



ENGINEERING A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL HUMANITY

STATE OF THE VITERBI SCHOOL

Yannis C. Yortsos
Dean



WHY ENGINEERING

Enabling Discipline of Our Times

1. Exponentially Growing
2. Convergent

Human Nature does not Change Exponentially Fast!



LEVERAGING *PHENOMENA** FOR *USEFUL* PURPOSES**

- **PHYSICAL** (e.g. Photoelectric Effect)
- **CHEMICAL** (e.g. Catalysis)
- ◎ **GEOLOGICAL** (e.g. Groundwater)
- ◉ **BIOLOGICAL** (e.g. Bioengineering)
- **SOCIAL-BEHAVIORAL**

Increasing
complexity

Convergence

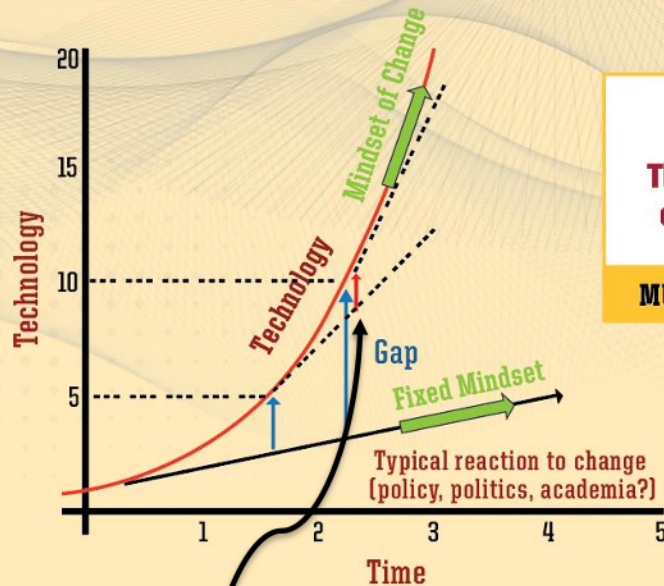
Paraphrased from
Brian Arthur (2008)

*And systems, devices and tools- and combinations thereof

Including the **discovering of new phenomena



**THE EXPONENTIAL PACE OF TECHNOLOGY BRINGS CONSTANT DISRUPTION.
THIS REQUIRES AGILITY AND ADAPTABILITY - AND *NEW MINDSETS***



EXPONENTIAL CHANGES

There are no longer steady states
or even steady states in growth

MUST REINVENT OURSELVES EVERY YEAR

Exponential, if the technology
speed is proportional to it

$$A \rightarrow A$$

$$\frac{\Delta A}{\Delta t} \approx \lambda A$$

Faster than exponential
(*singularity*) if it is proportional
to a higher power ($n > 1$)

$$A + A \rightarrow 2A \quad (n=2)$$

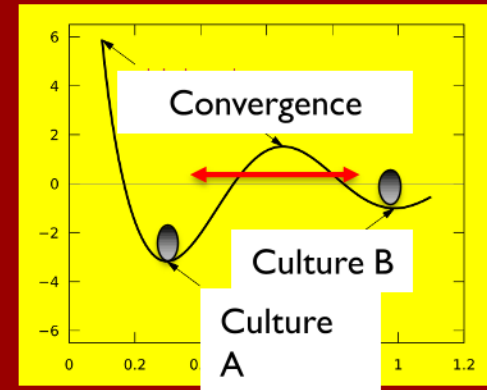
$$\frac{\Delta A}{\Delta t} \approx \lambda A^n$$

Trust: The required ingredient to move fast along the exponential
Tax we pay when trust is absent

CONVERGENCE AND SILOS CHALLENGES

“Culture wants to be enduring and prevailing”

from Antonio Damasio's *“The strange world of things”* (2018)





Catalysts!

1. Admin



2. Fundraising



3. Budget



4. Marcom



1. Talent: students, faculty, staff- and environment to flourish

PEOPLE



2. Value: Continuously adding value to curriculum, programs

PROGRAMS



3. Thought Leadership: Research and discovery

PAPERS



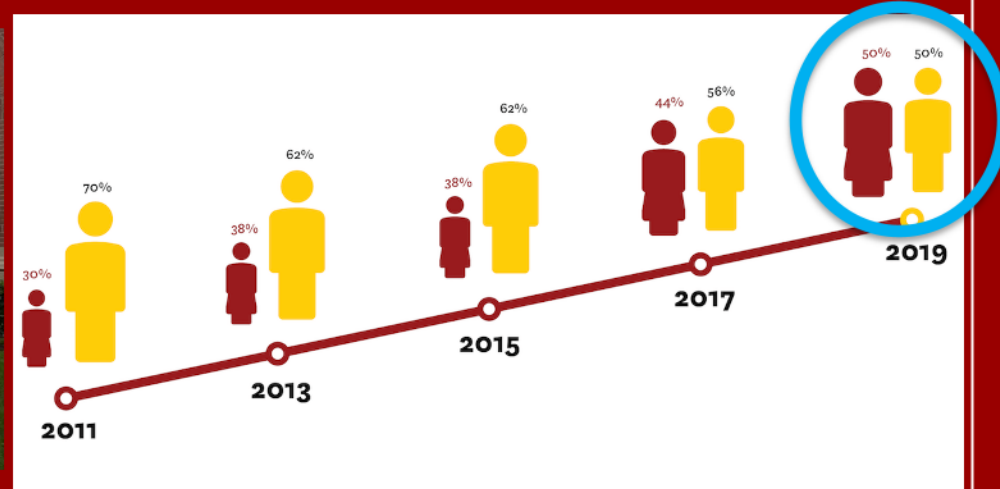
4. Impact: Impact on society (Innovation, K-12 Outreach, Global

PRACTICES-PATENTS



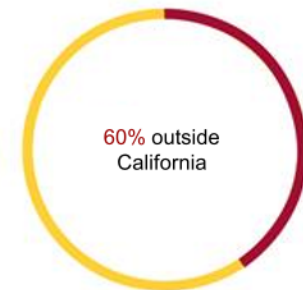
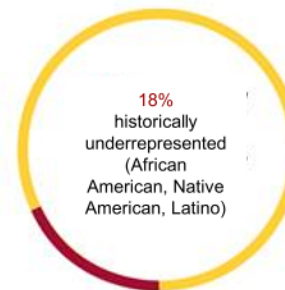
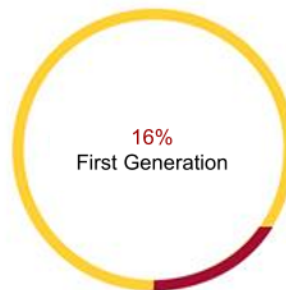
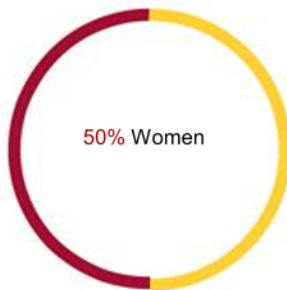


1. Reached gender parity in Fall 2019 entering class (historic)
2. Rocket Propulsion Laboratory reached Space -and breaks student world record
3. Increased faculty ranks with four new NAE members
4. Leads Engineering Education transformation (GCSP in London Global Summit; Competence *and* Character)
5. Reached Exemplar National status on Engineering Diversity
6. Well-positioned for research thought leadership (AI, Quantum, Sustainability, Bioengineering, Materials)
7. Successfully completed \$500M fundraising initiative
8. Maintained high rankings
9. Maintained robust enrollments and budget
10. Positioning for a new CS building

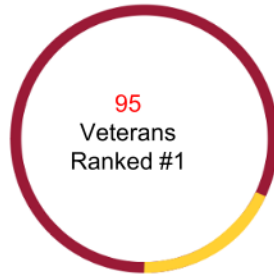
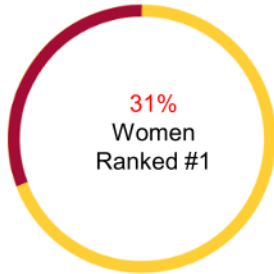


Incoming freshman class

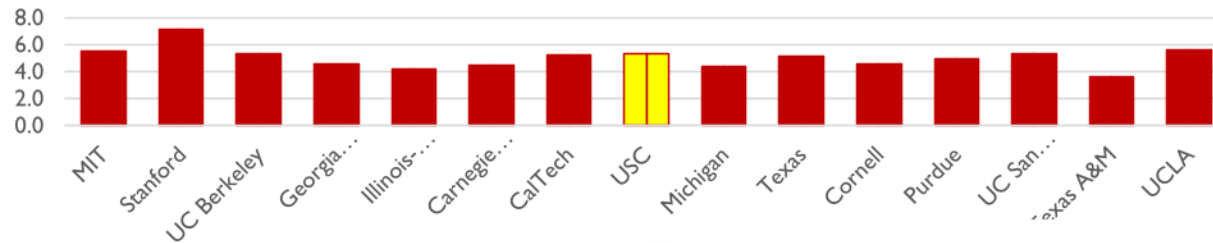
23 % perfect math SAT or ACT



A historic accomplishment for USC Viterbi



Ph.D. Students / Faculty
3 Year Average Comparison



Applicants from 98 countries





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The first undergraduate student team in history to design, build and successfully launch a rocket into space

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=usc+rpl+youtube&view=detail&mid=1EA0BD8FAC7FFA15C8E01EA0BD8FAC7FFA15C8E0&FORM=VIRE>

Tim Ellis and Jordan Noone

- USC Graduates and RPL leaders
- Blue Origin and Space X
- Relativity Startup: Incubated at the Y-Combinator; backed by Playground Global, Social Capital, Y Combinator, Mark Cuban, USC, and Stanford. Completed round C series with about \$150M raised.

