



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

100+ WOMEN
STRONG

GET ON THE
INSIDE TRACK

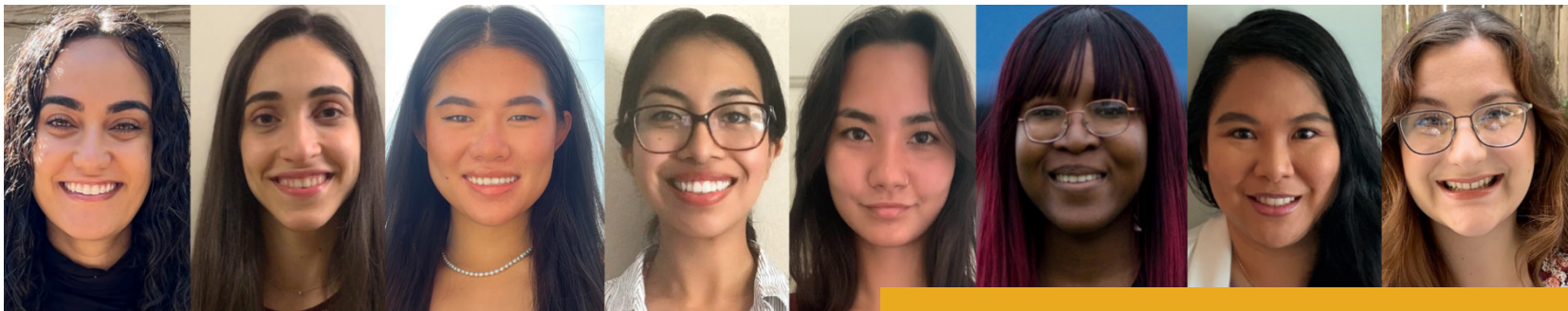
BEACH WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

2024 CONFERENCE

4TH ANNUAL

20 BEACH 24 Women in Engineering CONFERENCE

MARCH 23, 2024



100+ WOMEN STRONG

www.csulb.edu/beach-wie

WELCOME

from the Conference Chair

Do you hear that sound? Listen closely! That's the sound of dozens of professional women cheering you on and giving you insider tips on how to **Get on the Inside Track** and run your best race – navigating thru school, preparing for life after college and achieving your career goals. What does this mean for you as an engineering or computer science student? It means that your 2024 BEACH Women in Engineering Conference is here!

It is a full day dedicated to providing students with valuable career insights and planning tools. You've done the hard work, studying and passing exams, now it's time to switch gears for a day. Whether it's diving deeper into career options while speaking to successful women, learning about internship opportunities, or meeting in small groups to explore personal skills, this conference has something for everyone.

This is a great opportunity to learn how to network. There are over 80 professional women dedicating their time in support of you. This is the fourth year that 100+ Women Strong is working with the College of Engineering to host the 2024 BEACH Women in Engineering Conference.

My name is Debbie Meeks and I am one of the founding members of 100+ Women Strong. I now work for Shell USA as the West Coast Climate Policy Manager. I started my journey here at CSULB when I graduated with my chemical engineering degree. My degree opened doors and provided life experiences that I couldn't foresee while in college. 100+ Women Strong is a group of professional engineering women with their own life success stories that come together to inspire and support the next generation. Allow us to help you **Get on the Inside Track** to reach your goals after college. We look are excited to see you all today, Saturday, March 23rd!



Debbie Meeks

Debbie Meeks
Manager-US West Coast Policy and
Business Coordinator, Shell USA Inc

BS Chemical Engineering '86, CSULB



MESSAGE

from the Dean



The CSULB College of Engineering and 100+ Women Strong are gearing up for another spectacular conference this year! We are excited for our keynote speaker, Marilee Wheaton - a Systems Engineering Fellow at Aerospace Corporation, and she will shed light on technical leadership tracks. We've got a session on Hydrogen Power, an emerging and important technology for the SoCal region. FinTech - or Financial Tech - promises to be a growing field that will require computer science and related graduates. We will discuss Artificial Intelligence, Careers in Space, Sustainable Infrastructure, Health Informatics, and so many more fields that will require engineers and computer scientists.

In addition to featuring contemporary topics in the field, the professional sessions, Coaching Circles, and Speed Networking will provide insights into Getting on the Inside Track to success - things like networking, knowing which areas of engineering are of interest to you, and learning from women who have been blazing the trail before you. What you know is critically important, but so is who you know and being in the know!

