

# A Few Comments...

Don Lewis Millard, Ph.D.  
Acting Director/Deputy Director  
[dmillard@nsf.gov](mailto:dmillard@nsf.gov)



# 100 years ago...



# 1907 – Joint Committee on Engineering Education *(Cleveland . . . not Columbus)*

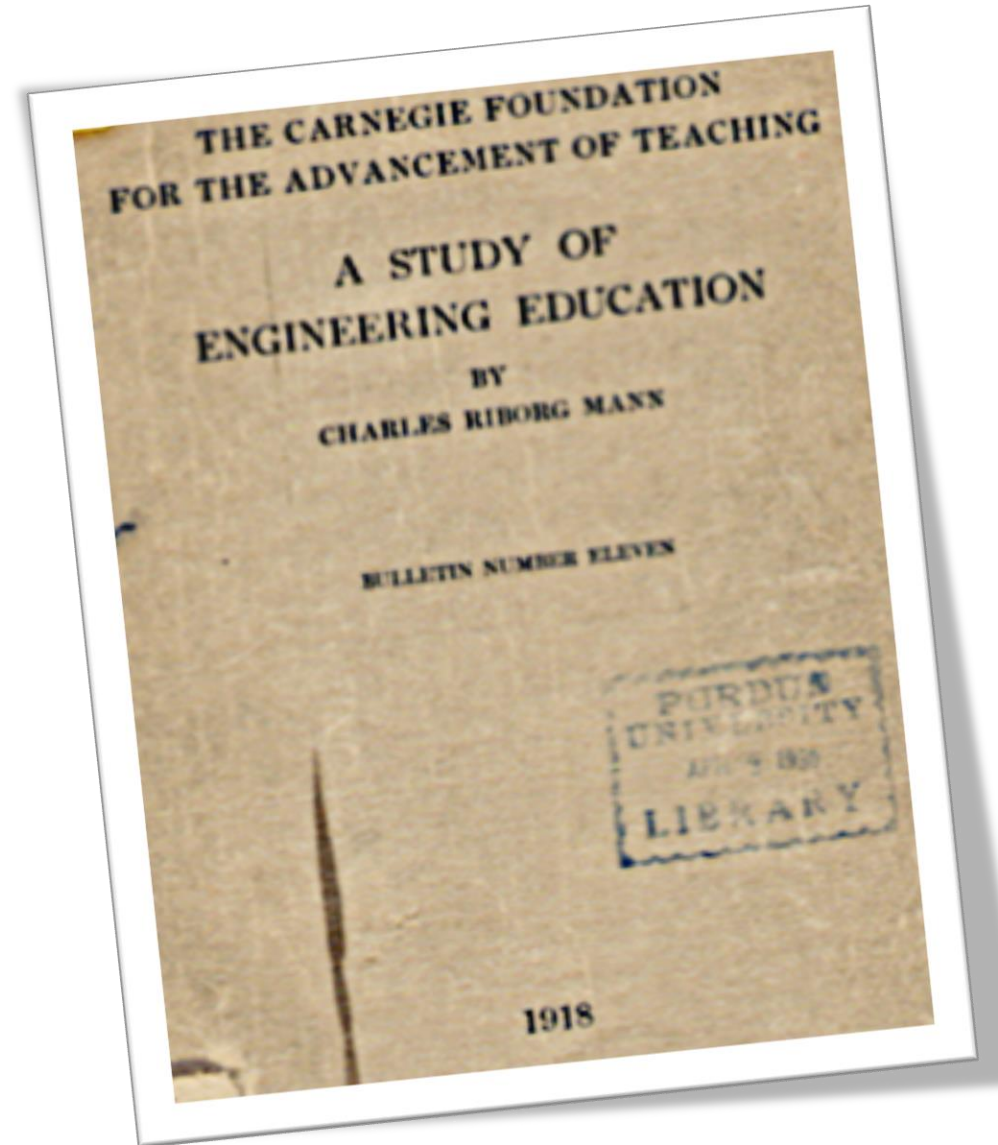
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- American Institute of Electrical Engineers
- American Chemical Society
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- American Institute of Mining Engineers

# 1907 – Joint Committee on Engineering Education *(Cleveland . . . not Columbus)*

- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- American Institute of Electrical Engineers
- American Chemical Society
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- American Institute of Mining Engineers
- Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education