Tim serves on the World Economic Forum as a Technology Pioneer, and has been honored as an MIT 35 Innovators Under 35.

Jordan and Tim have been chosen for “30 Under 30” by Forbes, Business Insider, and Inc. Magazine.





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Dr. Charles F. Zukoski (USC Provost)



Dr. Pawlikowski (Lt. Gen. Ret.)



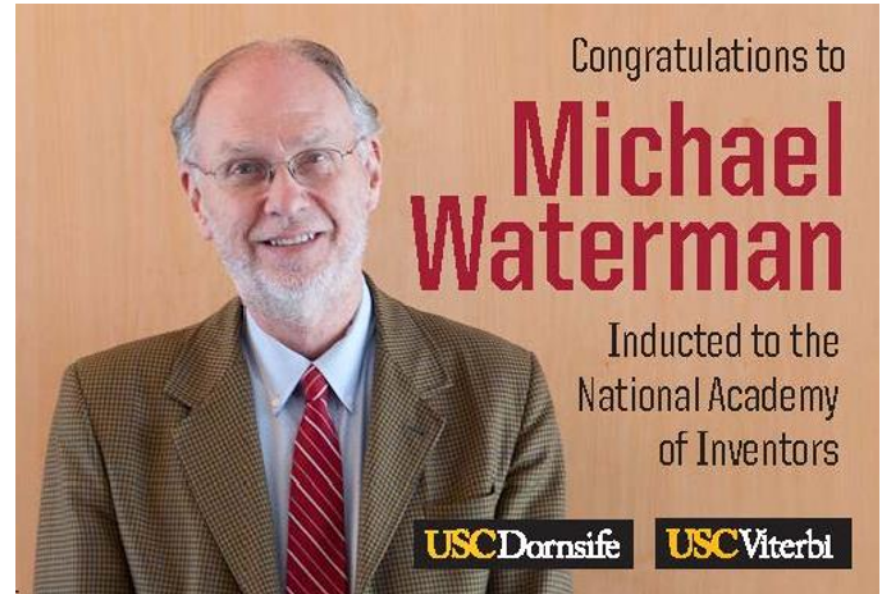
Dr. Mahta Moghaddam (ECE)



Dr. Mark Thompson (Chem)



Dr. Behrokh Khoshnevis (CEE)





12+2 MIT TR35 HONOREES IN LAST 9 YEARS

Niki Bayat

recognized by MIT Technology Review
as one of the world's top young innovators

TR35

The USC Viterbi School of Engineering congratulates **Niki Bayat** for being included in the MIT Technology Review's list of the top 35 technology innovators in the world under the age of 35. She is the first USC PhD student to receive this distinction.

Bayat develops innovative biomedical devices, including an eyeball 'super glue' that can patch eye wounds on the emergency situations before the damage becomes permanent. In parallel with her doctoral thesis work, she is also the Chief Science Officer of Aersoultech, an award-winning biomedical device company she co-founded as a doctoral student to make it easier for glaucoma patients to take eye drops – and keep their sight.

USC Viterbi

PhD students
Niki Bayat
Ghena Al Hanaee

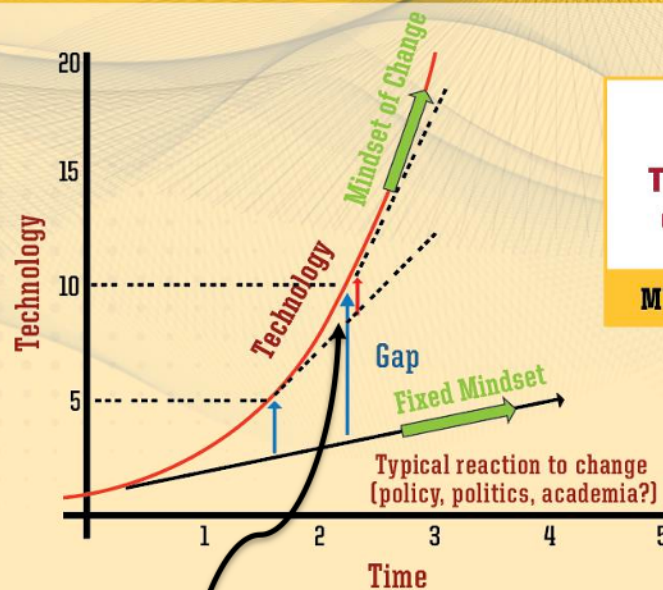




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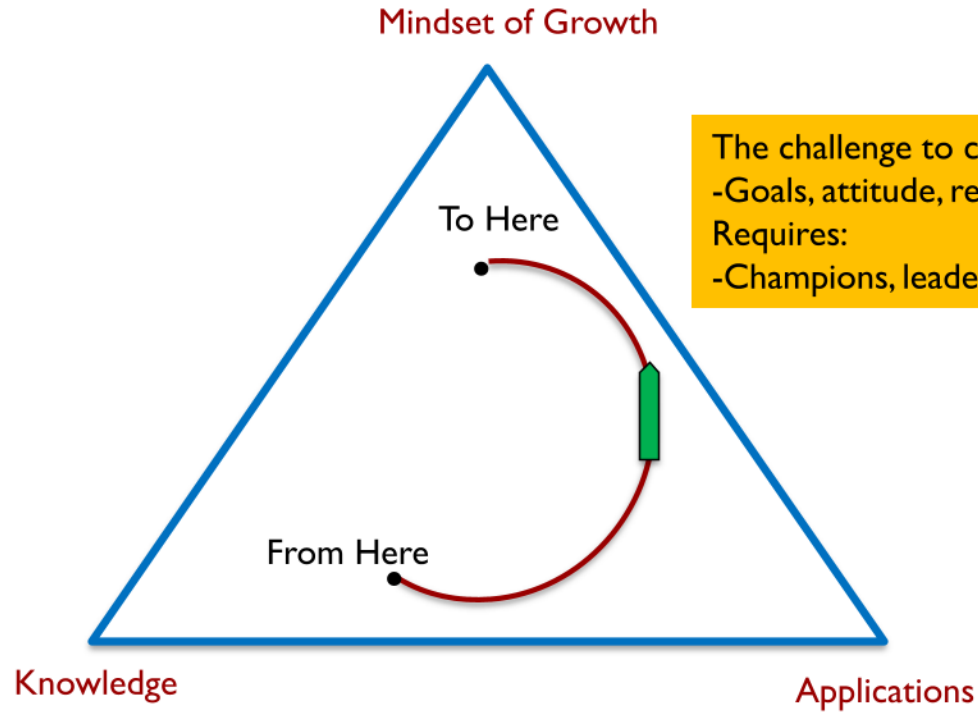
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Tax we pay when trust is absent



The challenge to change culture:
-Goals, attitude, rewards and incentives
Requires:
-Champions, leadership, mindsets of growth

From Ortiz et al.



ATTRIBUTES OF THE ENGINEER OF 2020

- › Analytical skills
- › Practical ingenuity
- › Creativity
- › Communication & teamwork skills
- › Business & management skills
- › High ethical standards
- › Professionalism
- › Leadership, including bridging public policy and technology
- › Dynamism/agility/resilience/flexibility
- › Lifelong learners

Mostly competence.

Missing? Purpose, Character, Trustworthiness.





THE FIVE MINDSETS OF CHANGE TO THRIVE IN TODAY'S WORLD

1 HUG THE EXPONENTIAL
Superb Technical Skills and Knowledge to Lead the Exponentially Changing Technology

2 ENGINEERING +: CHANGE THE CONVERSATION ABOUT ENGINEERING
Engineering + X where X is anything (particularly, human-centric)
Who we are, what we do and what we look like.

