Talk?**

This is a session workshop designed to enhance interpersonal skills and strengthen peer relationships.

Mondays at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Stewart & Mrs. Washington

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**Q & A Tea Time**

This is an informal group for women discussing various topics such as consent, relationships, self-care, and navigating the college experience.

Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Jackson & Mrs. Washington

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**Rattlers in Focus**

This is a four-week interactive workshop covering substance use (alcohol and other drugs) prevention.

Round 1: Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
September 16 – October 7

Round 2: Mondays at 4 p.m.
October 26 – November 16

Facilitated by Mr. Stancil

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**Test Anxiety**

Are you struggling with managing nervous thoughts before, during, and after exams? This workshop is for you.

Wednesdays at 11 a.m.
Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Facilitated by Dr. Harrison & Ms. Boyd

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**Stress Management**

In this workshop, we will cover steps of stress management as well as the stressful parts of college life such as study habits and time management.

Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Facilitated by Ms. Mozell

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Next Undergrad in the Lab Lectures
These live Zoom meetings are open to all engineering undergraduates and those interested in attending FAMU-FSU Engineering. Registration required.

Upcoming “Undergrad in the Lab” events:

- October 27, 2020 | 4:00 pm: Bruce Locke, Ph.D., chemical & biomedical engineering [REGISTER]
- November 10, 2020 | 4:00 pm: Ralm Ricarte, Ph.D., chemical & biomedical engineering [REGISTER]

Events are free and open to all, but do require advance registration at the links below. Past lectures are available on the FAMU-FSU Engineering YouTube channel.

For more information on this series, please contact Tisha Keller, Marketing & Communications Director.

Staying Connected

Attention FAMU-FSU College of Engineering Students!

Make a difference for your campuses and register to vote for this upcoming election!

This Monday, October 5th, is the deadline to update your registration in order to vote in the November 3rd Election. This November, we have the chance to vote for national and local officials who make important decisions that impact our future. Make sure your voice is heard by voting in these critical elections. But first - you need to register.

Please take five minutes and [REGISTER HERE]!

If you need to register for the first time or you moved since you last registered, you can [update your registration] right here. Voting Resources: Check your voter registration status and find out more about upcoming elections, including how to vote safely by mail.

If you have any questions regarding registration or voting in this election, please contact: FAMU: Sunita Ganesh, sganesh@floridapirgstudents.org. FSU: Sithara Menon, smenon@floridapirgstudents.org
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers offers STEM students networking help Fall 2020

With classes, career fairs, and many key networking events going online, how do students network successfully? This new reality has created an unprecedented situation for our STEM academic community. To help, the FAMU-FSU SHPE student chapter is hosting outreach events providing engineering students with network assistance, resources, connections and opportunities.

Contact us for more information about networking this fall.

SHPE 2020 UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Involvement Fair**: August 25th from 6-8 PM
- **GBM 1**: Wednesday, September 5th at 6:00 PM
- **Professionalism Workshop with Honeywell**: Thursday, September 10th (Time TBA)
- **Career Fair Prep Workshop with Pepsi**: Thursday, September 17th (Time TBA)
- **Industry Social**: September 21st at 6:00 PM
- **GBM 2**: Wednesday, October 7th at 6:00 PM
- **Pre-Conference Workshop with TI**: Wednesday, October 21st at 6:00pm
- **SHPE Conference**: October 26th-30th
Reusable Cloth Face Masks Donations Help Flatten the COVID19 Curve

Teresa Berger, a FAMU Pre-Engineering Advisor in Student Services, at the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, has been coordinating a free mask outreach effort for communities and schools around Florida.

Nonprofit Travels Across the Southeast United States Making Stops in Tallahassee to Give Away Free Reusable Cloth Face Masks to Help Flatten the Curve of COVID19

After traveling multiple states, Lane Harper’s Power of Life Foundation made a stop in Quincy, FL for a huge event at the Tanyard Creek Amphitheater on Saturday, September 26, 2020. This drive thru event was organized by Lane Harper and Teresa Berger. A joint venture with the City of Quincy, Cumulus Broadcasting and Farm Share, the Foundation distributed more than 15,000 free face masks, more than 13,000 pounds of free food, and a $30 utility credit for City of Quincy utility customers.

Humanitarian and Executive Director of the Power of Life Foundation, Lane Harper, is a Birmingham Police Department Officer who has dedicated more than 15 years towards aiding those in the community facing difficult times. After years of funding his own acts of service, Harper created The Power of Life Foundation, a nonprofit to expand his mission to provide basic human needs to those less fortunate nationwide.

Teresa Berger is the Marketing/Project Director for The Power of Life Foundation. A FAMU graduate and an academic advisor with the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, Teresa has provided disaster relief to the City of Tallahassee after multiple hurricanes.

The Foundation serves those in need of help with housing, food, clothing/shoes, disaster relief,
and youth development. Currently, The Power of Life Foundation’s mission has been focused on assisting communities with flattening the curve of COVID-19 thru free face mask giveaways. The Power of Life Foundation has successfully distributed more than 50,000 face masks in 7 events in Birmingham, AL, Tallahassee, FL, Macon, GA, Jonesboro, GA and Quincy, FL.

100% of every mask donated is given away to the public for FREE. 100% of monetary donations go to purchase fabric and materials for the sewers and pay expenses to host these important events in various cities.