# The Mann Report (1918)



# Graduation Rate (1918)



# Graduation Rate (1918)

60%

# Graduation Rate (2016 – avg. 5-yr)



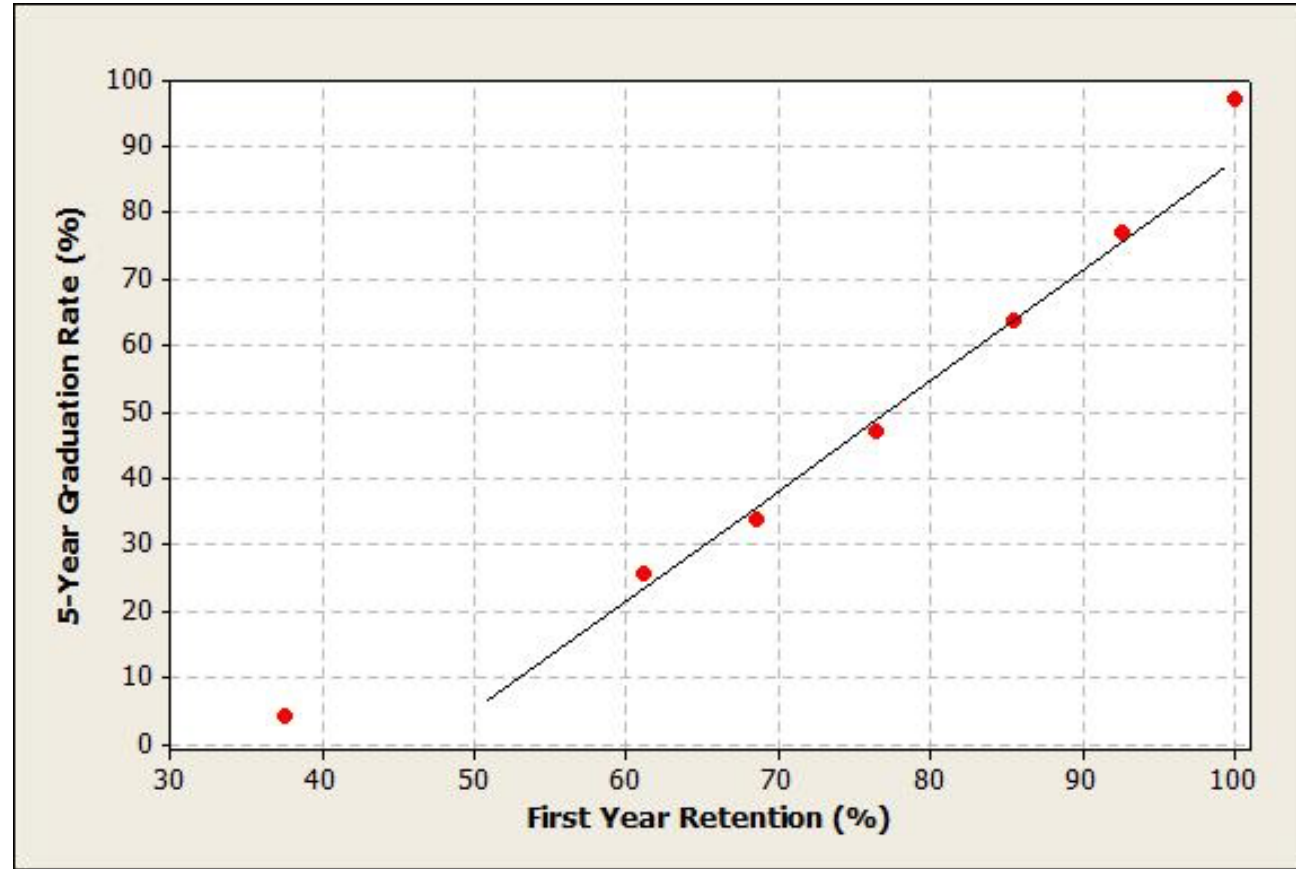


# Graduation Rate (2016 – avg. 5-yr)

50%



# 5 Year Graduation Rate Data (2016)



(sample of 150 schools)

DataBytes. (2016, February) In Grose, T. (Ed) *ASEE Connections*, Washington DC:ASEE.