3 INNOVATION IN THE BROADEST SENSE
Innovation and Entrepreneurship, to help create the new markets,
the new jobs and to design the new self.

4 THE CULTURAL MIND
Cultural Awareness (with culture broadly interpreted), to help thrive in
today's fast changing world.

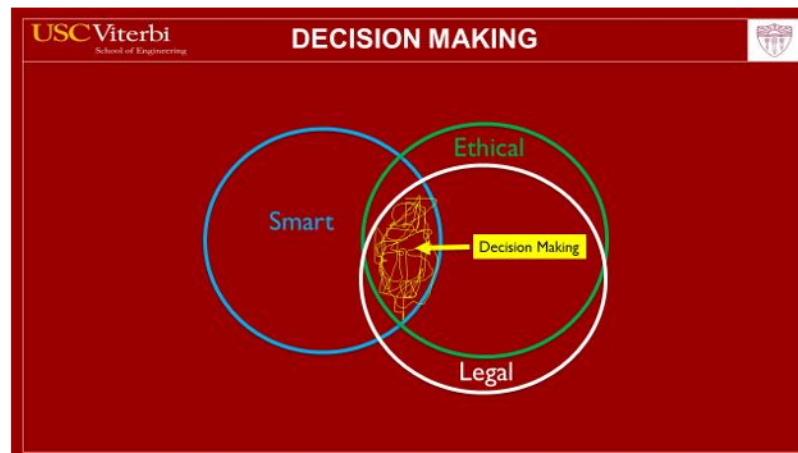
5 HEROIC ENGINEERING
Awareness of the Impact of Engineering to Society
(and the importance of technology ethics).

Competence

Character

TRUST: FOUR CORES OF CREDIBILITY*

- 1. *Capabilities (talent, attitude, skills, knowledge, mindset)*
 - 2. *Results (performance- past, current, anticipated)*
 - 3. *Integrity (humility, courage, congruence)*
 - 4. *Intent (motive, agenda, behavior)*
- Competence
- Character



*From Covey, "The Speed of Trust"

Society will increasingly demand that our engineering graduates are trustworthy given the power of technology



The Bridge, National Academy of Engineering, 43 (2), 53-57, (2013)

The Grand Challenge Scholars program gives students a better understanding of how their undergraduate work prepares them to face their careers and important societal challenges.

The NAE Grand Challenge Scholars Program

Tom Katsouleas, Richard Miller, and Yannis Yortsos



Tom Katsouleas



Richard Miller



Yannis Yortsos

In 2007 the National Academy of Engineering, with support from the National Science Foundation, convened a panel of leading thinkers from academia, policy, and business with the charge of identifying a small number of grand challenges for engineering in the 21st century. Their extraordinary list of 14 representative challenges (Box 1) spans the need for sustainability, health, security, and life of living.



2014: Global GCSP launched in GEDC meeting in Dubai
2014: MOU from 122 engineering schools signed in DC
2015 (March): Deans commitment presented to US President

120+ Deans committed to graduate
more than 20,000 GCS over the next
decade



NAE President Dan Mote (2013-2019)



2016: NAE Coordination Office Created; Series of Annual Events Launched
2017: Third Global Summit- Washington DC
2019: Fourth Global Summit- London, UK

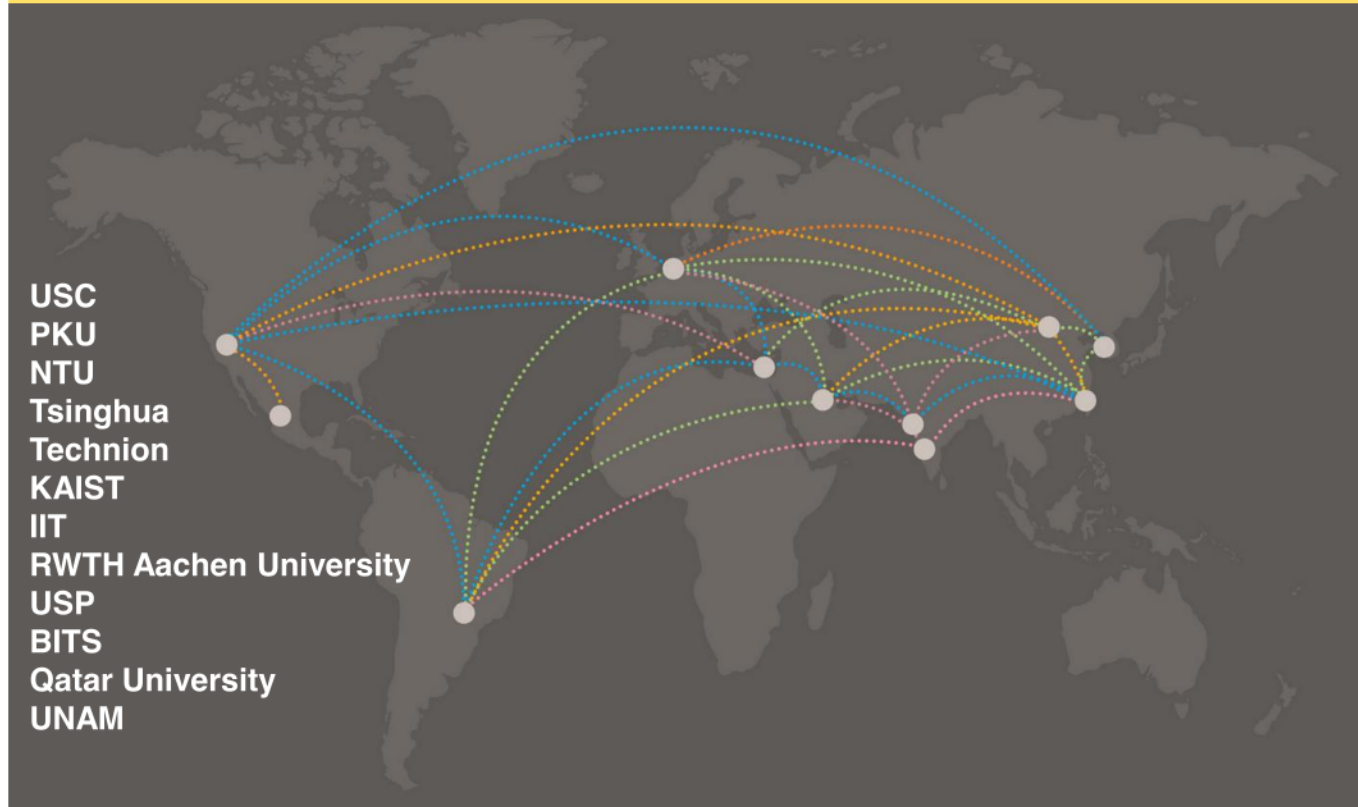


Rama, NAE Office
Director





We would like every Viterbi UG to have at least one iPodia experience



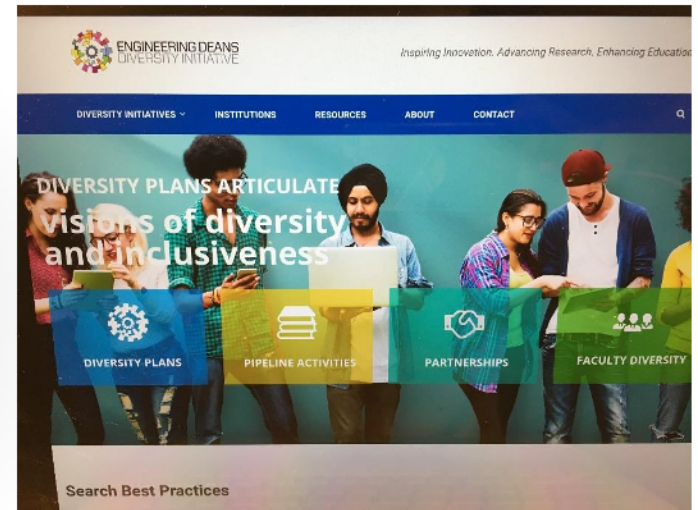
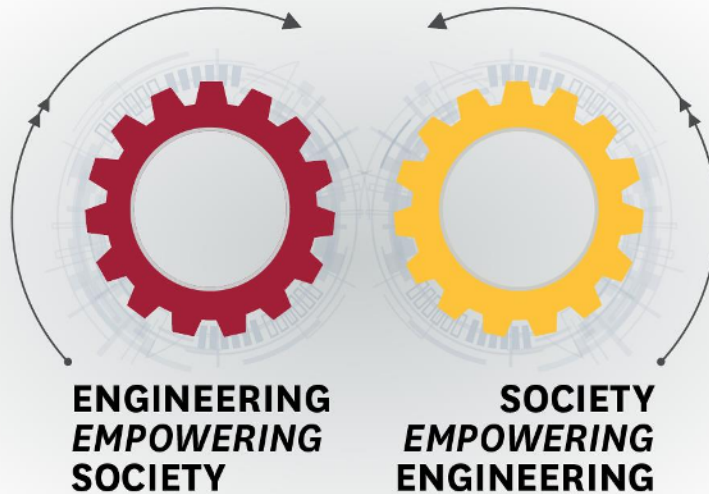


