

If You Build It, She Will Come. How to Build, Grow and Maintain a Community for Women in Tech.

Name Company Contact info
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ABSTRACT

Starting a career in tech can be a daunting experience without a supportive circle of peers. This dialog will share tips for kicking off a grassroots effort and developing it into an official group within your organization. Attendees will feel empowered to create and grow their own local community for women in tech.

Tells reviewers what this submission is about

AUDIENCE

Primarily Students and Early Career, though this will be of interest to anyone looking to build a community with others within their organization.

This is a practical topic that is not typically covered in college, but would prove most beneficial for young women looking to make a smooth transition into industry in male-dominated fields.

INTRODUCTION

This dialog will be an encouraging, interactive exchange of ideas around forming a supportive community of women engineers at any organization.

The presenter will begin by sharing her own story of starting a grassroots effort which grew into one of the largest employee communities at her company. She will highlight the challenges involved, as well as proven

The mentor clearly explains how they intend to make this session interactive (as opposed to a lecture)

successful strategies in bringing together women in tech.

Following this, attendees are encouraged to share their thoughts, concerns and questions about creating or actively participating in a local peer circle wherever they may be in their career path. This interactive session will build on participants' specific areas of interest and will provide them with practical know-how for putting their goals into action.

Possible areas for exploration include topics for smaller scale, informal efforts: scheduling a monthly tech brown-bag, peer-mentorship, volunteering for local STEM initiatives, to larger-scale efforts: organizing external tech speakers, establishing wider recognition and gaining sponsorship at the executive level for your group.

In addition to the strategies involved, attendees will also gain an understanding of the many benefits that participants in peer circle enjoy both in terms of career growth and notable improvements in their professional and personal lives.

The presenter is an engineer who has gone through the complete process of growing a local community from the ground up and now leads a successful local network of women in tech.

OUTCOMES/CONCLUSION

An appreciation of the importance of a community of peers for women in tech.

Key takeaways and purpose of this session is articulated

Inspiration and confidence, along with a step-by-step approach to start and grow a women in tech circle in any organization.

Best practices for gaining recognition, support and sponsorship at the executive level for initiatives aimed at women engineers.

These strategies and takeaways are equally applicable to other employee diversity and interest groups.

Content was previously limited to 3 pages but has been expanded to 4

Student Opportunity Lab is now Mentoring Circles

PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

Participant is committed to attending the conference and presenting the Student Opportunity Lab, if accepted.

REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHY

[1] Oracle Women's Leadership
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<https://www.oracle.com/corporate/citizenship/workforce/owl.html>

[2] Oracle Academy Workshops
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<https://academy.oracle.com/en/training-workshops.html>

BIO

Participant Bio

Bios should not be generic but must pertain to the session.