# 5 Year Graduation Rate in 2016 (%)

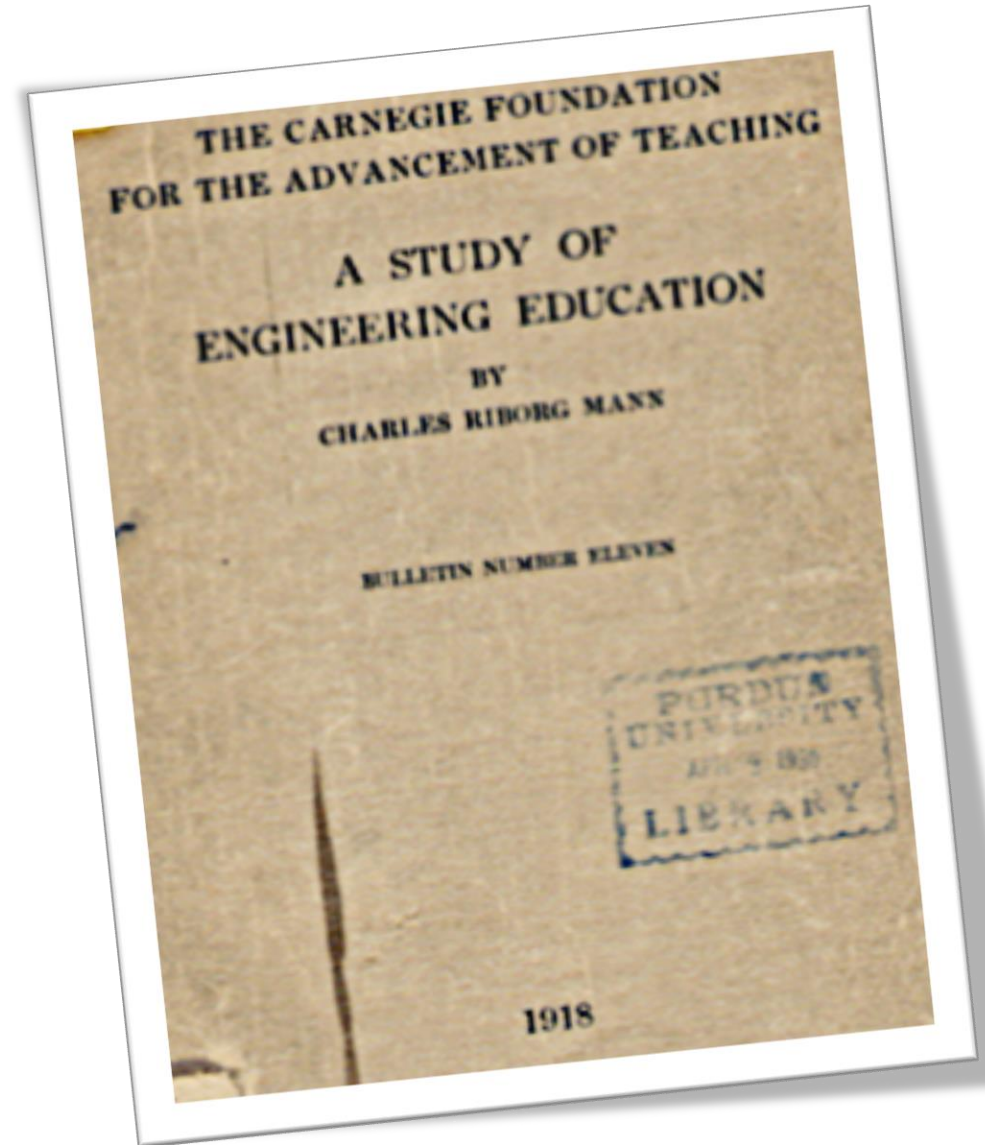
$$= 1.676 \times (1^{\text{st}} \text{ Year Retention Rate}) - 79.22$$

DataBytes. (2016, February) In Grose, T. (Ed) *ASEE Connections*, Washington DC: ASEE.



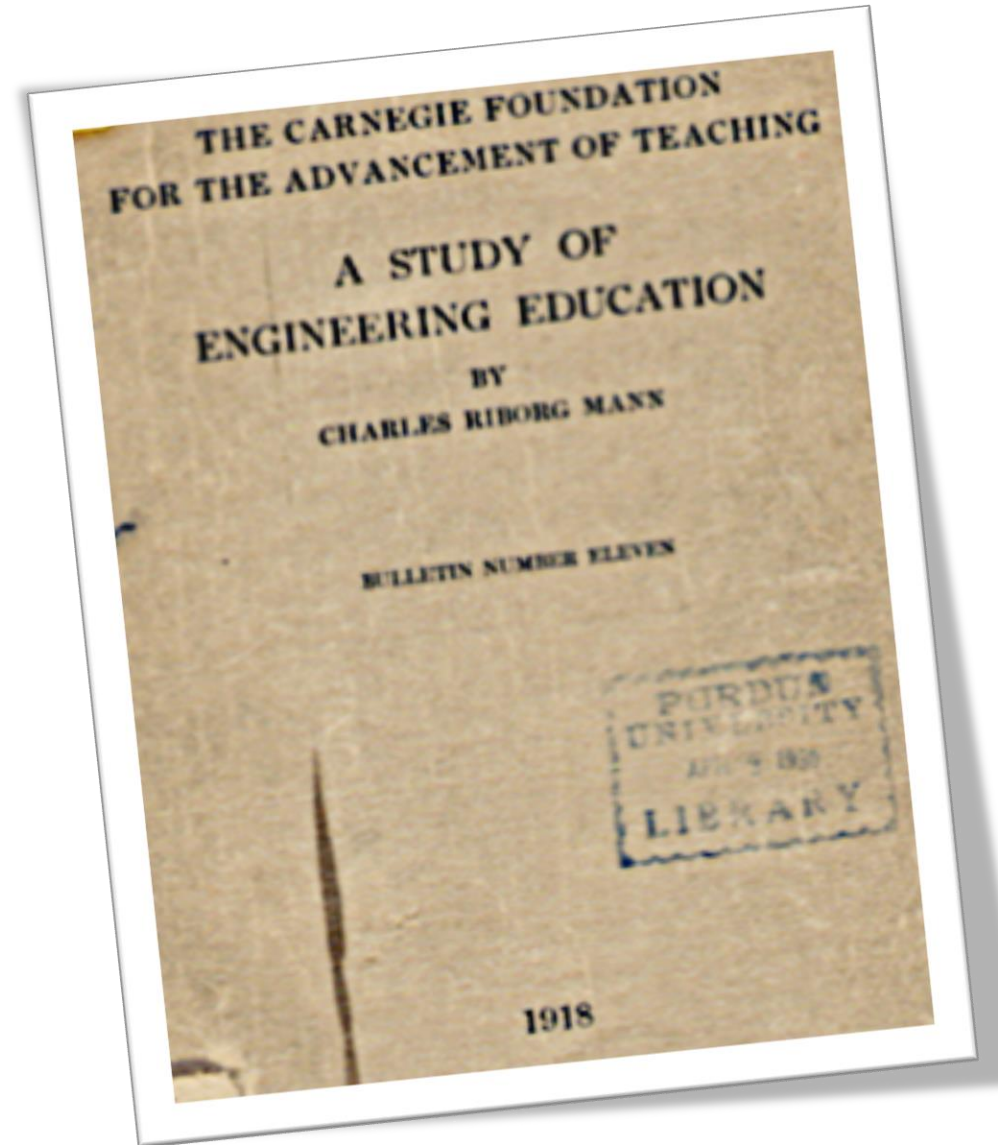
# The Mann Report (1918)