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USC Viterbi Recognized with the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) **2017 President's Award**





**NATIONAL (ASEE) DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE
(NOW SIGNED BY 210+ SCHOOLS NATIONALLY)**



Exemplar status



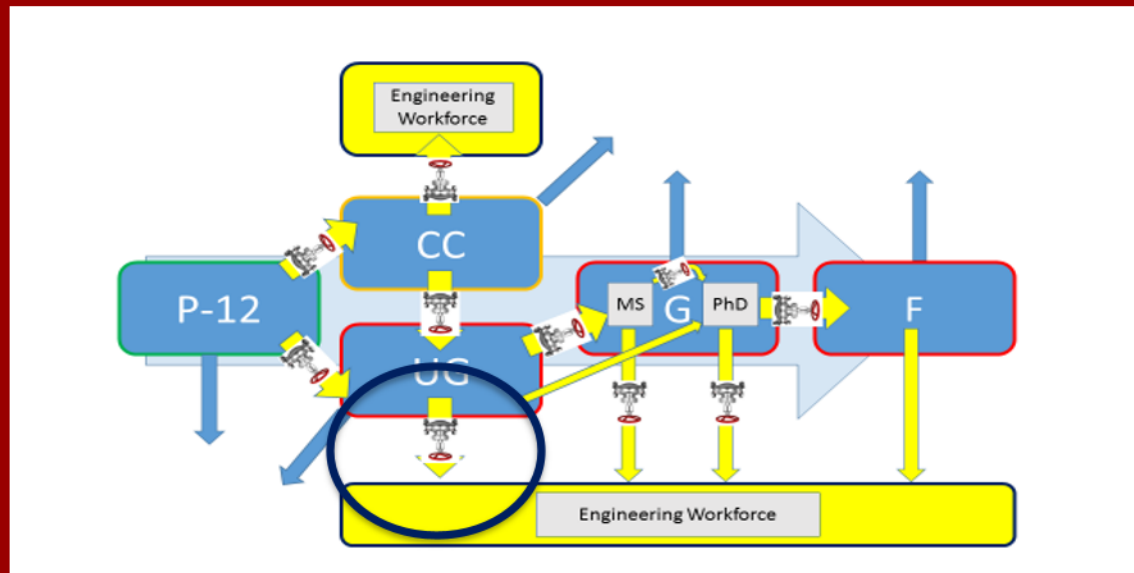
National Society of Black Engineers

- » 1st Place - Academic Technical Bowl
- » 1st Place – Debate



USC Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

- » Outstanding Academic Development
- » Outstanding Chapter Development



A Parity Objective

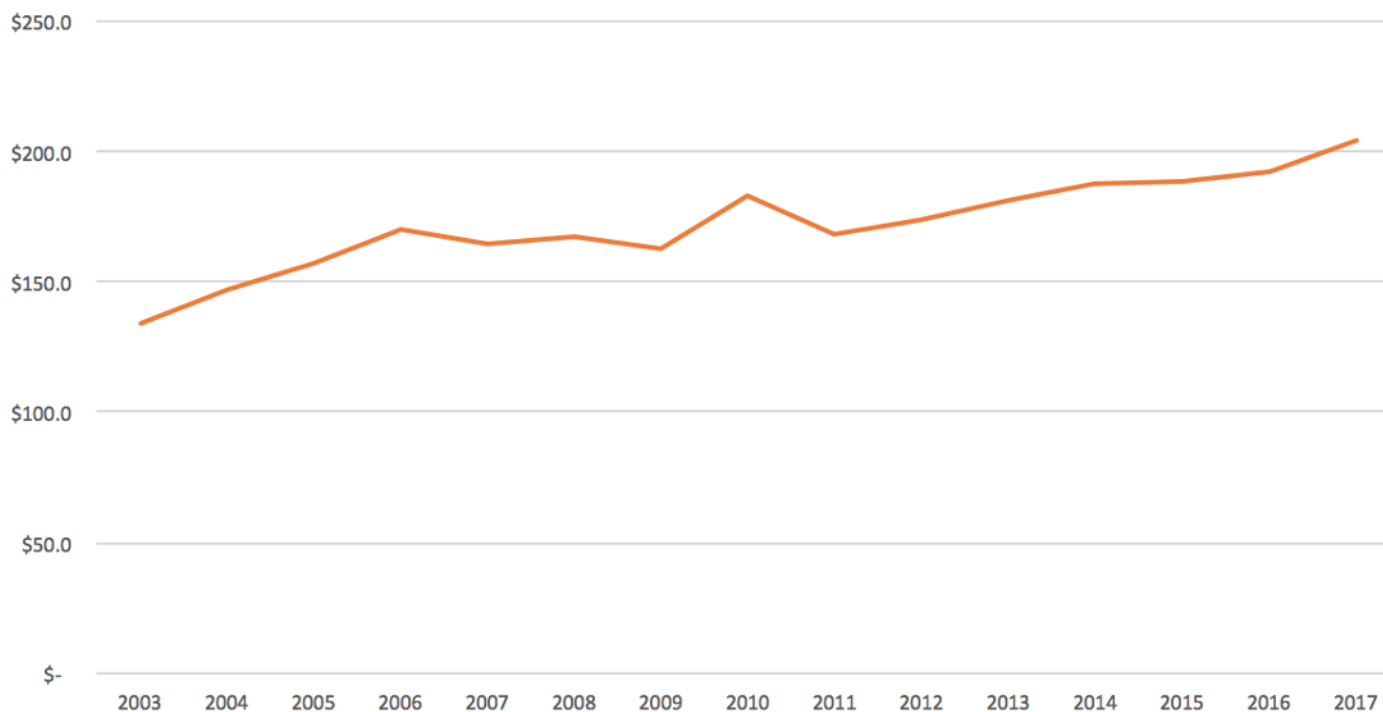
Maximizing efficiency in each control volume means achieving parity between input and output compositions. Namely, output demographics (e.g. undergraduate retention, graduation rates, etc.) must be statistically the same as those of the input.



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USC Viterbi - Research Expenditures (in millions)





WHY GRAND CHALLENGES?

Powerful, Fast Evolving, Convergent Technology
Allows Us to Set Achievable Goals for all Humanity

Choosing Goals is an Ethical Question



1

SUSTAINABILITY

Make Solar Energy Economical, Provide Energy from Fusion, Develop Carbon Sequestration Methods, Manage the Nitrogen Cycle, Provide Access to Clean Water

2

SECURITY

Secure Cyberspace, Prevent Nuclear Terror, Restore and Improve Urban Infrastructure

3

HEALTH

Engineer Better Medicines, Advance Health Informatics, Reverse Engineer the Brain

4

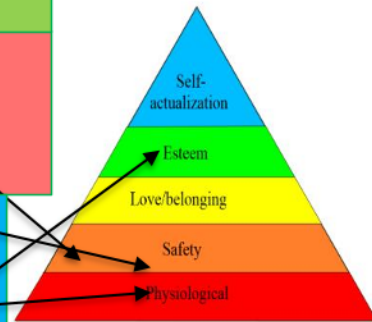
ENRICHING LIFE

Enhance Virtual Reality, Advance Personalized Learning, Engineer the Tools of Scientific Discovery

