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UD Helps Change "Male Image" of Engineering Profession

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DAYTON, Ohio, June 8, 1982 -- It is readily accepted that women have the innate intelligence, the curiosity, and the aptitude in math and science to succeed in an engineering career. Yet, the percentage of women entering the engineering profession is low. According to a recent engineering manpower survey, the main factor deterring women from entering this field is the "male image" of the profession. The University of Dayton School of Engineering, through a "Women In Engineering Seminar/Institute," is trying to change this image.

The program, held June 13 through 18, is for sophomore and junior high school women who express an interest in exploring the possibilities of a career in engineering or engineering technology. The seminar/institute will attempt to answer such questions as: "What does an engineer do?" "Where do engineers work?" and "What do students entering an engineering curriculum study?"

Activities scheduled for the week-long seminar include "hands on" experiments where participants can work with members of the UD School of Engineering faculty and the staff of the UD Research Institute; a "Day with Industry," where participants will spend the day at one of the industries co-sponsoring the program; an "Industry Roundtable," which will provide an opportunity to interact with several industries; recreational activities; and a Parents Banquet with Jean Hoppert, maintenance supervisor for M & M Mars in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, as guest speaker.

The Women in Engineering Seminar/Institute is being sponsored by the University of Dayton with assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy and area industries.