



PRESS RELEASE

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Civil Engineers Launch Website to Promote Diversity in Civil Engineering

WASHINGTON, DC (February 2, 2016) - I Look Like a Civil Engineer, a company founded by Civil Engineers, re-launches their website which challenges people's perceptions of civil engineers and increases the public's understanding of what Civil Engineers do. Inspired by Isis Anchalee and I Look Like an Engineer, I Look Like a Civil Engineer is a company dedicated to increasing diversity in Civil Engineering.

I Look Like A Civil Engineer is the only organization with the sole goal of increasing diversity of both women and men in Civil Engineering.

After decades of investments in increasing diversity in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), numbers remain low:

In 1970 the number of women graduates in Engineering was increasing at about the same rate as in both Law and Medicine. But while numbers continued to rise steadily in Law and Medicine, both reaching nearly 50% of graduates in 2012, progress in Engineering slowed and women were only 22% of graduates in 2012.

Although African-Americans and Latinos make up 12 and 16 percent of the U.S. population, respectively, they make up just 6% and 5% of the civil engineering workforce.

A smaller percent of African American graduates are choosing engineering. The number of engineering degrees as a percent of all bachelors degrees earned by African Americans declined from 3.3 percent in 1995 to 2.5 percent in 2005.

A recent study by the American Association of University Women found that actively countering stereotypes can lead to improvements in girls' performance and interest in math and science. (<http://www.aauw.org/research/why-so-few/>). Other recent studies have found similar results.

I Look Like a Civil Engineer will use the results of these studies as a guide in their approach to promoting diversity in Civil Engineering.

The company's webpage (www.ilooklikeacivilengineer.com) currently features the stories of a diverse group of civil engineers. The company intends to add additional features to their site, such as an interactive map of Civil Engineering projects that allows users to browse projects in their area and learn more about them "After the I Look Like an Engineer campaign received worldwide recognition last year, we know our message resonates. We now have the tools to reach a wide audience and a comprehensive plan to transform what people think Civil Engineers look like." - Aelisa Carr

"2016 is the year to make great strides in promoting diversity in Engineering, and with the many challenges we face in protecting our environment, maintaining our structures, and keeping people safe, it's as important now as ever to attract all of our best and brightest into Civil Engineering." - Lynn Mayo

Visit I Look Like a Civil Engineer online at www.ilooklikeacivilengineer.com