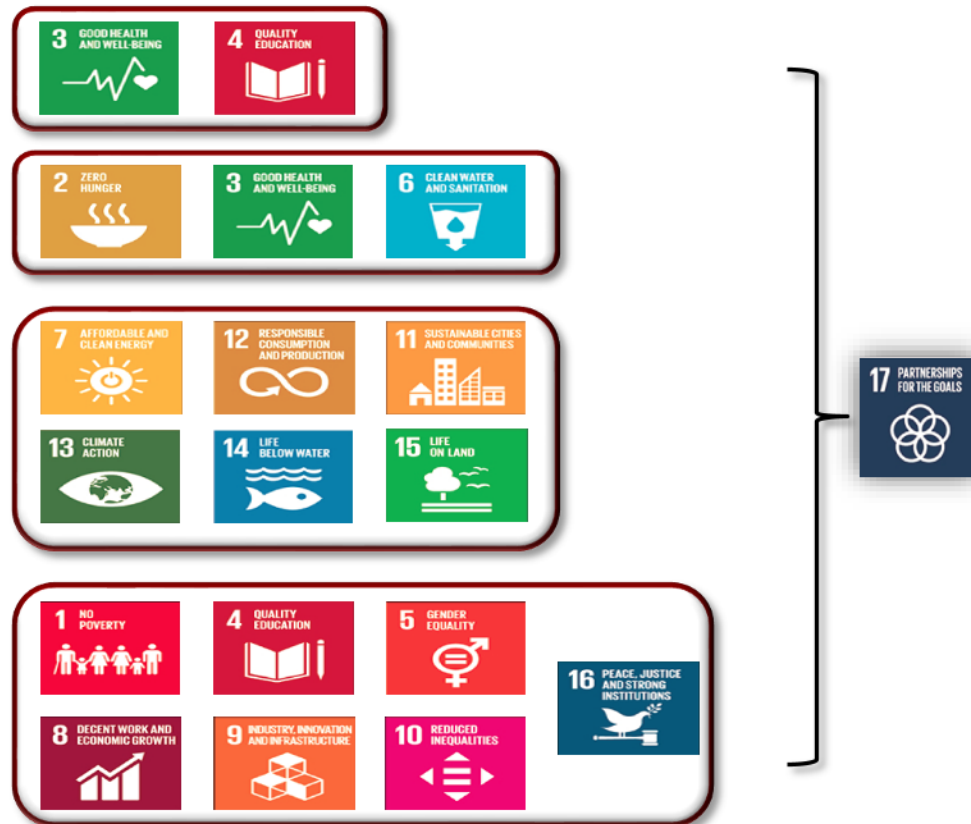
5

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIETAL?

Social Phenomena (Through cyberphysical and data science)



Maslow's Hierarchy





Individual and family well-being

- Ensure healthy development for all youth
- Close the health gap
- Stop family violence
- Advance long and productive lives



Stronger social fabric

- Eradicate social isolation
- End homelessness
- Create social responses to a changing environment
- Harness technology for social good

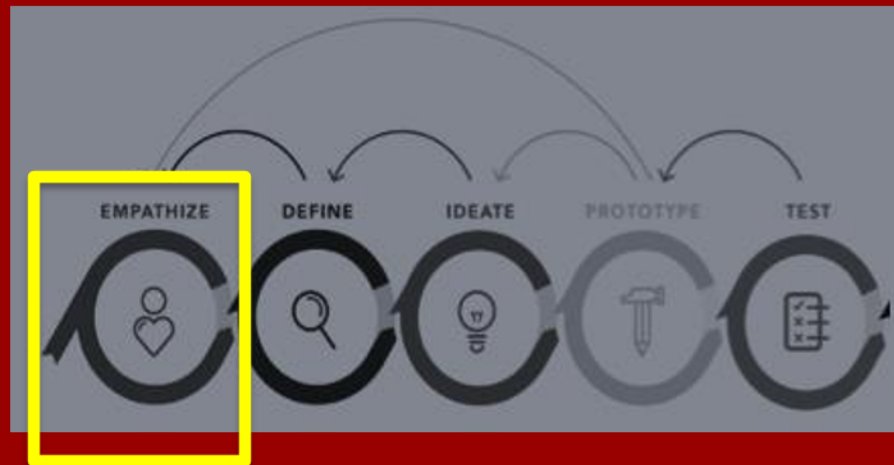


Just society

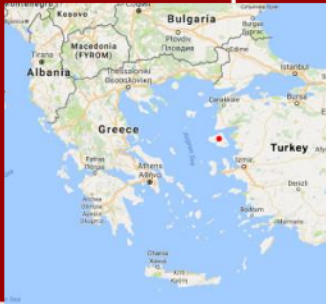
- Promote smart decarceration
- Build financial capability for all
- Reduce extreme economic inequality
- Achieve equal opportunity and justice

Engineering innovation critical in solving numerous human crises.
CE 499 Class: engineering innovation with focus on human crises.

CE499 theme: Engineering Innovations for Refugee Camp Challenges
(support from Min Family Challenge, established in 2017).



Involved two trips to the Greek Island of Lesbos, which hosts two large refugee camps.



5 Designs Studied

WATERWAY

duet





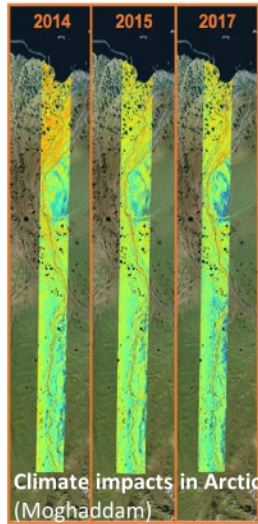
- Over 50 USC faculty work on areas within AI
- Studying AI for health, energy, sustainability, and privacy and security, and developing novel machine learning, machine vision, robotics, and natural language understanding methods
- Two MS in Computer Science programs available – Data Science or Intelligent Robotics

For more information & news - <https://ai.usc.edu/>



- Viterbi internal center incubators (VICIs)
 - seeded via a competitive proposal process administered by the Vice Dean for Research
- Research incentives to faculty
 - Discretionary return on GRA support
 - Discretionary return on externally funded AY salary
- Various other forms of support
 - Administrative help
 - Teaching relief
 - Discretionary funds for travel, tools, etc.
- Center-level proposal manager
 - Support for coordinating teams, managing timelines and budgets, contributing to content and editorial functions, etc.
- Corporate Council
 - New entity established to coordinate all corporate-related activities across school

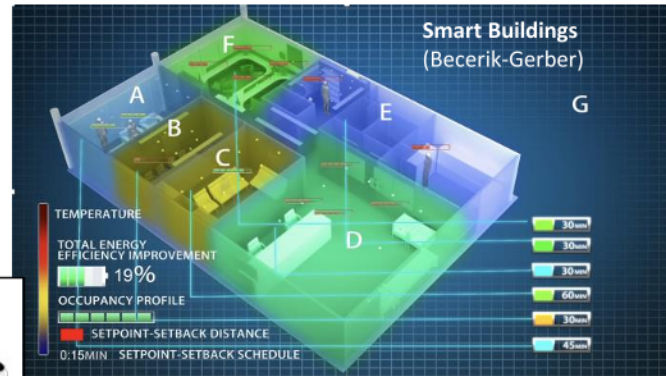
USC Center for Sustainability Solutions



0.25 0.45 0.65
Depth to permafrost (m)

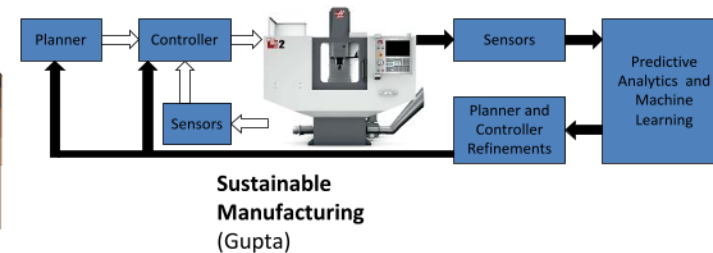
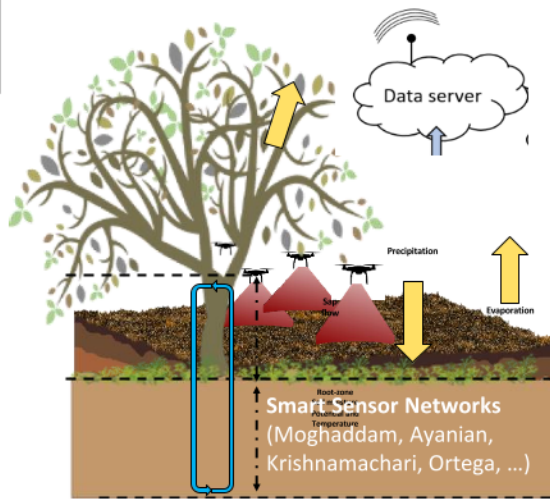
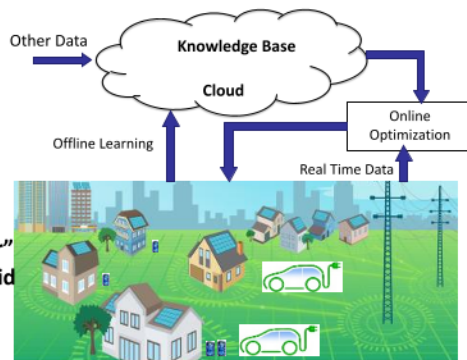
Thermally Regulating Paint (Povinelli)