I am beyond grateful for the Conference Chair, Debbie Meeks, as well as the chair and co-chair of 100+ Women Strong, Dorothy Benveniste and Holly Craig, without whose leadership this conference would not exist. Other essential partners include Roni Allen for logistics support, as well as the faculty and 100+ Women Strong members, who moderate and speak in the sessions. Finally, our sponsors provide partnership and critical financial support to power the work towards our shared mission.

Come be inspired and learn about how women in engineering and computer science are changing the world! It is never too early or too late to start exploring what comes after your degree.

Go BEACH!



Dr. Jinny Rhee
Dean, CSULB College of Engineering

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GET ON THE
INSIDE TRACK

Note: CSULB events and scholarships are open to all CSULB students, regardless of sex, race, or ethnicity.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:30 - 9:00 AM	CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST			
9:00 - 9:30 AM	WELCOME & KEYNOTE — Marilee Wheaton, The Aerospace Corporation (LB Ballroom)			
9:30 - 9:45 AM	BREAK			
9:45 - 10:45 AM	HYDROGEN POWER (Alamitos Bay I/II)	CYBERSECURITY HARDWARE (USU 205)	FASHION TECHNOLOGY (USU 304)	ENGINEERING ETHICS (USU 305)
10:45 - 11:00 AM	BREAK			
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION (Alamitos Bay I/II)	FINTECH (USU 205)	ETHICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY (USU 304)	GRADUATE SCHOOL VS. INDUSTRY (USU 305)
12:00 - 12:15 AM	BREAK			
12:15 - 1:00 PM	LUNCH & SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS — Dorothy Benveniste, 100+ Women Strong (LB Ballroom)			
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	COACHING CIRCLES — brought to you by 100+ Women Strong (LB Ballroom) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Work-life balance <input type="checkbox"/> Imposter syndrome <input type="checkbox"/> Building your professional network <input type="checkbox"/> Developing your engineering identity <input type="checkbox"/> Moving from engineering to leadership 			
2:00 - 2:15 PM	BREAK & GROUP PICTURE (South Plaza Steps)			
2:15 - 3:15 PM	GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (Alamitos Bay I/II)	NEXT-G COMMUNICATIONS (USU 205)	HEALTHCARE INFORMATICS (USU 304)	THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNSHIPS (USU 305)
3:15 - 3:30 PM	BREAK			
3:30 - 4:30 PM	Career Panel: SPACE SYSTEMS (Alamitos Bay I/II)	Career Panel: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (USU 205)	Career Panel: START-UP COMPANIES (USU 304)	Career Panel: RECENT GRADUATES (USU 305)
4:30 - 4:45 PM	BREAK			
4:45 - 5:30 PM	SPEED NETWORKING — AES, BN Builders, Hensel Phelps, RTX, Siemens, Sukut Construction (LB Ballroom)			
5:30 PM	CLOSING REMARKS & RAFFLE — Debbie Meeks, Conference Chair (LB Ballroom)			



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Marilee Wheaton

Systems Engineering Fellow, The Aerospace Corporation

Marilee J. Wheaton is a Systems Engineering Fellow in the Engineering & Technology Group at The Aerospace Corporation. Wheaton is responsible for providing technical leadership to include enterprise systems engineering, systems architecting, digital engineering and model-based systems engineering. Previous leadership roles over her thirty-year career at Aerospace include General Manager for the Systems Engineering Division and the Computer Systems Division, and Executive Director of The Aerospace Institute, the corporate university.

Marilee holds a B.A. in mathematics from California Lutheran University, an M.S. in systems engineering from the University of Southern California (USC) and is a graduate of the UCLA Executive Program in Management. Wheaton has served as adjunct faculty in the Systems Architecting and Engineering Program at USC Viterbi. A Fellow of the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), she is a 2024 Sustained Service Awards Winner to recognize her sustained, significant service and contributions to AIAA by members of the Institute.

Wheaton is an active member of the Systems Engineering Technical Committee. She is also a Fellow and Life Member of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and a Fellow of the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), where she is the immediate past president of INCOSE International.



COACHING CIRCLES

The Coaching Circles were created by 100+ Women Strong, and are a unique feature of our conference. They are designed to allow small group discussions with engineering and computer science leaders around important topics impacting workplace success.

