



The Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement (MESA) program focuses on initiatives to improve diversity and retention of historically underrepresented students in the STEM fields, including African American, Latinx/Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and women students.

EQUITY

We believe that race and gender should not be predictors of STEM educational outcomes.

ACCESS

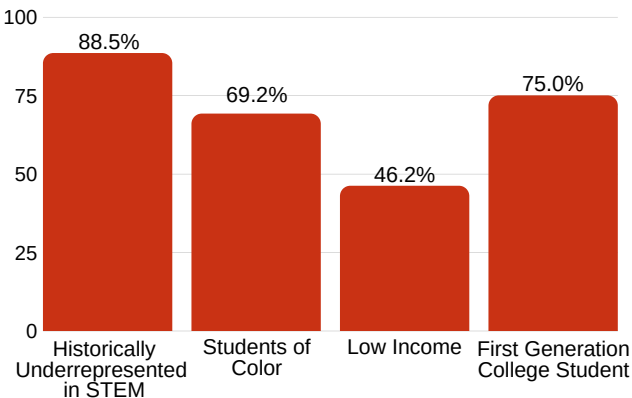
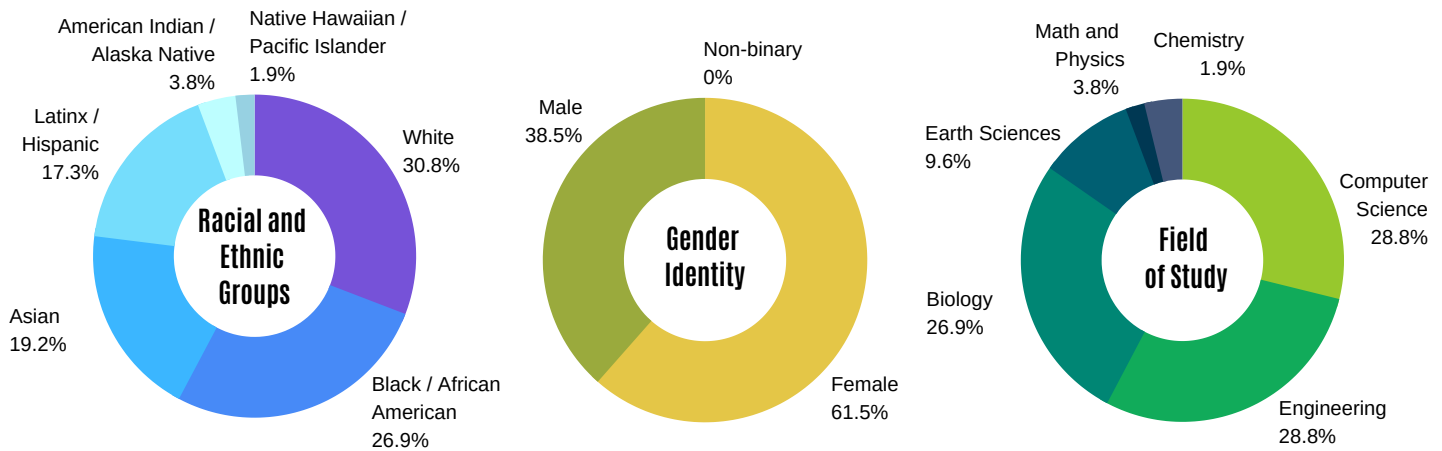
MESA students will have access to opportunities that will academically and professionally develop them into competitive STEM transfer students.

COMMUNITY

Together, we will build and be part of a community that empowers each other.

WHO WE SERVE: MESA STUDENTS

During Winter Quarter 2020, MESA served 52 students.



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MESA UPDATES

During Winter quarter 2020, Edmonds Community College (CC) and Washington State as a whole began dealing with the COVID-19 outbreak. In early March, Edmonds CC made the decision to begin moving Winter Quarter classes and finals online. As COVID-19 continued to spread and as more preventative initiatives were announced, such as the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order, Edmonds CC leadership decided to move all Spring quarter classes online. MESA is working to ensure equity is a top priority as classes and services become virtual.