“Changes must be made from time to time to meet conditions as they arise, and any attempts to solve the problems of engineering education must be of so flexible a nature as to admit of improvements.”



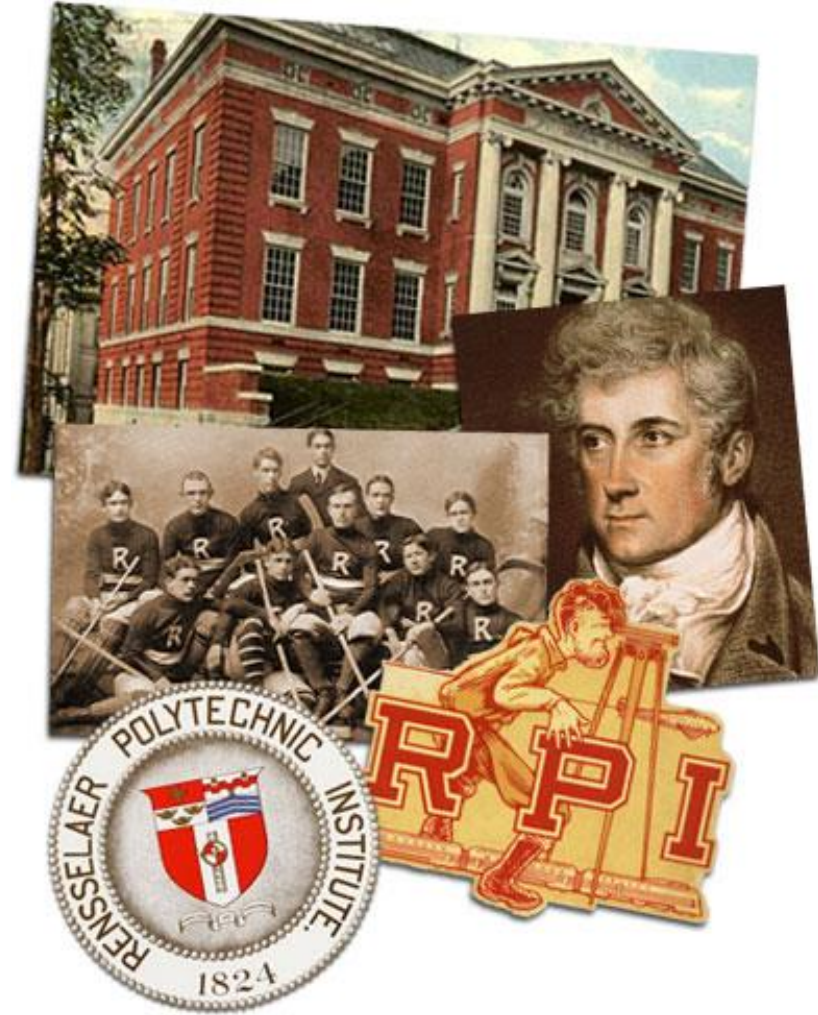
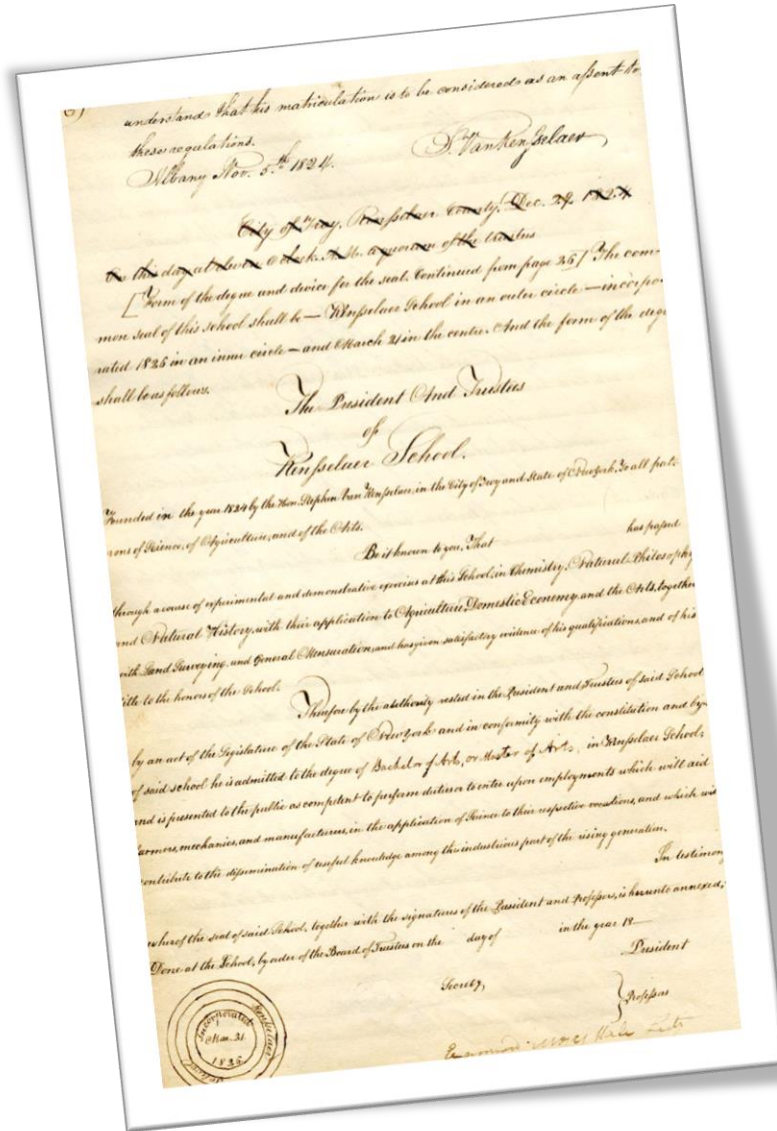
# The Mann Report (1918)