■ 1:00 - 2:00 PM // LB Ballroom



Coaching Circle Organizer

Dorothy Benveniste
100+ Women Strong Chair



Building Your Professional Network

Who you know can be as important as what you know to a successful career. Here are some tips for building a professional network.

LEAD

HOLLY CRAIG '84

VP and Owner, Stratronics

CO-LEADS

Kim Armstrong, Ed.D.

Boeing Global Services Eng - Sr HR Business Partner, Boeing

Jennifer Johnson

Member, Board of Directors, Women in Cleantech and Sustainability

Michelle Keyser

Manager of Supplier Diversity, Hensel Phelps

Alyssa O-Book

Project Manager, Hensel Phelps

Emily Woodman-Nance

CEO & Co-Founder, At Their Side

Tan Warren

VP of Business Development & Marketing, Brascia Builders Inc.



Work-Life Balance

Healthy work-life balance is how you consciously managing your time and energy to meet both professional and personal commitments while prioritizing self-care and well-being. Learn key ways to find the correct balance in your life.

LEAD

MONICA AMALFITANO

Director/Campus Engineer, CSULB Design and Construction Services

CO-LEADS

Brianna Campbell

Sr. Program Manager, Rivian

Antonella Sciortino

Associate Dean, College of Engineering, CSULB

Kimmy Phipps

Project Manager, Sukut Construction

Rachel Jewkes

Sr. Staff, Vehicle Technical Program Manager, Rivian



Imposter Syndrome

Do you at times doubt your skills and abilities, even though you are successful? Find out how to nip this tendency in the bud and be proud of your success!

LEAD

MIA FUJII

Country Business Development Executive, Siemens

CO-LEADS

Becca Chanowitz.

Product Design Engineer, Rivian

Sandra Labib

Fraud Prevention PMO Lead, Intuit

Lorena Rubalcava

License Compliance Manager US, Siemens



Developing Your Engineering Identity

What makes you an Engineer? Your identity plays a vital role in your future work, and it may be influenced by your gender. Find out how to identify with women engineers and the great work they do.

LEAD

DANA CABELL

Director, Transmission System Planning & Strategy, Southern California Edison

CO-LEADS

Marisel Cisneros

Sr. Program Manager: Research & Advanced Design, Northrop Grumman

Laurie Huning

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering, CSULB

Jessica Min

Associate Civil Engineer III, Sunrun

Amber Perez

Electronics Engineer, The Aerospace Corporation



Moving From Engineering to Leadership

The path to reach leadership roles is a process, and it takes time to develop the skills and experience to confidently manage teams of people and complex projects. Learn about steps you can take to expand your level of responsibility and increase your leadership skills.

LEAD

JENNIFER DIDLO

VP, Business Dev and Market Business Leader (ret), AES Corporation

CO-LEADS

Christina Bravo

Director of Operations, Northrop Grumman

Neveen Farang

Principal Electrical Engineer, Northrop Grumman

Mozhdeh Najafabadi



















Deputy Divi Chief, Acquisition Delta-Strategic SATCOM, Department of Defense - Space Force/AF

Delilah Nunez

Systems Director, The Aerospace Corporation





















SPEAKERS

		SESSION			SESSION
	Karen Abarca Karen Abarca, Freelance Design Engineer, knitbyperl	Fashion Technology		Lori Izakelian Program Manager, Port of Long Beach	Green Infrastructure
	Christina Bravo Director of Operations, Northrup Grumman	<i>Career Panel:</i> Space Sys		Maribel Jaquez Sr. Mission Assurance Engineer; Millennium Space Systems	<i>Career Panel:</i> Space Sys
	Brianna Campbell Sr. Program Manager, Rivian	The Importance of Internships		Rachel Jewkes Vehicle Technical Program Manager, Rivian	Sustainable Transportation
	April Chaire Reverse Engineer, Raytheon Technologies	Cybersecurity Hardware		Jennifer L. Johnson Board of Directors, Women in CleanTech	FinTech
	Becca Chanowitz Product Design Engineer, Rivian	<i>Career Panel:</i> Start-up Companies		Pavitra Krishnan Senior Solutions Architect, Amazon Web Services	<i>Career Panel:</i> Artificial Intelligence
	Lauren Choi Founder and CEO, The New Norm	Fashion Technology		Sandra Labib Fraud Prevention PMO Lead, Intuit	FinTech
	Mariel Cisneros Sr. Program Manager, Northrup Grumman	The Importance of Internships		Alicia Lanzoni Biomedical Engineer, Applied Medical	Ethical Biotechnology
	Sepideh Faraji Scientist, R.C. Costello	Graduate School vs. Industry		Nimisha Limaye ASIC Digital Design Engineer, Synopsys	Cybersecurity Hardware
	Yolanda Gil Director of the Information Sciences Institute at USC	<i>Career Panel:</i> Artificial Intelligence		Jennifer Medina Hydrogen Engineering Team Lead, SoCalGas	Hydrogen Power