For Spring Quarter, MESA is working to provide a virtual MESA Student Center with tutoring and advising to continue to serve MESA students. Based on student feedback, MESA will be planning some virtual events. We hope all students, families, and communities can come together to support each other through this time. We all can make the decision to support each other and help stop the spread, whether that is practicing social distancing, staying home, calling a friend, or buying food for someone in need. The MESA VISTA member, Megan, created a COVID-19 resource database that includes a variety of resources such as how to apply for emergency funding, local food banks, and entertainment resources for students and students with kids. Check the database often as resources will be added as we learn about them and if you know of a resource that should be added, let us know! We look forward to welcoming everyone back to campus when it opens. #MESAFamily

MESA EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Waffles with MESA Kickoff

To start Winter quarter off with a sweet treat, MESA hosted a Waffle Bar Kickoff in the MESA Student Center. MESA students made their waffles and piled them high with a variety of toppings. In total, over 20 MESA students enjoyed this community building event!



MESA Students filling the MESA Student Center and their stomachs with delicious waffles.

Wind Tunnel Building



MESA student Hallelujah using a jigsaw to cut pieces of the wind tunnel.

During Winter quarter MESA, hosted two events in Monroe Hall to begin building a mini upright wind tunnel. The tunnel is constructed out of fiber board, dowels, and a large fan. MESA students learned to use a jigsaw and drill with the help of former iFLY engineer Ralph. The wind tunnel will be used at MESA events to explore the physics of terminal velocity for objects of various masses and surface dimensions.

Internship Fair

MESA and STEM partnered with the Edmonds CC Career Action Center to organize and host the annual Internship Fair. This event featured 20+ employers from King and Snohomish counties that offer internships during the school year and summer. STEM internships included NW Wildlife Rehabilitation Association, UW Clean Energy Institute, T-Mobile, the Washington NASA Space Grant Consortium, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Over 140 Edmonds CC students attended and were able to directly connect to employers. We hope to partner on future internship fairs and increase student's access to STEM internship opportunities locally!



MESA students talking with potential internship hosts.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Rachel Wade



Department:
Physics,
MESA
Faculty
Advisor

What is your favorite thing about teaching?

I love working with students who are all going somewhere! It is so exciting to be a part of their path, helping them get one step closer to their education and career goals. Edmonds students inspire me every day.

What does it mean to you to support underrepresented students at Edmonds CC?

For me, supporting underrepresented students means making sure that all students have the information and resources needed to navigate college. That means making sure that everyone gets quality advising for the degree program(s) that they are interested in, that everyone has access to tutoring, counseling, and other support programs, and that everyone has access to assistance when applying for transfer, scholarships, and internships. My goal is to make sure students know that I can be a resource for them, making sure that they are connected with all of the services on campus that are their to support them while at Edmonds Community College.

MESA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Zambak Colak

Major:

Civil Engineering

What inspires you?

My inspiration is my youngest brother who is on the autism spectrum. Knowing that I will become his guardian is what fuels my perseverance and commitment to both attaining my degree and coping with life's everyday challenges.

College goal?

At Edmonds CC I aim to attain all the pertinent knowledge and experiences to transfer to UW - Seattle.

Career goal?

My career goals within civil engineering continue to shift it seems. I want to work with a variety of firms and partake in projects from rehabilitation/creation of PNW bridges to massive skyscrapers. Ultimately, I want to own and operate a modular and tiny home company.

How has MESA impacted you?

MESA has provided me with a multitude of opportunities. With the Lending Library I am provided the opportunity to accomplish my assignments that would otherwise be impossible due to the availability of technology on campus's limited hours compared to my work schedule. Through attending conferences such as WiSE and AAAS with fellow MESA members, I was able to experience exciting new information and interact with other like minded individuals, creating a community together.

