1st Year Orientation
2016-2017

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Professor & Chair
ECE Department

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Welcome

Welcome to ...

The Edward S. Rogers Sr. Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

The purpose today is to

- Introduce you to people in our department
- Provide advice to help make your time here successful, rewarding, and exciting

Presentation slides are available online at

http://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/announcements
Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)

- is a very broad and expanding field
- is responsible for much dramatic change in the modern world
  - Technologies: chip technology, micro/nano-manufacturing, the PC, the internet, the world-wide web, online commerce, social media, the smartphone, mobile technology, connected devices, biomedical devices, neural implants, e-health, the whole IT revolution
- and, of course ...
ECE

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ECE

- **ECE** is also responsible for many recent global companies:
  - Facebook, Google, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, LinkedIn ...
- **ECE** will also participate in many more exciting things to come
  - IoT, Machine Learning, Autonomous Vehicles, Wearable Computing ...

Engineering can change the world
You are setting out on an exciting adventure!
Introductions
First Year Office

**Services:**
- Transition and Retention Programs
- Early Warning (mid-term performance feedback)
- Registration and Schedules
- Academic and Program Advising
- Counselling and Referrals

**Contact:**
- Jennifer Fabro, First Year Advisor
- Cori Hanson, Assistant Director,
  First Year Student Success & Transition
- Office Location: Galbraith (GB) building, Rm 170
- Email: firstyear@ecf.utoronto.ca
- Webpage: [http://firstyear.engineering.utoronto.ca](http://firstyear.engineering.utoronto.ca)
ECE Undergraduate Office Staff

Linda Espeut
Program Manager & Counsellor

Jayne Leake
Administrative Coordinator & Counsellor

Karen Irving
Student Advisor & Undergraduate Information Services

Mary Miceli
Student Advisor & Undergraduate Information Services
ECE Department Leadership Team

Myself: Professor Farid Najm  
Chair of ECE Department, room SF 1024

Professor Shahrokh Valaee  
Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies

Professor Frank Kschischang  
Associate Chair for Graduate Studies

Professor Ali Sheikholeslami  
Associate Chair for Research
Eight Useful Things to Know*

*To help you succeed at ECE/U of T
1. Manage Your Time Well

- Don’t get behind in your work, it builds up!

- Easier said than done:
  - Do important things first, Set priorities
  - Don’t get distracted!
    - Limit your time on social media
    - Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook ... they can wait
2. Get a Good Study Group

- It helps to have a group to discuss your work with
  - It is perfectly OK to get help from peers
  - Practicing engineers always work together

- However, it’s NOT OK to copy someone else’s work!
  - There is a fine line between group study and cheating/copying
    a. Study together to figure out the concepts and check your understanding
    b. Work individually to do your homework, project, assignments, etc.
  - Be very careful
    a. A first offense ends up on your record
    b. A second offense will get you suspended
  - Note: the copy-ee is equally guilty under U of T policy

- We expect you to act as honest, responsible adults
3a. Don’t Get Too Hung up on Marks

- Yes, marks are important
  - you’ll be judged for jobs and scholarships, in part on marks

- However, your future success will also depend on:
  - Your understanding of the material
  - How you put all the pieces together
  - If you can get the job done
  - How well you work with others
  - Your communication skills

- A common interview question: describe your projects!
... on Marks, cont’d

- **Engineering grades are likely lower than high school marks**
  - why? everyone here did well in high school

- **Sometimes, tests will have very low marks**
  - why? It can be hard to set a test at just the right level

- **Even if a test looks really hard, NEVER GIVE UP!**
  - everyone else is dealing with the same difficulty
  - if the marks come out too low, they will likely be adjusted in some manner at the end of the term, after all the marks are in
3b. Learning

- **You’re really here to learn, and ... to learn how to learn**
  - ECE and engineering will keep changing during your career
  - pick up here the skills required to continue learning in future

- **There is no such thing as a stupid question**
  - It is far worse not to ask a question than to risk looking silly
  - but of course, one is still afraid to ask
    a. asking a question does require some courage

- **Everyone around you may be just as “lost” as you are**
  - Asking questions is an essential part of learning
4. We’re Here To Help

- At some point, you may run into trouble
  - personal/family; academic; test anxiety

- The ECE Undergraduate office is in SF-B600
  - don’t hesitate to drop by and ask questions
  - we are happy to help

- Counselling available
  [http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc/workshops](http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc/workshops)
  - learning skills
  - exam anxiety workshops, and much more!