Full bios and LinkedIn information for all speakers and moderators can be found in the Whova app for the 2024 BEACH Women in Engineering Conference.



		SESSION
	Sanaz Massoumi Chief Operating Officer, Patient Safety Movement Foundation	Ethical Biotechnology
	Jessica Min Associate Civil Engineer, Sunrun	Graduate School vs. Industry
	Mozhdeh Najafabadi Deputy Division Chief, Department of Defense SATCOM	Nex-G Comm
	Delilah Nunez Systems Director, the Aerospace Corporation	Engineering Ethics
	Victoria Patterson Systems Engineer, NGC	<i>Career Panel:</i> Recent Graduates
	Amber Perez Electronics Engineer, the Aerospace Corporation	<i>Career Panel:</i> Recent Graduates
	Jessica Petty Sr. Manager of Emerging Issue Investigations, Hyundai North American Safety Office	Engineering Ethics
	Leah Pillsbury Controls Engineer, Ivys; member, CA H2 Business Council Board	Hydrogen Power
	Emily Randig, MS, EIT Design Engineer, PACE Advanced Civil Engineering	Graduate School vs. Industry

		SESSION
	Julia Ragragio Ruiz Sustainability Director, Gensler	Green Infrastructure
	Zahra Safarian Principal RFIC Design Engineer, Broadcom	Nex-G Comm
	Jennifer Soriano Manufacturing Scientist, Molecular Instruments	<i>Career Panel:</i> Start-up Companies
	Kelley Tenny Founder, Women Who AI	<i>Career Panel:</i> Artificial Intelligence
	Robin Thorne CEO of CTI	<i>Career Panel:</i> Start-up Companies
	Jessica Vo Data Scientist, Masimo	Healthcare Informatics
	Tan Warren VP of Business, Brascia Builders	The Importance of Internships
	Emily Woodman-Nance CEO/Co-founder. At Their Side	Healthcare Informatics
	Sunny Zia Sr. Civil Engineer, Port of Long Beach	Sustainable Transportation

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MODERATORS

		SESSION
Kim Armstrong	Sr. HR Business Partner, Boeing	The Importance of Internships
Shadnaz Asgari	Professor, Biomedical Engineering/Computer Engineering & Computer Science	Healthcare Informatics <i>Career Panel: Artificial Intelligence</i>
Gina Bibby	Partner, Withers Bergman LLP	Fashion Technology
Eun Jung Chae	Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering	<i>Career Panel: Space Sys</i>
Darr Hashempour	Lecturer, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering	Engineering Ethics
Ava Heayatipour	Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering	<i>Career Panel: Artificial Intelligence</i>
Sean Kwon	Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering	Next-G Communications
Anna Lee	Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering	<i>Career Panel: Start-up Companies</i>
Wan Lee	Lecturer, Chemical Engineering	Ethical Biotechnology
Nim Marayong	Professor, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering	Graduate School vs. Industry
Amr Morsey	Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering & Construction Engineering Management	Green Infrastructure
Elhami Nasr	Professor, Civil Engineering & Construction Engineering Management	<i>Career Panel: Recent Graduates</i>
Amin Rezaei	Assistant Professor, Computer Engineering & Computer Science	Cybersecurity Hardware
Shabnam Sodagari	Associate Professor, Computer Engineering & Computer Science	FinTech
Ga-Young (Kelly) Suh	Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering	Ethical Biotechnology
Shams Tanvir	Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering & Construction Engineering Management	Sustainable Transportation
Jingyi Zeng	Assistant Professor, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering	Hydrogen Power

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2024 SPONSORS



Timothy Mahoney '13,
CSULB Alumni



SPEED NETWORKING

Representatives from select companies will be stationed around the room to describe their companies and talk about what their companies look for in new hires. Participants in this activity can practice their interviewing skills and ask questions. When time is up, all participants will move to the next company.