“There probably never was a time when the minds of teachers were so intently alive and receptive to rapid changes, as at the present moment.”





# 1824



# Over the past 50 years...

- Numerous reports have identified issues and concerns about declines in STEM comprehension, workforce capabilities, and national competitiveness – *many have also suggested solutions...*



For example . . .





# *We Know: Why Students Leave*

- Lack of role models – particularly as women and underrepresented minority faculty
- Poor teaching
- Poor performance in the first math courses
- Poor advising
- Fear that jobs may disappear



# We Know: *Why Students Leave*

- Perception that other majors have easier classes & more fun, feeling of isolation
- Coursework too restrictive for more varied interests
- Rising costs – disproportionate impact on students from low income families (*worse due to > 4yr degree completion*)
- Lack of connection between what is studied and exciting engineering practice



# We Know: *There's a Dichotomy*

- In school, problems almost always are clearly defined, confined to a single discipline, and typically have one right answer
- In the workplace, problems are usually ill-defined, multi-disciplinary, and have several possible answers (*none of which are perfect*)



# Creativity Definition (D. Pink)

Topic	Industry	Academia
<b>Problem identification or articulation</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>
Ability to identify patterns of behavior or new combination of actions	2	3
Integration of knowledge across different disciplines	3	2
Ability to originate new ideas	4	6
Comfort with notion of “no right answer”	5	11
Fundamental curiosity	6	10
Originality and inventiveness in work	7	4
<b>Problem solving</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>
Ability to take risks	9	8
Tolerance of ambiguity	10	7
Ability to communicate new ideas to others	11	5



# We Know: *from Research*

- Learning is highly dependent on **prior knowledge**
- **Motivation** is critical – it determines, directs, and sustains what students do
- How students **organize knowledge** influences how they learn and apply what they know
- Goal-directed practice, coupled with **targeted feedback**, enhances learning quality (vs. a grade)



# We Know: *from Research*

- **Climate** (*intellectual, social, and emotional*) has significant impact on student perception and outcomes
- On average, online course-taking reduced student learning (1/4 to 1/3 – Oct. 2015 DeVry study)
- Active learning **trumps** passive methods, hands-down...**period.**



# We Know: *from Students*

- Schools are paying insufficient attention to an array of KSAs needed to produce the desired T-shaped engineers
- Students acquire most of the KSAs through extracurricular activities and student-driven projects, conferences/workshops, co-ops/internships, competitions, along with membership in student organizations and **professional societies**.
- Need to focus on real-world impact, show why what is being taught is important



# We Know: *from Students*

- Need to help professors learn how to teach
- Track whether courses fulfill the promise suggested in syllabi – require accountability
- Allow faculty members to teach subjects they're passionate about or really skilled at teaching
- Connect the applications to engineering in first-year math and science courses – calculus, physics, and chemistry





So...

Why are we here?



# Engage Academia, Societies, Industry and Government Representatives in:

## Guiding, Develop, and Implementing a Plan that Transforms UG Engineering Education



# A Plan to:

- Enable students to better acquire KSAs
- Employ engineering-specific learning theories/frameworks
- Diversify pathways to, and through, engineering education
- Understand how to scale engineering education innovations and do it!



