

Inside engage

October, 2008

Freshman Engineering Background Data

The following is data collected from a survey of our freshman engineering students.

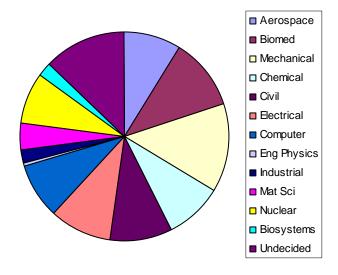
High School Physics: 22% have had AP physics; 26% have not had any high school physics

Calculator: 99% use a TI calculator, with one lone person using an HP calculator

Computer: 89% have a laptop, 2% do not have any computer; 18% have Macs

Favorite Web Site: 22% Facebook, 7% Youtube, 6% ESPN, 6% Google

Engineering Major: See chart below.



Engineering Faculty and Staff Participate in "House Calls" Program

As part of the UT Department of Housing "House Calls" program, engineering faculty and staff visited freshman engineering students in their dorm room on the evening of September 24. The House Calls Program allows members of the university community to meet first year students at the students' residence hall. The College of Engineering was the only college to participate as a group, visiting freshman on the engineering floor in Morrill Hall. Participating from Engineering Fundaments were Richard Bennett, Will Schleter, and Ortal Arazi. Also participating from the college were Margie Russell and Lisa Byrd from Engineering Advising, and Jim Pippin from Engineering Diversity Programs.

"Clicker" Technology is Adopted by Engage

In a continued effort to improve the teaching and learning methods, students in EF 151 and EF 152 this semester have been using Personal Response Systems in lectures and recitations. These systems, known as "clickers" to the students, allow for real-time polling of the entire class to provide immediate feedback to the instructors. During the last few weeks we have seen how this system helps the student enjoy the class and how it gives them a more in depth understanding of the material.

Featured Problem (from EF 151 test): Dr. Bennett meets a cow in the corn field and takes the cow back home. They start fast with a velocity of 38 ft/sec, but slow down at constant rate of

0.11 ft/sec². How long does it take Dr. Bennett and the cow to complete the 1.0 mile trip home?