■ 4:45-5:30 PM // LB Ballroom

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES



The **AES Corporation** (NYSE: AES) is a Fortune 500 global energy company accelerating the future of energy. Together with our many stakeholders, we're improving lives by delivering the greener, smarter energy solutions the world needs. Our diverse workforce is committed to continuous innovation and operational excellence, while partnering with our customers on their strategic energy transitions and continuing to meet their energy needs today. AES: Accelerating the Future of Energy Together.

aes.com



BNBuilders is a 100% employee-owned company with key specialists in all areas of construction including preconstruction, alternative deliveries, Lean, Virtual Design & Construction, and sustainability. Our mission is to serve as a partner to our clients and create a collaborative environment focused on finding solutions.

bnbuilders.com



Since its humble beginning in 1937, **Hensel Phelps** has grown as a family of hard-working individuals into a world-class builder. Through exploring new markets and partnerships, investing in diversity and our communities, and forging new opportunities, we are dedicated to serving our people, neighbors, partners, and all those who aspire to build a better future.

Hensel Phelps is committed to continuing our legacy—not only through brick-and-mortar landmarks but through the integrity of our team members. Through the years, these core values have represented our company as well as each individual that makes our projects possible: Ownership, Integrity, Builder, Diversity and Community. These values, paired with our ambitious vision and drive to succeed, are what define Hensel Phelps and will ensure our continued growth and EXCELLENCE for generations to come.

henselphelps.com





At **RTX**, we're a diverse team of explorers united in our goal to push the boundaries of known science – and solve the world's most complex problems.

We design. We engineer. We code. We research. We patent. We test. We learn. We iterate. We manufacture. We produce.

We are advancing aviation, building smarter defense systems and creating innovations to take us deeper into space. Progress is not inevitable. It is initiated – by tirelessly asking the hard questions and finding answers.

Progress defines the future and defines us – because the progress we make matters..

rtx.com



Sukat Construction is one of America's leading heavy civil engineering contractors with 50 years of proven industry expertise on residential, public, commercial, and industrial projects. In California, we are recognized as the largest mass excavator and grading contractor, having moved a billion cubic yards of earth using our own fleet of more than 225 pieces of earthmoving equipment. At Sukut, we understand the value of an excellent work environment. Sukut is the recipient of numerous "Top Workplace" and "Excellent in Safety" awards. Sukut has clearly established itself as an employer of choice. Sukut is equally proud of the unique and successful company culture which has been established throughout the years.

sukat.com

SIEMENS

Siemens Digital Industries Software helps organizations of all sizes digitally transform using software, hardware and services from the Siemens Xcelerator business platform. Siemens' software and the comprehensive digital twin enable companies to optimize their design, engineering and manufacturing processes to turn today's ideas into the sustainable products of the future. From chips to entire systems, from product to process, across all industries, Siemens Digital Industries Software is where today meets tomorrow.