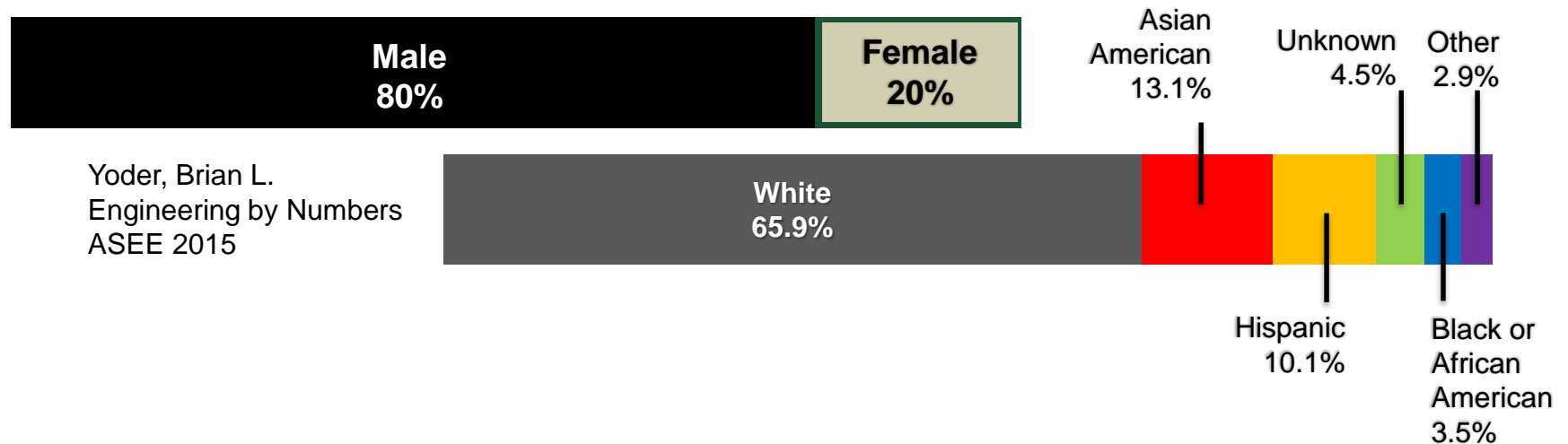
# A Plan to:

- Shift emphasis from how students learn engineering to **how engineers are formed**
- Build a deep understanding of how to enact change
- Increase focus on the effectiveness of pedagogy
- **Focus on inclusion (climate) vs. diversity (numbers)**



# Broaden Participation

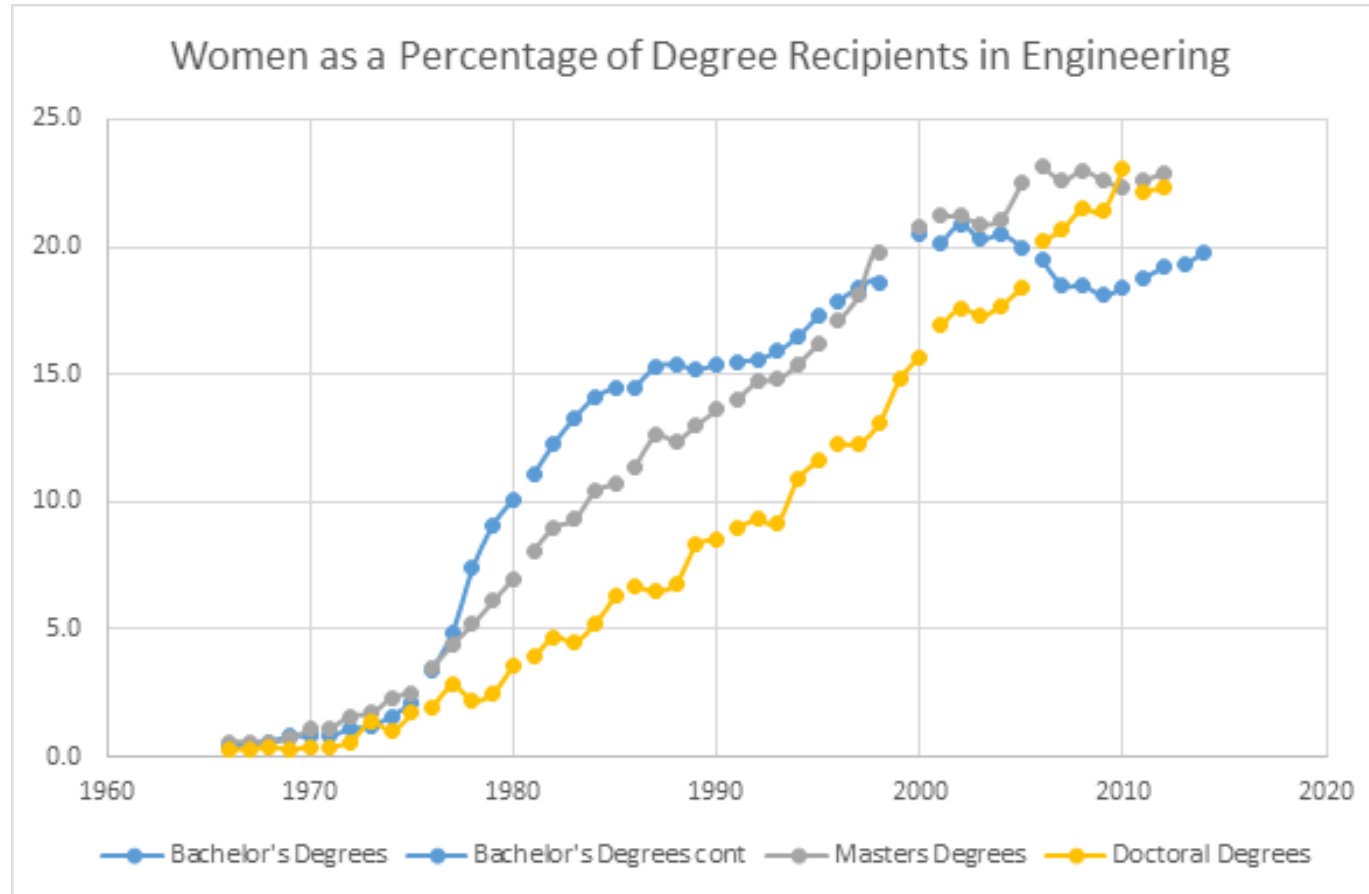
- Address educational inequalities
- Expand support systems and social networks
- Increase interest and sustain participation in engineering across underrepresented demographic groups