(Povinelli)



Viterbi is a hub of exponentially advancing technologies for sustainability

- Remote sensing of environment
- Sustainable water services
- Sustainable agriculture
- Ultra-efficient electronics
- Autonomous vehicles
- Smart buildings
- Carbon capture and storage
- Sustainable manufacturing
- Resilient infrastructure
- Smart energy grid
- Smart materials
-and many more





BICOASTAL PRESENCE



Marina Del Rey, CA



Arlington, VA



Boston, MA

FOUR GENERATIONS OF LEADERSHIP



Keith Uncapher –
Founding ISI Director



Herbert Schorr



Prem Natarajan
(On leave)



Craig Knoblock
(Interim Director)



ISI-LED PROJECTS RECEIVING MAJOR GOVERNMENT FUNDING IN UFY19

\$12.7M

USC FaceBase III: Craniofacial Development and Dysmorphology Data Management and Integration Hub

\$5M

Accurate and Precise Recognition of Obscured Payloads in Operational Systems

\$3.8M

PIRANHA: Preventing Information Removal and Nabbing Harmful Actors

\$3M

NSF Cyberinfrastructure Center of Excellence Pilot Study

SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

\$111.5M

FY19 revenue – a new record for research support

23

Government funding sources and corporations

52

New employees in 2018

39

New employees Jan – Aug 2019

93

Graduate Research Assistant (PhD students)

170

Overall publications

70

Publications in journals or books

23

Government funding sources and corporations



Informatics Systems Research

- Informatics cyberinfrastructure
- Medical Informatics

MOSIS

- Multi-project wafers
- Chip fabrication brokerage
- Trusted electronics

Computer Networks and Cyber Security

- Cyber security
- Cyber-physical systems
- Internet measurement
- Sensor nets
- Experimental Research Methodologies

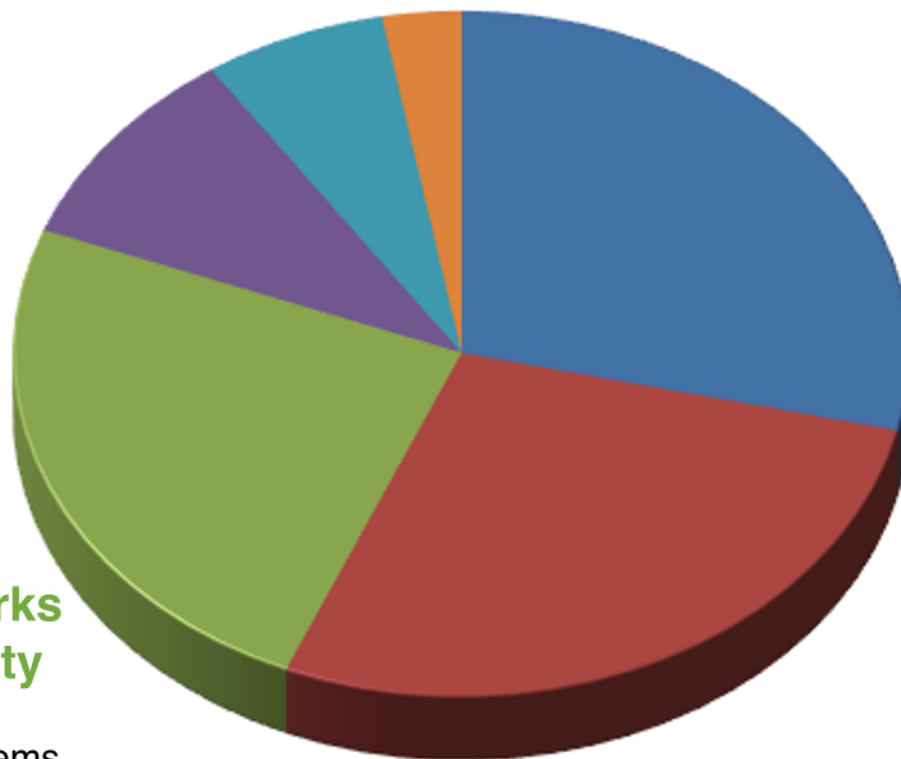
Emerging and Other Areas

High Performance and Quantum Computing and Electronics

- Secure, robust, and trusted electronics
- Heterogeneous and cloud computing
- High performance computing architectures and software
- Science automation technologies
- Reconfigurable computing
- Quantum computing

Artificial Intelligence

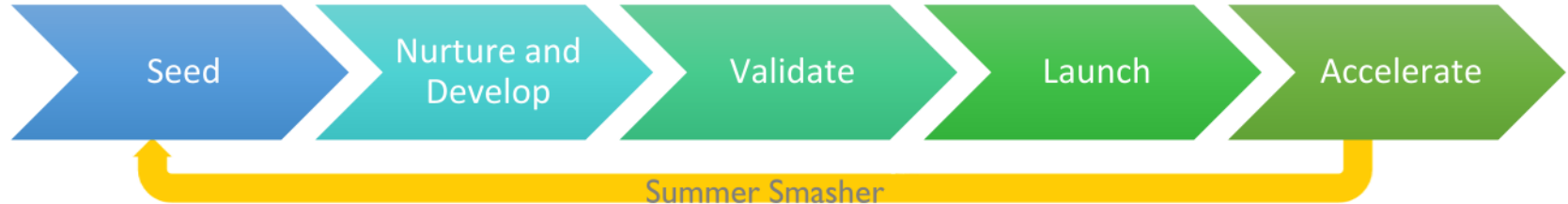
- Machine learning
- Natural Language Processing
- Information extraction
- Social networks, analysis & dynamics
- Bioinformatics
- Knowledge graphs
- Knowledge capture





Southern California is the geographic region in the nation with the largest number of engineering and computer science graduates. ***Southern California*** produces more tech PhDs per year than any other region in the US.





- VSEE: entrepreneurial mindset in Freshman Academy
- ENGR 461, ISE 585, H4D, and other courses
- Summer Smasher: immersive experience with start-ups
- Info Sessions
- TIE Summer Program

- Hackathons
- Competitions (MEPC, MFC, ABC Prize, NAE GCSP)
- Mousetrap Fund
- Engineering Honors Program – Innovation Track
- Networking Mixers
- Office Hours

- NSF I-Corps Programing (ZAP, BOOM, LAUNCH, BLITZ, National I-Corps)

- Synchrotron accelerator program
- Technology Scouting Workshop

- Full-time residency at the Viterbi Start-up Garage
- Viterbi Venture Fund

Diversity and Inclusion across all activities



- › Maseeh Entrepreneurship Prize Competition
 - » Several ventures launched by winners and top-placed teams (Abtum, Aescula Tech, Embark, InBrace, Second Spectrum)
 - » Celebrating its 10th year
- › Min Family Challenge
 - » 2019 Challenge: Health challenges in the air and water in our low-income communities: Engineering solutions needed for a sustainable future for all
- › Undergraduate ABC (atoms, bits, and cells) prizes to be offered
- › New Amazon partnership at Viterbi Startup Garage for ventures in voice-enabled applications
- › All freshmen see engineering entrepreneurship in Freshman Academy
- › New Engineering Honors Program – Innovation Track

Innovation Node- Los Angeles: IN-LA

A collaboration between:



