
From the desk of the Director

The 2002 Minority Engineering Advancement Program (MEAP), with the theme Millennium and Beyond, continued to engage, challenge and expose young minds to various aspects of Engineering and Technology. The Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at IUPUI, MEAP staff and I appreciate all the efforts of industry, sponsors and corporate partners that made MEAP 2002 a success. Commendations go to the entire MEAP staff for their team effort during the summer program: **Lisa Miller, Kelvin Rudy, Melody Cruz, Lucie Sidibe, Adeyemi Adepetu, Lakendra Norwood, Omar El-Mounayri and Mr. Reginald McGregor.** I would like the following student feedback to give the echoes from the MEAP 2002 summer program.

Patrick Gee



Cristen Moore, 9th grade, Bishop Chatard High School;
“.... Thank you for the wonderful tour you gave my MEAP group.... This tour gave us a closer look on what it really means to be an engineer. It helped us see that whatever we put our minds to we can accomplish and that the sky is the limit for us all. I am now personally more interested in the engineering field. Who knows one day I might be giving a tour at Raytheon Technical Services Company. Once again I would like to say thank you...”



Jonathan Lowry, 12th grade, Brebeuf Preparatory School;
“Dear Twalla Smith, thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to come and talk about your career to us. Thanks to you, I have gained a better understanding about Indianapolis Casting Corporation and what they do. Thank you for giving me the motivation to become a Biomedical Engineer. I know this field will be hard, but I am looking forward to the challenge.”



Leon Nowlin, 11th grade, Lawrence Central High School;
“...Mr. McGregor, you don't know how much you really got to me today, after going through the brainstorming process of the chair, I began to realize this might actually be something I am interested in doing. I like to draw and I like bringing things together. I also like improving ideas and designing things. Well, at least I realize that now...”

Program Introduction and 2002 MEAP Objectives

<http://www.iupui.edu/meap>

The Minority Engineering Advancement Program was established in 1976 in response to the small number of minorities in the engineering profession. During the early 1970's, a national effort was launched and many organizations and programs were developed to increase the representation of under represented minorities in the fields of engineering and technology. Enhancing the recruitment and retention of minority students in the School of Engineering and Technology continues to be a priority. Like many other engineering and technology schools, minorities continue to make up a small fraction of the students in the school. The Minority Engineering Advancement Program strives to circumvent some of the inhibitors that prevent minorities from selecting engineering and technology as potential careers.

The Minority Engineering Advancement Program (MEAP) concentrates on the following objectives to achieve its goals:

- I. To identify, recruit, and select minority students (grades 6-12) with demonstrated academic potential and to expose them to the fields of engineering and technology.
- II. To assist students to become enrolled in college (post-secondary education) and provide assistance in helping them obtain financial aid.
- III. To increase the students' awareness of career options available to engineers and technologists.
- IV. To facilitate students' access to and interaction with positive role models from the fields of education and industry who will serve MEAP as workshop instructors, counselors, and mentors for students.
- V. To provide hands-on laboratory experiences and academic instruction similar to that of a typical first year of study in an engineering or technology curriculum.
- VI. To demonstrate work-place environments by providing students with tours of local industries.
- VII. To provide MEAP graduates with valuable summer work experience in engineering and technology-related fields within local industries.

MEAP Opening Ceremony

June 22, 2002

<http://www.mayschem.com>



Patrick Gee, MEAP Director, began the 2002 Opening Ceremony by sharing the new and innovative ideas that help students gain more exposure to industrial settings and interaction with the School of Engineering and Technology faculty and staff. He recognized the MEAP sponsors, special guests and the School of Engineering and Technology's efforts to bring together minority students and expose them to innovative and exciting programs. Karen Whitney, Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Diversity at IUPUI, welcomed both the students and the parents to the IUPUI family and to the summer program.

Dr. Öner Yurtseven, Dean of the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at IUPUI, stated the importance of MEAP, the need for engineers and technologist graduates nationwide, and the lack of minority students in the engineering field.

Damon Wilson, Director of Sales at Mays Chemical, explained to the students the importance and the benefits of a college education. Also, he indicated the worldwide career opportunities that are available to college graduates. As the opening ceremony speaker and a chemical engineer, Mr. Wilson challenged the students to take advantage of MEAP and other technical exposures.