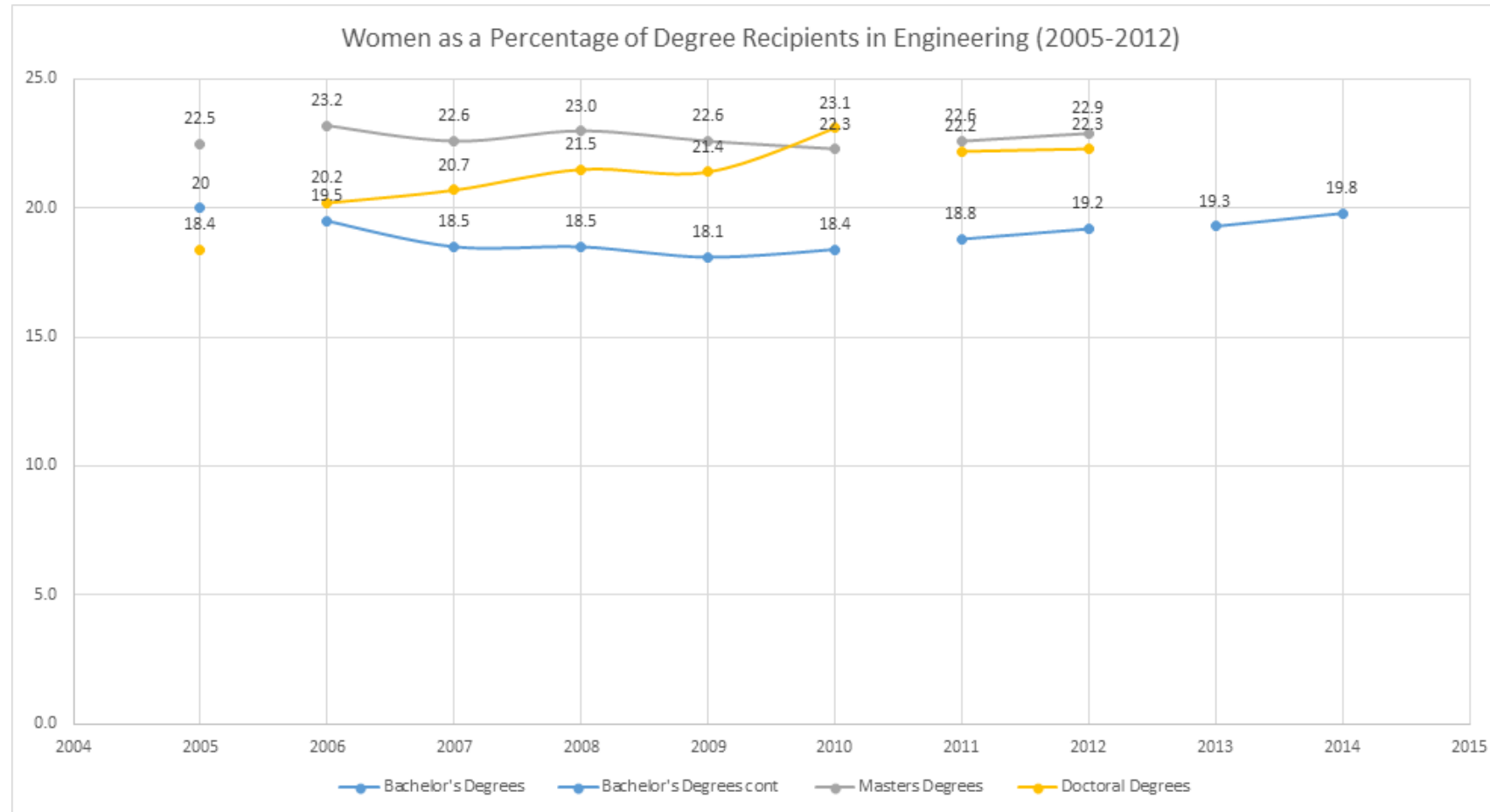
Yoder, Brian L.  
Engineering by Numbers  
ASEE 2015



