



SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The University of Washington is located just northeast of downtown Seattle in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. The UW is surrounded by a vibrant, innovative and entrepreneurial culture supported by prominent technology companies like Microsoft, Boeing, T-Mobile and Amazon, as well as a wide range of startup ventures. Employment in Seattle's tech sector has grown by more than 33% in the last ten years, making Seattle one of the top technology hubs in the nation.

UW ECE

In the UW Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, graduate students and post-docs work with distinguished faculty in state-of-the-art research laboratories to pursue their passions for science and engineering and prepare to make a difference in the world.



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**ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER
ENGINEERING**

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RESEARCH IN DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

In our DEI efforts in ECE at UW, graduate students and undergraduate students alike are encouraged to augment their traditional technical research and coursework with DEI-related research and activities. DEI studies can also be included in Ph.D. research through our alternative Ph.D. option. Interested? Please feel free to contact us!



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DIVERSITY

Although tally diversity (bringing under-represented groups into engineering) is critical to enabling the presence of diversity, embracing and nourishing such diversity requires understanding bias in how we understand what different racial, ethnic, gender, and other demographic groups need to succeed. Our diversity research seeks to identify and eliminate bias in the ways in which we evaluate students and workers. We capitalize on our ECE strengths in this work by using natural language processing and other deep learning techniques to identify bias and narrow such bias down to actionable strategies to overcome it.

EQUITY

In the context of work and school, equity requires that both intentional and unintentional barriers from systemic bias and structures be first identified and then overcome. This levels the playing field so that fair opportunities for advancement and fulfillment are available to all. Sexual harassment is a major obstacle to achieving equity and can set employees and students back to the point that they drop out of their fields of study or work altogether. Our equity research focuses on identifying what types of harassment occur and to what degree they occur in engineering. It also explores practical solutions to eradicate harassment. We share and discuss results of our own and related research in our EE397 course, offered annually.

LEARN MORE!

[LABS.ECE.UW.EDU/COMMUNITY/](https://labs.ece.uw.edu/community/)

INCLUSION

Inclusion revolves around a sense of belonging and ensures that everyone in a class, work team, or other group feels accepted and supported by the group, regardless of what they look like, their communication style, or other differences they bring to the table. Our research on belonging focuses on both engineering classrooms and workplaces, seeking to understand how different groups experience belonging. It also explores actionable strategies to improve belonging. For example, emergency remote teaching during COVID actually increased belonging for some groups because remote teaching platforms leveled the playing field for asking questions and being heard in the classroom. Such insight can be used to improve inclusivity in post-COVID classrooms and learning environments.