USC University of
Southern California

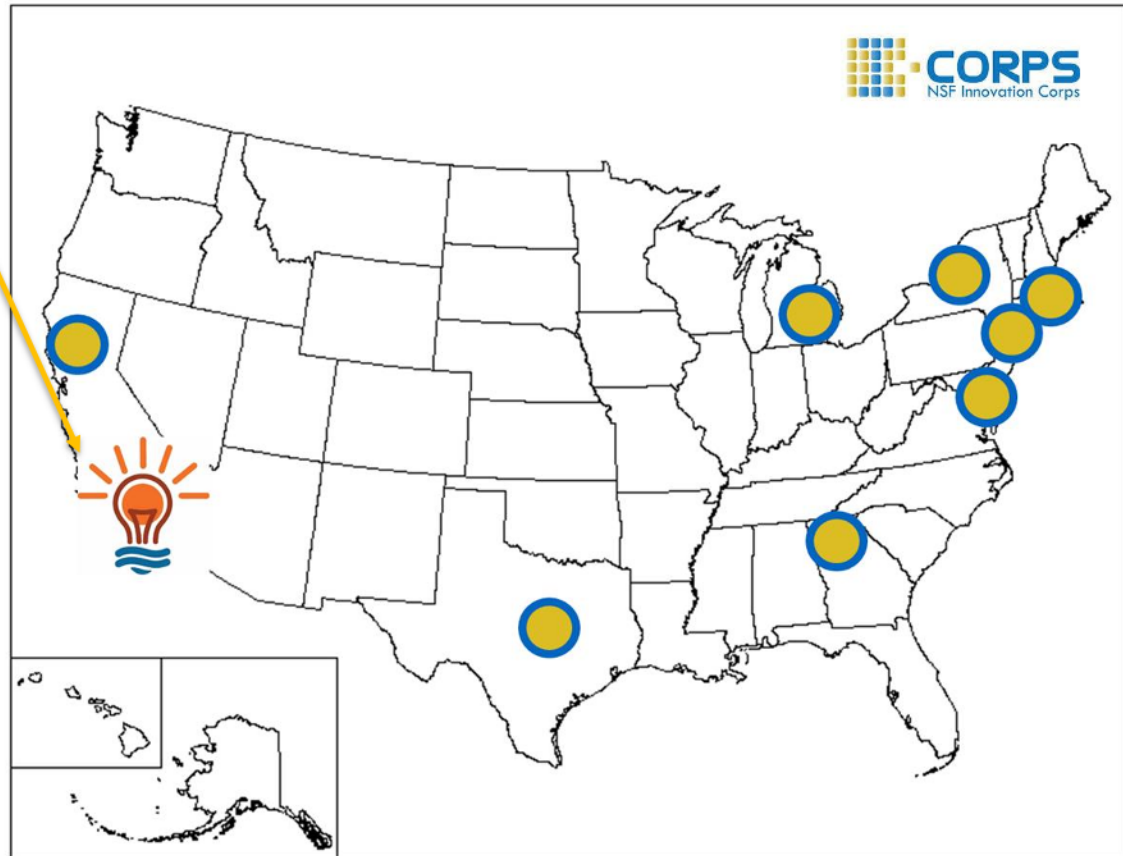
Caltech

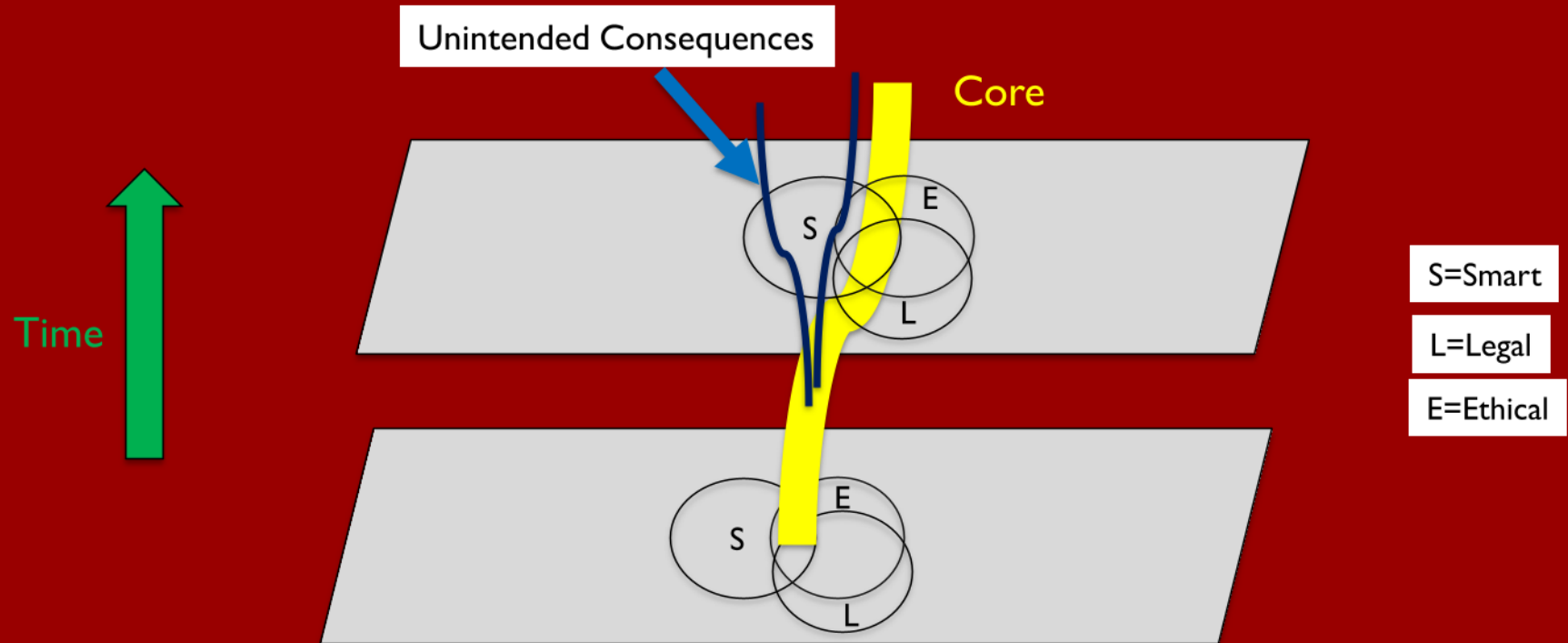
UCLA

15 members

500+ teams

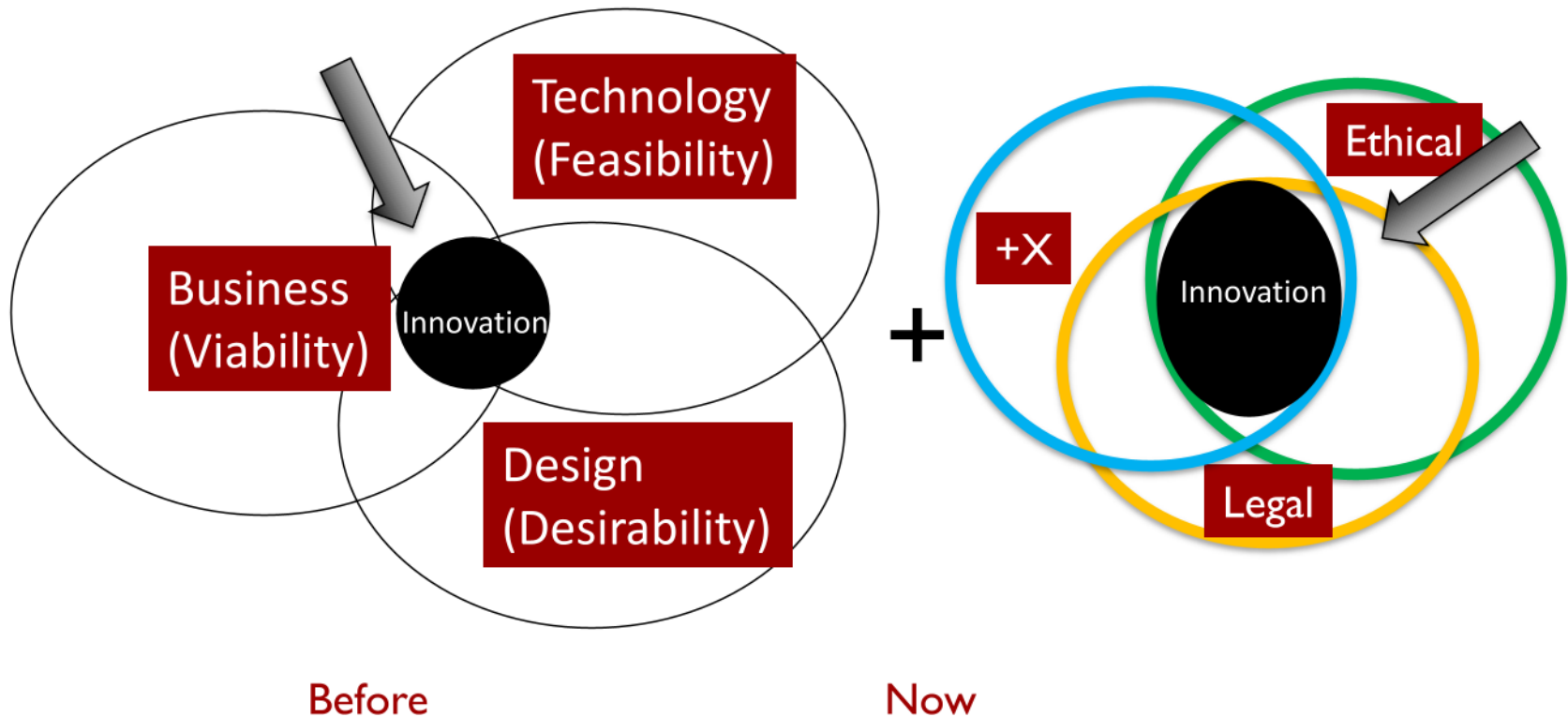
>\$100M raised







The changing societal demands on innovation





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\$500 MILLION GOAL

RAISED \$500.5M (100%)