# For Example: *Women in Engineering*

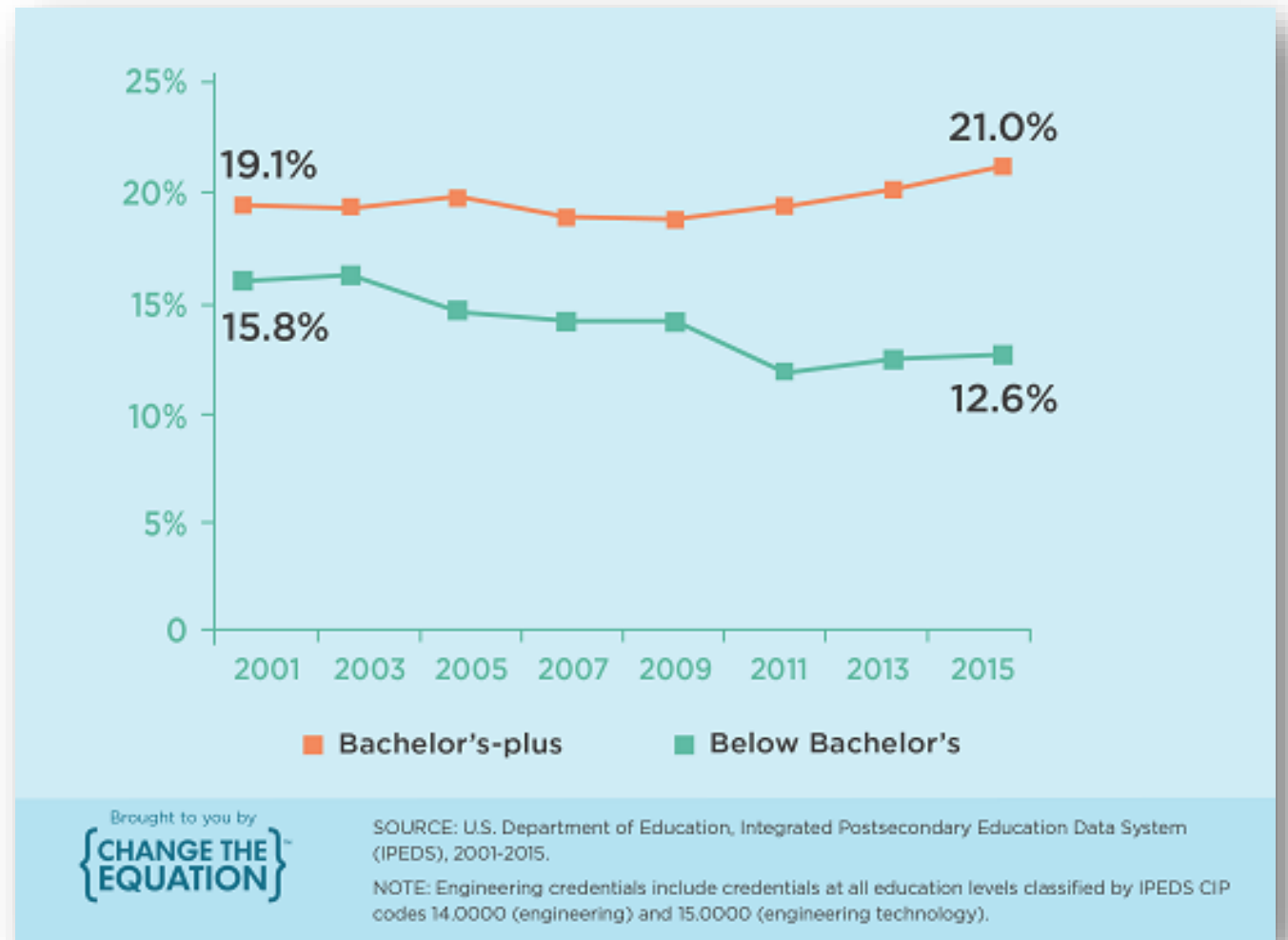


# For Example: *Women in Engineering*



# A Challenge:

*Double the % of  
women in  
Engineering  
(20% → 40% in 5-10yrs)*





# A Potential Strategy – Collective Impact



Source: [www.collaborationforimpact.com](http://www.collaborationforimpact.com)



# Suggestions

- Stay cognizant of the goals/objectives
- Don't get caught repeating past efforts, build upon prior work (e.g., [www.dia2.org](http://www.dia2.org))
- Ideas w/out actions  $\neq$  change
- Be realistic, identify where each group can best contribute
- Form and sustain a community of practice
- **Commit** - one workshop won't produce a transformation



Think, Share, and Enjoy the  
Workshop!



# Thank you.

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*We can change the world...*

One life at a time.

<http://tinyurl.com/m6xjq7c>

