The College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS) embraces the principles of diversity and inclusion. In the spring, CEAS formed a Diversity & Inclusion Committee with representatives from staff, faculty, undergraduate and graduate students. They meet monthly to evaluate, recommend, educate, and address relative issues with the purpose of improving the college experience.

**Highlights of CEAS efforts to increase diversity**

- New enrollment for 2016 of underrepresented students continues to increase, including a 63% increase in Hispanic students.

- CEAS attended the Compact for Diversity conference in DC. A top female candidate for a faculty position was identified. She will begin teaching in the next academic year.

- Presentations and participation in CEAS staff meetings by female program managers and directors have led to increased involvement of all staff.

- The number of Emerging Ethnic Engineers (E^3) students enrolling in and graduating from graduate school has increased.

- In summer 2015, a total of six students participating in Protégé, an undergraduate research program for high-achieving freshman students, included two females, one African-American female, and one African-American male. Two of these six participants were E^3 students.

- The hiring of new faculty has seen an influx of new energy and ideas; several have volunteered to be included in K12 and outreach activities.

- Help Nights for K-12 students are ongoing with more students coming to every session. CEAS tutors have noticed improved participation and focus of students.

- The E^3 Dr. Edward N. Prather Summer Bridge Scholars Program, now in its 28th year, has expanded to include the UC colleges of Allied Health and A&S. Many loyal faculty and staff are involved along with new A&S chemistry faculty. Marathon Petroleum and the Curtis-Breeden Foundation are among the donors. Additionally, Marathon offered co-op positions to nine E^3 students — a record for Marathon.

- $8,000 was allocated from the Herman Schneider Foundation for support of summer programs for K-12 students.

- This year’s NTA/Robotics Competition was the “best ever” (according to comments from the judges), involving 13 middle and high school teams with faculty representation from three other universities serving as judges. CEAS graduates from as far away as Atlanta also participated as judges and sponsors.

- CEAS partnered with the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) to hold the first NOBCChE/UC Science Bowl. The event included 30-35 students and 20 teachers/instructors.

- CEAS, A&S and DAAP along with the Hughes Center, collaborated to offer a Sensing Intersession featuring a ten-week long, in-class program for high school students culminating in a weeklong program at UC during spring break.

- Simone Bess was hired for the Summer Bridge UC/Hughes Scholars Program. Eleven students participated in last summer’s inaugural program. This summer 21 students, including seven returning, have enrolled.

- In an effort to increase minority students in STEM disciplines, M^SE (Minorities in Mathematics, Science & Engineering) is formally working with CEAS to achieve this goal.