Quotes

*University Leaders*

Subra Suresh, Carnegie Mellon University president

“If the United States is to remain a leader in discovery and innovation, we must engage the enormous talent pool represented by our young women.”

“These fields are key to shaping the 21st century, and Carnegie Mellon University’s distinctive program offers young women and men the opportunity and environment to make a real difference.”

Farnam Jahanian, Carnegie Mellon University provost

“We’re not leaving it to chance — it’s a hands-on, very intensive effort. It has to happen at every level of the university.”

James Garrett Jr., dean of the College of Engineering and Thomas Lord Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering

“We seek a diverse student population, balancing for gender and underrepresented minorities.”

“Not only is this the right thing to do, it is important to have diverse perspectives included to improve the performance and results of engineering processes.”

Andrew Moore, dean of the School of Computer Science and professor

“This is the result of two decades of constant focus by faculty, past and present.”

“As one of the four top computer science programs in the country, we feel a serious responsibility to make sure the technology leaders of the future are a diverse group.”

*Students*

Jennifer Lott, junior chemical engineering major

“I got my first interest in engineering from a program I did here at Carnegie Mellon when I was in middle school. [...] What was really cool about this past summer was I got to go back and volunteer at that program.”

Mera Tegene, first-year computer science major

“Two key people reached out to me during the admission, enrollment process.”

“I like that fact that CMU's computer science program is very interdisciplinary. I want to go into virtual reality technology, and I feel like we should be be going further on the other senses, like smell.”
Faculty

Guy Blelloch, associate dean for undergraduate programs and professor, School of Computer Science

“We've always felt that women are just as capable and, indeed, that's been the case.”

“Even though we've increased enrollment [overall], our admissions have become more competitive. For example, the average combined SAT score for women went from 1537 last year to 1552 this year. That's identical to that of men and significantly higher than average SATs at top schools.”

Lenore Blum, Women@SCS founder and Distinguished Career Professor of Computer Science

“It's exciting that nearly 50 percent of our incoming students this year are female. We really have leveled the playing field.”

“Parity in numbers, record SAT scores, class rankings and retention! This is an amazing milestone and the happy outcome of CMU taking the leadership role in increasing the participation of women in computer science, particularly in the toughest undergraduate CS program on the planet.”

“Women@SCS is an organization with express purpose of creating all the critical aspects of that make a professional career or academic career possible.”

Jelena Kovačević, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department head and Hamerschlag University Professor

“It's not only the work we do but the atmosphere and culture we do it in — that's very important.”

“It's not magic. What we've done is make this effort a priority, advertise it and let people buy into it.”

“There's no doubt about the academic rigor of our programs, so our focus has been on instilling passion and enthusiasm in the field, and pointing out the potential societal impact.”

“The College of Engineering runs a mentoring program that is led by alumnae and female students in upper classes. Additionally, this achievement wouldn't be possible if the faculty do not serve as role models, so we have totally revamped the faculty hiring process.”