

Why are so few Latinas graduating with a Ph.D. in Engineering?

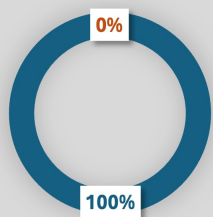
Diversity drives innovative engineering research solutions



2225399: An Individual Investigator Development Plan for Building Capacity to Study Undergraduate Latinas Interest in Graduate School

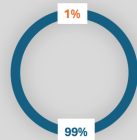
Background

Engineering Ph.D., 22- 23



■ UNM TOTAL ■ HISPANIC, FEMALE (UNM)

Engineering Ph.D. Recipients, 20-22



■ US TOTAL ■ HISPANIC, FEMALE (US)

Pilot Results

Research identity, research self-efficacy, and cultural compatibility (survey components) statistically predicted interest in pursuit of an Engineering M.S./ Ph.D.

Pilot indicate also show **no statistical difference between Latinas vs. other women** and **no statistical difference between man vs. woman** for dependent variables.

Methods

Mixed Method

- Increase "n" by collecting more responses
- Will be analyzed through quantitative analysis by principal component analysis
- Complete meta- analysis of related literature in STEM (broader topic) then focus on engineering

What is Not Yet Known



- What is the context through which Latinas consider graduate school?
- When is the pivotal period to keep more Latinas interested in research?
- What other factors influence career decisions?
- How does the class environment influence interest in academia?

Challenge Area

Participant Selection;
Response Rate

Designing next phase of study: Case Study?

Focus Group?

Expand research beyond New Mexico? Focus on other R1 HSI's?

Focus of research: Focus on research identity?

Include career decisions in this study? (managing scope)

Selected Development Opportunities:

[NSF QRM Scholars Program, 2022- 23](#)

[Modern Meta Analysis Research Institute, 2024](#)

[NSF Mixture Modeling Training for Discipline-Based Education Researchers, 2024- 25](#)

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← Why the Research? More about Research Team

