

# BELONGING IN *ceat*

## with Julia Vanhooose



### Diversity and Inclusion Programs

Julia Vanhooose is a junior majoring in Electrical Engineering in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology (CEAT) at Oklahoma State University (OSU).

Julia was introduced to engineering at a young age by her grandfather who was an electronics engineer for the U.S. Navy. Her grandfather encouraged her and her twin brother to use technological resources to develop their problem-solving skills. Julia was intrigued by the engineering kits her grandfather often bought for her brother and this led to her pursuing an engineering career.



During Julia's senior year of high school she was recognized for a female computing award that was held at OSU. After the ceremony, a faculty member offered to give her a tour of the senior engineering labs. At a later date, Julia returned to OSU for a robotics competition and the same faculty member approached her. That experience made Julia feel that OSU CEAT was interested in her success and that finalized her decision to attend Oklahoma State University.

Julia expressed, that she loves her academic experience as a CEAT student. She has faced many challenges and stressful times due to the demanding curriculum, and long hours but the great experiences and wonderful friendships have made it all worth it.

Julia's grandfather, still inspires her today even though he has passed and her supportive family keeps her focused. The CEAT support she has received from faculty, staff, and peer tutoring have helped her stay the course of her electrical

engineering career. She expressed that her professors have been great role models and that she admires Professor Carisa Ramming because of her positive attitude and willingness to serve students. Julia said, that she looks to other women in engineering to learn from and then uses that knowledge to promote other women.

Julia is especially thankful for the financial support of CEAT and donors which allow her to focus on her studies and not worry about how to pay for her education.

Julia is active in a number of CEAT organizations such as the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE), and currently serves as the vice president of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Julia's sophomore year, she wanted to give back and chose to serve as a freshmen mentor called PEATEs (Parker Engineering, Architecture and Technology Experts) in Parker Hall living learning community.



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Julia's advice to anyone interested in pursuing an engineering degree is to stay on task. She says, its easier to comprehend material early as opposed to closer to the due date. She continued, don't be afraid of your professors they are more than happy to answer questions and be a guide through challenges you may face.

Julia believes inclusion is an active role everyone should be engaged in and that through interacting with a diverse group of people we welcome and embrace everyone as equal.

Julia Vanhooose belongings in CEAT because she is passionate about becoming an engineer.

*Belonging In CEAT is a Diversity and Inclusion publication that highlights academic experiences of students in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology at Oklahoma State University.*

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