



**Transforming Culture in  
Engineering Education**

**News Release**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**ELATE (Executive Leadership in Academic Technology and Engineering) at Drexel University Honored with WEPAN Women in Engineering Initiative Award**

**Denver, Colorado, June 12, 2014** – Women in Engineering ProActive Network ([WEPAN](http://www.wepan.org)), presented its prestigious annual Women in Engineering Initiative Award to the ELATE (Executive Leadership in Academic Technology and Engineering) program at Drexel University, on June 11, at the WEPAN 2014 Change Leader Forum in Minneapolis, MN. The Women in Engineering Initiative Award recognizes an outstanding project or initiative that serves as a model for other organizations.

Initiated in 2012 as a national leadership development program, the Executive Leadership in Academic Technology and Engineering (ELATE at Drexel<sup>®</sup>) is designed to advance mid-career and senior women faculty to be effective institutional leaders. ELATE combines workshops, learning communities, career coaching and Institutional Action Projects to build skills in strategic finance, management, communication and leading institutional change. Deans and Provosts nominate and sponsor ELATE Fellows and attend final presentations and graduation demonstrating a clear commitment to advancing women's leadership and career development. ELATE is modeled after the 20 year old Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM<sup>®</sup>) program for women faculty of schools of medicine, dentistry and public health. ELATE's 29 graduates join a community of over 800 alumnae including associate/vice deans, deans, provosts, and vice presidents. With Fellows coming from large and small, public and private research universities, ELATE graduated 11 women in the first and 18 in the second class. Six graduates have already advanced their careers to higher administrative positions. With funding from the National Science Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the Henry Luce Foundation, ELATE draws on national experts, state-of-the-art and innovative curricula strategies and evaluation techniques to document program outcomes and long- and short-term fellow outcomes. ELATE graduates, through their Institutional Action Projects, impact their universities by enhancing women's recruitment and retention

of engineering women students, creating sustainable research centers and paving the way for a next generation of women leaders. Dr. Karan Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President of Texas A&M University wrote in her award nomination letter, "Dr. Diane Magrane, ELATE's founder and program director has a unique approach to leadership development that cuts through personal and professional inhibitions and builds confidence, information and skills that fundamentally transform women to be at the forefront of academic engineering for the next 20 years. The ELATE program is relatively young, but based upon lessons learned from its sister program, ELAM, this new initiative is leading the way of a much needed change in academic STEM leadership."

Dr. Diane Magrane, Executive Director of the ELATE Program, at the International Center for Executive Leadership in Academics at Drexel University accepted the award at the WEPAN 2014 Change Leader Forum in Minneapolis.

WEPAN awards serve to continuously raise the bar for extraordinary service, significant achievement, model programs, notable achievement in research, and exceptional work environments that augment the success of women engineers.

### **About the Women in Engineering ProActive Network (WEPAN)**

WEPAN is the nation's leading organization and catalyst for transforming culture in engineering education and the workforce to promote the inclusion and success of diverse communities of women.

WEPAN's 880 members are based in 140 engineering schools as well as corporations, government agencies and not-for-profit organizations. WEPAN's engineering school members reach 43,900 or 60% of U.S. women engineering students each year with a range of retention-focused programming. WEPAN Institutional Members average 15% higher enrollment of women in engineering than non-member schools.

**WEPAN's 2014 Change Leader Forum: Engineering a Culture that Drives Innovation**, the organization's flagship event, included opportunities for ideas, training, research and best practices—all focused on advancing women in engineering. This important conference for learning and engaging new and expert women in engineering advocates in dialogue was held June 9-11, 2014 in Minneapolis, MN: [WEPAN conference information](#).

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