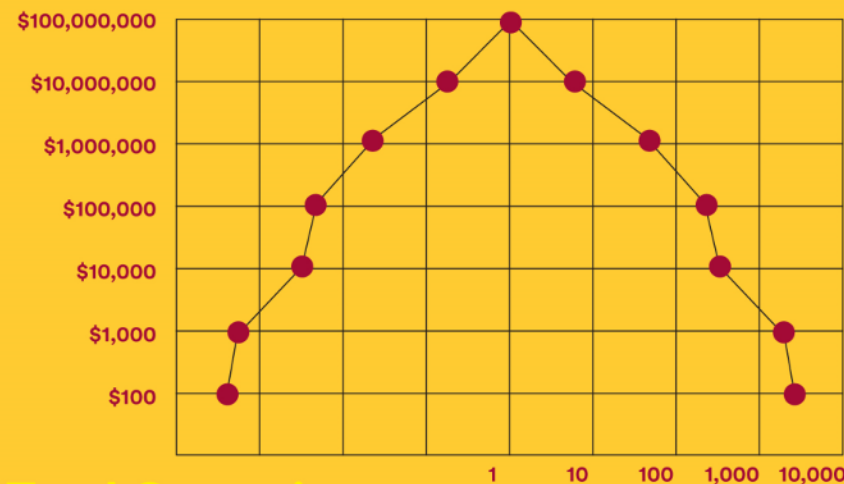
\$381M in cash

28% Individuals; 57% CFR

15% Parents

67 gifts of \$1M+ (\$329M)

Log Chart of Campaign Giving



Top Impact

- › John D. O'Brien Nanofabrication Lab
- › Computer Science Building
- › Baum Family Maker Space
- › Diversify Corporate Funding Sources



Viterbi Campaign Impact

- › New Infrastructure
- › New Centers
- › 19 New Endowed Chairs & Professorships
- › 59 New Endowed Scholarships & Fellowships
- › Program Rankings





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7. Successfully completed \$500M fundraising initiative
8. Maintained high rankings
9. Maintained robust enrollments and budget
10. Positioning for a new CS building



- › **Ranked 9:** All Graduate Programs
- › **Ranked Top 5:** Private University Engineering Schools (after MIT, Stanford, Cal Tech, CMU)
- › **Ranked 1:** Online (DEN@Viterbi) Graduate Computer Science Program (fifth consecutive year); Online Graduate Engineering for Veterans
- › **Tied- Ranked 2:** Online (DEN@Viterbi) Graduate Engineering Program
- › **The only engineering school with three top 10-rankings**
- › **Ranked 1:** Graduate Engineering Program with the Largest number of Women
- › **Ranked 1:** CS (Games) with Cinematics Arts Program (Princeton Review)



Rankings are Methodology-dependent

Media Highlights

MEDIA HIGHLIGHT

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

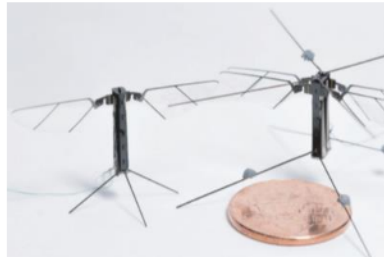
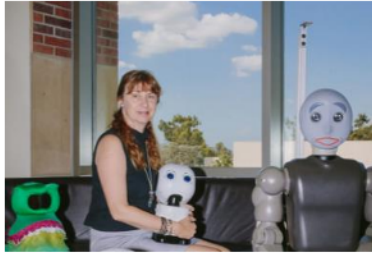
Is That Your Fingerprint or a Fake? This AI Can Tell



USC students work with refugees to engineer solutions for better camp life



How to Build Robots People Can Relate To



A tiny four-winged robotic insect flies more like the real thing

USC engineering students continue legacy of alum Neil Armstrong, set world record



The Washington Post

MIT Technology Review

Ten recent low-tech inventions that have changed the world



A sneaker that fixes itself? It could be coming soon. Scientists suggest Mars still has an active underground water system



WIRED



A Rocket Built by Students Reached Space for the First Time



1. Reached gender parity in Fall 2019 entering class (historic)
2. Rocket Propulsion Laboratory reached Space -and breaks student world record
3. Increased faculty ranks with four new NAE members
4. Leads Engineering Education transformation (GCSP in London Global Summit; Competence *and* Character)
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Undergraduate Program (1st Year)

📖 13,590 Applications

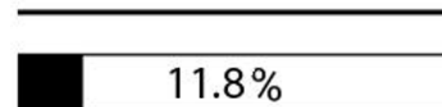
✓ 407 Enrolled



Masters Program

📖 14,269 Applications

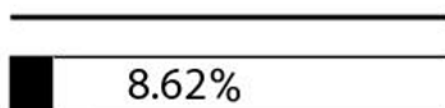
✓ 1,685 Enrolled



PhD Program

📖 2,750 Applications

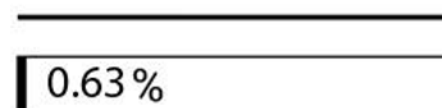
✓ 237 Enrolled



Faculty

📖 1,580 Applications

✓ 10 Hired





Partnerships (iPodia) with:

- Peking University
- Tsinghua University
- Technion Israel Institute of Technology
- Indian Institute of Sciences
- Technical University of Aachen
- University of Sao Paolo

Two overseas offices:

- Shanghai
- Bangalore

International boards:

- China/East Asia
- India

01 **LOS ANGELES, USA**
University of Southern California

02 **AACHEN, GERMANY**
RWTH Aachen University

03 **PATRAS, GREECE**
University of Patras

04 **TAIPEI, TAIWAN**
National Taiwan University

05 **BEIJING, CHINA**
Peking University

06 **DAEJEON, SOUTH KOREA**
Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology



07 **MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**
National Autonomous University of Mexico

08 **HAIFA, ISRAEL**
Technion - Israel Institute of Science and Technology

09 **BEIJING, CHINA**
Tsinghua University

10 **DOHA, QATAR**
Qatar University

11 **HYDERABAD, INDIA**
Birla Institute of Science and Technology



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~98,000 Gross SF
~77,900 Net SF

6 floors above ground + basement

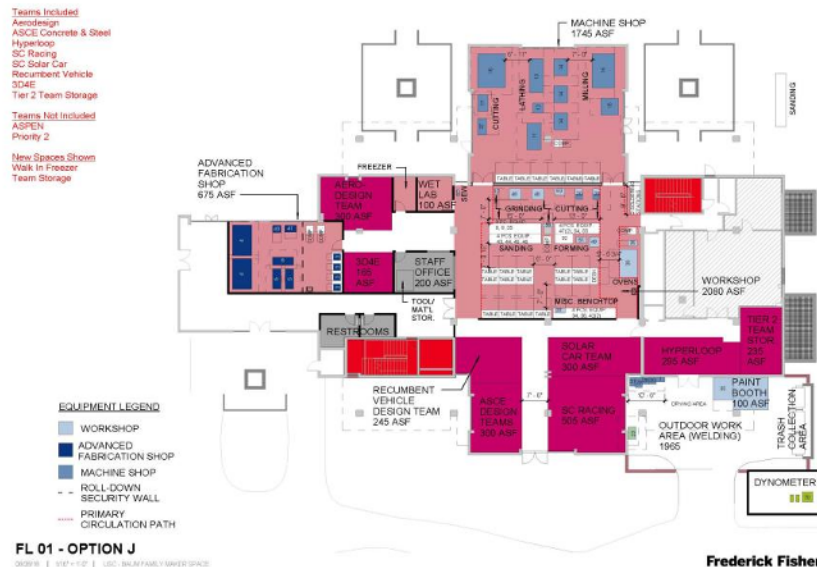
300 seat auditorium with adjacent
foyer/pre-function area



Phase 1 - ~8,000 SF
Undergraduate Student Facility

- Machine Shop
- Advanced Fabrication Shop
- Work Shop
- Student Team Spaces

Phase 2 - ~1000 SF – 2nd floor



- Freshman design/build experience and capstone design courses
- Space for most of our student design teams



Powerful and Convergent Technology Helps:

*Setting and Solving Humanity's Goals- and
Changing the Conversation about Engineering*

- Problems are inevitable
- All Problems are solvable

(From David Deutsch's book "The beginning of infinity")