

MEG POSTS



AUIS President, Dr. Bruce Furguson with Zryan Ibrahim, Lavin Luqman Othman, Banu Aziz (L to R)

NEW STEM SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF IRAQ, SULAIMANI (AUIS)

WHO: Zryan Ibrahim, Lavin Luqman Othman, Banu Aziz.

WHAT: \$2,000 tuition scholarship each student

WHEN: 2017-18 Academic Year

WHERE: American University of Iraq-Sulaimani

WHY: To support young women who choose an educational and career path in STEM

CONTACT: Roger W. Geyer at scholarships@maryegeyerfoundationinc.org for more details. Or, click anywhere in this section to see the excellent AUIS article, **Mary E. Geyer Foundation Scholarship Winners 2017-18.**

The Mission

The Mary E. Geyer (MEG) Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, public charity corporation. Its chief mission is to identify and financially support meritorious female undergraduates who major in science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) fields. It is our belief that women who are successful in these fields will improve their personal and professional lives and, in turn, increase their number in leadership roles which shape the communities in which they live and work.

some facts

- All directors of the Foundation work on a volunteer basis.
- The Foundation works entirely online.
- 99 cents of every donated dollar goes to scholarship recipients.
- The Foundation is entirely transparent. See 'Current Activities' at the website.
- We rely entirely on your donations.
- We are a 'Member in Good Standing' with the State Corporation Commission, Virginia.

IN THIS ISSUE

New Scholarships at the American University of Iraq-Sulaimani!

STEM articles of interest

Although the data and conclusions reported in these articles are USA centric, we believe the trends indicated generalize to Kurdistan now and into the future.

STEM at AUIS

“The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowing in prayer.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

Donate

Your donation is tax deductible.
See website for more details.

“The Mary E. Geyer STEM scholarship is so encouraging to women at the American University of Iraq - Sulaimani. In the Middle East, women are usually discouraged from studying technical majors, especially IT. The scholarship is a huge benefit especially during the ongoing crisis in Kurdistan.” Snur Hammid

Where are the Women in STEM?

In an article posted by **Higher Education Today**, the author points out that while women are graduating from college in greater numbers, STEM representation is quite low and actually dropping in some fields. See **Figure 1** below. Click on the title above or **Figure 1** to read the article.

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With data current through October 2014

Gender Distribution of Bachelor's Degrees in Science and Engineering Disciplines (2004, 2014)

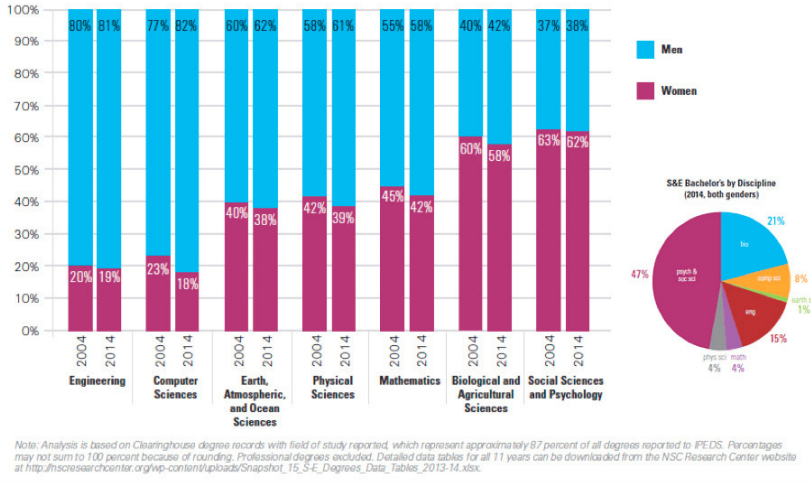


Figure 1

Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing

In this research report, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) reports on some of the main issues holding women back in these critical areas. Click here to read the article.

Some Good News!

Although Engineering and IT fields still lag, see AEI's article by Mark J. Perry, *Women earned majority of doctoral degrees in 2016 for 8th straight year and outnumber men in grad school 135 to 100*

AUIS Undergraduate Majors

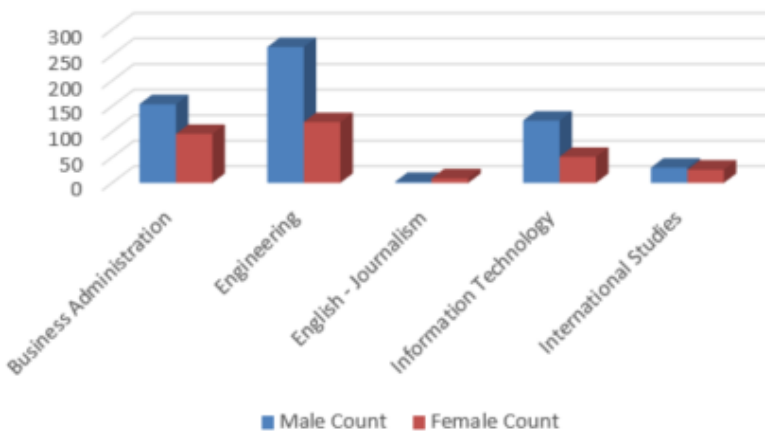


Figure 2

STEM Majors Male/Female

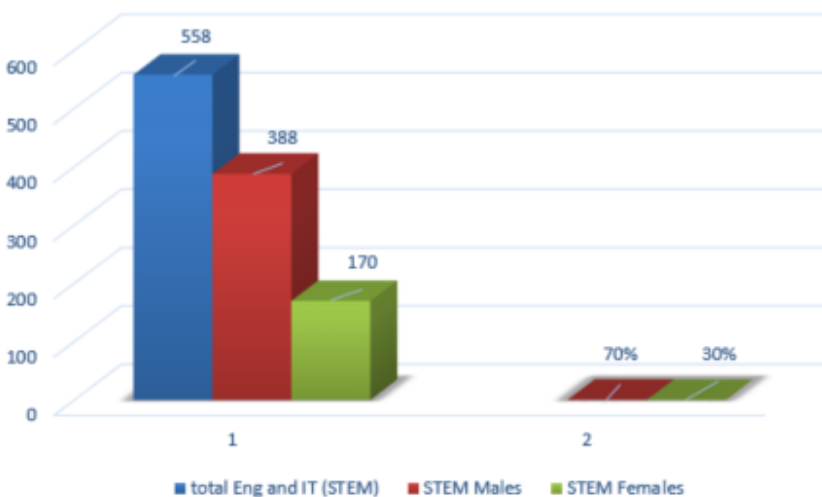


Figure 3

STEM Demographics at AUIS

Here are some statistics of interest based on current data reported by AUIS.

According to **Wikipedia's Demographics of Iraq**, the total population (all age groups) consists of 51% male and 49% female.

- Total AUIS undergraduates are 876
- The number of women in the undergraduate departments is 302 or 34% of the total undergraduate population.
- Of the five departmental majors that AUIS offers, STEM majors consist of Engineering and Information Technology. See **Figure 2**.
- The number of undergraduate students who major in these two fields is 558 which is 64% of the total undergraduate majors.
- The number of female students in the two STEM majors at AUIS is 170 or 30%. See **Figure 3**

"I would offer this advice to any young woman inspired by the possibility of discovery and innovation: Do not let others define who you are. Define yourself. Do not be limited by what others expect of you, but reach confidently for the stars."

—Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson,
President of Rensselaer
Polytechnic Institute

Sigma Xi supports women in STEM.
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THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SOCIETY



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