- Central Web site: [studentlife.utoronto.ca](http://studentlife.utoronto.ca)
5. Get Exercise – Stay Healthy

- You’re way better off, life-long, if:
  - you take an hour to get some daily exercise
  - pick some activity that you like
  - do it regularly!

- If you get frustrated, go work out
  - at Hart House
  - at the Athletic Centre
  - at your local park/centre/gym

- Athletic Centre runs many free programs
Many Sports & Activities

- **Badminton**, Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Curling, European Handball
- **Fencing**, Field Hockey & Indoor Hockey, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Hockey
- **Indoor Cricket**, Lacrosse, Mountain Biking, Nordic Skiing, Rowing, Running
- **Skating**, Soccer, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Track and Field
- **Triathlon**, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball, Wrestling
Many other Activities at UofT!

- This is a big place!
- There are many things happening here
  - Music, drama, dance, sports, clubs of all descriptions

Go to: ulife.utoronto.ca
6. Read Your Email from Us!!

- Important email from us goes to your UTORmail account (@mail.utoronto.ca)
  - You will get that email account information when you activate your TCard at the TCard office in Robarts Library
  - This is the only address where we will send you email

- You MUST read your email sent to this account
7. Proper Use of Computers

- The computers and networks that you will use here are U of T property.

- They come with certain rules, including:
  - You can’t use them to intentionally harass people.
  - You can’t use them to steal stuff.
    - downloading music/video/apps that you don’t have a right to is stealing.
    - in future, you may well hope to make a living selling things that can be downloaded – software, circuits etc.
8. *Never Trust a Computer*

- They can break at any time, deleting your project report, assignment, lab, etc.

**BACK UP YOUR COMPUTER!**

- On USB Memory Keys, DVD, CD
  - USB keys are cheap!

- On ECF Computer Systems
  - which are backed up themselves

- On some **cloud backup facility** – e.g., [dropbox.com](http://dropbox.com)
Understand Consent

Leslie Grife
Assistant Director, First Year Academic Services
First Year Office
Diversity at U of T Engineering

- **Engineering**
  - ~30% of incoming class are international students
  - ~39% of the incoming class is female
  - Mature students are enrolling in greater number
  - Scholarship programs are bringing students from typically underrepresented regions
  - English may be a second or third language

- **U of T**
  - There are nearly 2,500 students registered with Accessibility Services
  - U of T has 75 faith-based campus groups
  - There are students who are questioning their sexual and gender identities
  - Diversity is also reflected in terms of racial and cultural diversity
Harassment

• Engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome
• Harassment can manifest as a persistent conduct over a period of time or as a single significant incident

Sexual Harassment

• unwanted sexual attention or unwanted emphasis on your sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.
• any unwelcome pressure for sexual favours, any comments, gestures or other conduct which places an offensive focus on the sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression of another person, and any gender-based conduct that is directed at you and that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment for you
Consent

- Consent - As simple as tea  https://youtu.be/fGoWLWS4-kU

- Consent must be given, not taken.
  - Consent is the informed agreement to take part in intimate activity. If you want to be intimate with another person, it is your responsibility to ask first.

- It must be clear, verbal and voluntary.
  - Silence or the lack of resistance is not consent.
  - Someone who is coerced, intimidated, forced or threatened to take part in intimate activity has not consented.
Consent

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- It's needed every time.
  - Consent to one activity does not constitute consent to any other activity. It is required each time, regardless of previous intimate contact.
  - Consent can be withdrawn at any time.

- It can only be given while lucid and alert.
  - Someone who is asleep, unconscious or impaired cannot give consent.