siemens.com/global/en.html



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STAFF/VOLUNTEERS



CONFERENCE ORGANIZER

Roni Allen



COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Joshua Nelson



SENIOR DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Cheryl Ward



DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE

Paras Shah

STAFF & STUDENTS

LEE LEE JACKSON

Receptionist & Administrative Support Assistant

CAECILIA GOTAMA

Founder, BRDG bridge-to-connect

RICK MEZA

Computer Systems Analyst

GAURAV PARYANI

CSULB student, Women in Computing

THIRTY GOLZARI

CSULB Student

TOM HINH

CSULB Student

MEGAN CHUNG

CSULB student, Women in Computing

PREXA KAMANI

CSULB Student

MY LU

CSULB Student

KARINA AVILES

CSULB Student

DAKSHA ARVIND

CSULB Student

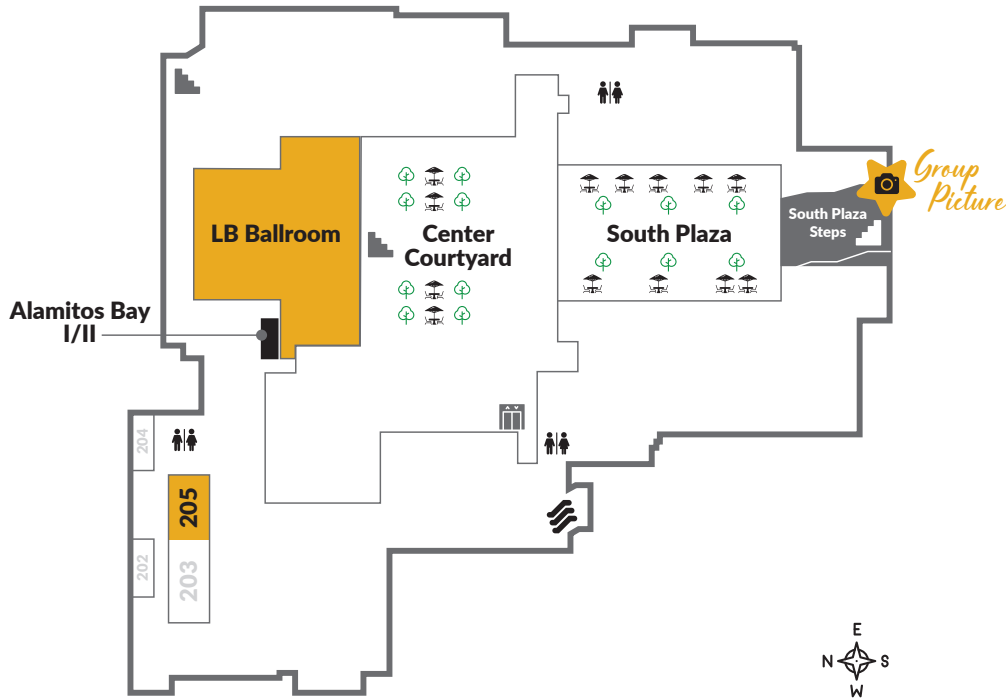
LILY ILLAN

CSULB Student

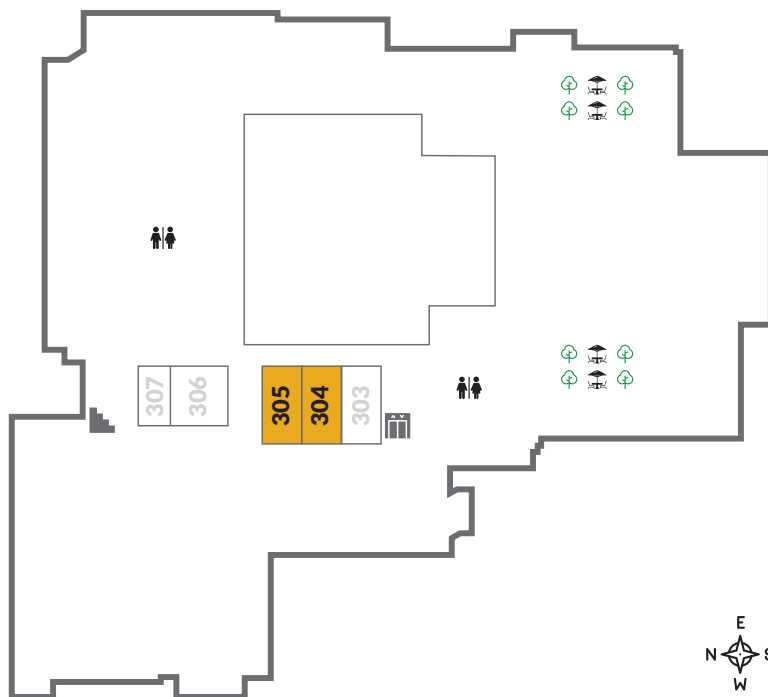


USU MAP





■ 2nd Floor, University Student Union



■ 3rd Floor, University Student Union



LEGEND

-  Stairs
-  Restrooms
-  Elevator
-  Escalator

ABOUT 100+ WOMEN STRONG

100+ Women Strong is an industry professional affiliate group to the CSULB College of Engineering. Its mission is to support the college in inspiring, recruiting, retaining, graduating, and launching women engineers and computer scientists into successful careers, with the ultimate goal of increasing the number and percentage of women in the field. The BEACH Women in Engineering Conference is its signature event.

For more information, visit us online:
www.csulb.edu/college-of-engineering/100-women-strong



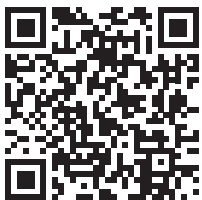
SCAN TO
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JOIN US!

Keep the conversation going at:

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For more
information,
about 100+
Women Strong,
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