MESA EVENTS - CONTINUED

WiSE Conference



The Edmonds CC MESA group during the conference.



MESA Students networking and learning about new opportunities during the career fair.

On February 1st, 11 MESA members joined hundreds of other students and professionals at the annual Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Conference hosted at University of Washington. They started off the day with breakfast and networking, they then enjoyed a welcome from Nancy Allbritton, the Dean of the UW College of Engineering. After sessions about time management, imposter syndrome, and feedback, the career and networking fair began. Finally, Leslie Robertson, Vice President of Software Development at Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, delivered the keynote address, telling her story about her journey and progress through the technology world. Additionally, she offered advice on navigating tech interviews and tech company culture for women. Thank you to the WiSE Program at UW for organizing an inspiring and empowering conference!

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"The WiSE Conference at UW was an amazing place to make connections with people. The best thing about it was the networking and hearing from all these professional women in different technology fields, science and engineering fields and seeing how successful they are, seeing them as a model for myself and my classmates. The best part of the day was the beginning where I sat down for breakfast with a woman who graduated with a computer science degree from UW 4 years ago. She was the second graduating class for computer science, and she guided us through the steps in her career."

- Trixie, MESA Student, Computer Science

WSU Everett Tour

Several MESA students toured the WSU Everett campus in February. They saw some of the new state-of-the-art classroom and lab spaces. WSU Everett offers STEM majors in Data Analytics, Organic and Sustainable Agriculture, and Electrical, Mechanical, and Software Engineering. This small campus community with many connections to internships is a great option for students.



MESA Students checking out a WSU Everett classroom.

MESA RESOURCES: LENDING LIBRARY

Did you know MESA has textbooks, calculators, laptops, and graduation gowns that students can check out? MESA has these items through the Lending Library and they are available to be checked out at anytime!

Textbooks can be expensive for many STEM classes; \$200 and above for a single textbook in some cases. Another hidden cost that many STEM students face is the cost of scientific or graphing calculators. In some classes, using a simple scientific calculator is feasible but in advanced classes like calculus, engineering or physics, a graphing calculator is necessary to complete homework or tests that impact student grades. Additionally, some classes require specialized software that many students don't have on their personal devices. The MESA Lending Library reduces the financial burden of course materials for MESA students to help them succeed!

JOIN THE #MESAFAMILY

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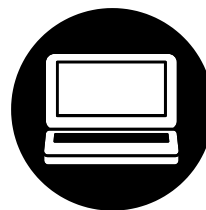


Available Items

tinyurl.com/mesalibbrowse

Check Out

tinyurl.com/mesalibcheckout



MESA ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Tina Rajabi

Where are you now?

I am currently a senior at the University of Washington-Seattle finishing my Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics. I should be graduating by the end of Summer 2020.

What are your goals moving forward?

After earning my degree, I hope to take a year break to enter the workforce. meanwhile, I will apply to a Master's program in Math. After finishing my Master's, I hope to start teaching Math at a community college. My goal is to also earn a Ph.D. in Math Education to better my skills in teaching.

How has MESA helped you accomplish your goals?

Being a part of MESA has played a remarkable role in helping me discover my own identity, interests, and motivations. During my time at Edmonds CC, I was able to use the resources available at MESA in order to grow. Some of these resources are laptops and PC's available for students, scholarships for tuition and books, professional workshops and conferences, social events, one-on-one advising, and the most important resource for me, the MESA Student Center. Being able to be in a safe space where I saw people who look like me and have interests as I do not only gave me a sense of belonging, but it also motivated me to become even better at what I want to do in the future. In addition to all of these resources, MESA helped me take further steps towards my future career by offering me a job as a math tutor, which still holds even now that I graduated from Edmonds CC, as well as an Academic Excellence Workshops Facilitator. In my opinion, education is not an easy path whatsoever; however, programs like MESA make this path smoother and support you along the way.



MESA Alumni Tina Rajabi

THANK YOU FOR READING