

Katherine Pickens McConnell

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EDUCATION

EdD, Leadership for Educational Equity, University of Colorado Denver, 2016 - 2019

- Doctoral Research Project: *Cultural and Structural Factors Influencing Career Development in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at CU Boulder*

MA, Postsecondary Student Development, University of Iowa, 2007 - 2009

BA, Anthropology, Grinnell College, 2003 - 2006

RECOGNITION HIGHLIGHTS

Marinus Smith Award, CU Boulder, 2021

PIC V Best Paper Award, American Society for Engineering Education, 2019

Outstanding Staff Award, CU Boulder College of Engineering and Applied Science, 2019

STEM EDUCATION & CAREER DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

Scholar in Residence, Mechanical Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder, 2023 - present

- Serve as the primary instructor of record for *MCEN2000: Mechanical Engineering as a Profession* and for the Mechanical Engineering section of *COEN 3930: Engineering Internship/Co-op*
- Lead the department's ME Summer Internship-for-Credit Program including recruiting host companies, managing logistics, and working with students throughout the summer as they complete their internships and final reports
- Contribute to ABET accreditation activities including data collection, report writing, and overall coordination
- Lead course interviews as part of the department's Teaching Quality Framework (TQF) process

Senior Professional Development Advisor, Mechanical Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder, 2018 - 2023

- Serve as the department's primary liaison to the alumni community including coordinating alumni events and working with alumni to identify opportunities for recruiting and student engagement
- Co-instruct the second-year *Mechanical Engineering as a Profession* course including coordinating over 100 alumni volunteers, supervising TAs, leading class periods, developing the curriculum, and grading student work
- Design and implement assessment and continuous improvement processes focused on developing new resources, responding to industry input, and identifying new opportunities to connect students with industry
- Oversee logistics for large-scale department events including ME Alumni Connect Day (~400 participants), the Careers in ME Symposium (~300 participants) and Graduation (~2,000 participants)
- Navigate campus funding resources and financial processes including submitting successful funding proposals through the Engineering Excellence Fund, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, BOLD Innovative Inclusion Mini-Grant Program, ME Undergraduate Committee, and ME DEI Action Grant Program

COMMITTEE & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Mechanical Engineering Undergraduate Committee, 2013 - 2018, 2022 - present

Mechanical Engineering Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group, 2021 - present

Program Chair for the Cooperative and Experiential Education Division of ASEE, 2020 - 2022

Staff Representative to the Mechanical Engineering Executive Committee, 2020 - 2022

Mechanical Engineering External Relations Committee, 2018 -2022

Secretary for the Cooperative and Experiential Education Division of ASEE, 2018 - 2020

Task Force for Writing Across the Engineering Curriculum, 2016 - 2017

Engineering Assessment Committee, 2013 - 2016

Task Force for Engineering Career Development, 2014

CONFERENCE PAPERS

A Design-Thinking Approach to Increasing Student Efficacy in the Internship Search Process, ASEE 2020

Mapping & Strengthening Curriculum-Based Industry/Academia Intersections, ASEE 2019

Push and Pull: Integrating Industry Across the Student Experience, ASEE 2019