- Any form of intimacy with another person without their consent is assault.
Options for Support

Confidential Personal Support
If you feel like you want to talk about the impact of discrimination, harassment, or sexual violence, whether you have experienced them personally or been affected by them in any way,

If you have experienced discrimination, harassment, or sexual violence, and you are seeking confidential information to determine your options and resources for support,

If you have experienced discrimination, harassment, or sexual violence, and you would like to initiate some form of investigation or adjudication,

In your Department:
The Office of the Registrar: Don MacMillan, Faculty Registrar
Other Options for Support

- Community Safety Office - 416-978-1485
  - The Community Safety Office responds to the personal safety concerns of members of the University of Toronto community. It provides:
    Support and assistance in cases of stalking, harassment, bullying, intimidation, threats, family or intimate-partner violence, sexual assault, workplace conflict and volatile behaviour or thoughts of suicide

- Sexual Harassment Office: 416-978-3908
  - The Sexual Harassment Office handles complaints of harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression at the University of Toronto.
Campus Resources

- Anti-Racism & Cultural Diversity Office – 416-978-1259
- Assault Counsellor/Educator – 416-978-0174
- Community Safety Office – 416-978-1485
- First Nations House – 416-978-8227
- Health & Wellness Centre – 416-978-8030
- Sexual Harassment Office – 416-978-3908
- Sexual & Gender Diversity Office – 416-946-5624
- WalkSmart – 416-978-7233
Other Resources

- Emergency:
  - Ambulance, Police, Fire – 911
  - Campus Police – 416-978-2222

- Community Resources:
  - Good 2 Talk Student Helpline – 1-866-925-5454
  - Toronto Distress Centre – 416-408-4357
  - Assaulted Womens Helpline – 416-863-0511
  - Toronto Rape Crisis Centre – 416-597-8808
  - Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Care Centre – 416-323-6040
Opportunities & Student Clubs

• ECE Club
• IEEE
• ILead
• ECE Ambassadors’ Program
Electrical and Computer Engineering Club

ECE Club
Sanford Fleming B640
Brandon Norberto – Computer Club Chair
Patrick Howell – Electrical Club Chair
What we do for you

- Liaison between ECE Students and Faculty
- Liaison between ECE Students and the Engineering Society
- ECE Common Room; SF B650
- ECE Study Hall; BA 1120
- ECE Mentorship
- ECE Dinner Dance
ECE Common Room and Study Hall

- **Common Room**
  - SF B650 – Right next to the Pit
  - Video games, foosball, couches and tables
  - Great for lunch, or for maxin' relaxin' actin' all cool

- **Study Hall**
  - BA 1120
  - Many large tables and couches
  - Large quiet space for studying alone or in groups
ECE Mentorship

- Pair up groups of first years with upper year Mentors to help you get the most out of Skule™
- Regular meet ups with your Mentors
- Open communication with your Mentors
- Regular events where all Mentors and Mentees can get together
- Mentorship directors:
  - Gaurav Kishore
  - Pankhuri Kaushik
ECE Dinner Dance

- Large Skule™ event at a hall where ECE students can get together and have a great time and help relieve the stresses of school
- Traditionally held the Friday before reading week
IEEE UofT

Signature Events

• Interview workshop
• Grad talks
• Industry tours
• IEEE Day
• Hardware hackathon
• Electronics certification workshops
IEEE UofT

Power Chapter

• Power/energy area seminars
• Power-computer hackathon
• Power case competition
• IEEEExtreme hackathon
• Web and mobile development workshops: Android dev workshop, HTML/CSS workshop, Git workshop, etc.
IEEE UofT
Follow us!

www.facebook.com/ieeeuuouoft
Sign up for our mailing list for events, recruitment, and more!
INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP EDUCATION IN ENGINEERING
ILead’s Vision

Engineers leading change to build a better world.
Leadership Labs
The Game
Become an ECE Ambassador Volunteer!
uoT.me/eceambassador
The Engineering Career Centre

- Services for students looking for jobs
- Formalized development process on how to get a job
- Supports interviews for
  - Summer co-op
  - PEY (Professional Experience Year)
  - Full-time jobs

www.ecc.utoronto.ca

- Presentation slides are available online at:
  http://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/announcements
Finally

- Four (or Five, with PEY) years from now:
  - You can look forward to graduation and Convocation
  - A delightful ceremony to celebrate your hard work and learning
Have a Great First Year!

http://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/announcements