Analysis of Incoming Student Survey

Fall 2017

LASER-TEC
CENTER FOR LASER & FIBER OPTICS EDUCATION

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INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE
Electronics Engineering Technology Department
Robotics and Photonics Institute
Introduction

The incoming student survey is conducted every time we start a new Robotics and Photonics Cohort. The purpose of the survey is to learn more about the students of the incoming class so that we can improve our services to them and also improve our marketing and outreach efforts.

This survey collects information and analyzes the following questions:

1. How did you hear about the Electronics Engineering Technology (EET) program?
2. Why did you choose to study EET at IRSC?
3. Are you currently employed?
4. Is your job related to the degree you are pursuing?
5. Which branch of electronics do you prefer to work in?
6. What industry sector would you like to work in after graduation?
7. Would you like help with internships and job search preparation?
8. Would you be interested in volunteering at IRSC EET events?
9. Would you be interested in joining our student chapter of SPIE or OSA?
10. How was your IRSC experience so far?

The survey was conducted on line, and a copy is provided in the following section. The results section follows with aggregated visual displays. The final section is the conclusion section with a summary of what has been learned from this incoming cohort of EET students.
Robotics & Photonics Student Survey

The purpose of this survey is to better understand your needs so that we can ensure you have the most positive experience here at IRSC.

* Required

How did you hear about the Electronics Engineering Technology (EET) Program? *
Please check all boxes that apply.
☐ College Fair
☐ IRSC Website
☐ High School Counselor
☐ Advisor at IRSC
☐ Brochure/flyer
☐ Other student
☐ Family/parent
☐ Other: ________________________________

Why did you choose to study EET at IRSC? *
☐ I like the career prospects
☐ I am interested in electronics/lasers/robotics
☐ I like the fact that it is hands-on
☐ It’s inexpensive
☐ Someone else suggested it
☐ Other: ________________________________

Are you currently employed? *
☐ Yes
☐ No

Is your job related to the degree you are pursuing? *
☐ Yes
☐ No

Which field do you prefer to work in? *
☐ Electronics
☐ Robotics
☐ Lasers and Photonics
☐ Fiber Optics / Telecommunications
☐ Solar Energy
☐ Other: ________________________________
What industry sector would you like to work in after graduation? *
Place a check mark next to your top three choices.
☐ Power, Water or Gas Utilities (Ex: FPL, St. Lucie fresh or waste water utility)
☐ Federal State or Local Government (Ex: Post Office, Aviation Administration, NASA, NSA, Turnpike Authority, St. Lucie County, Court houses)
☐ Manufacturing /Automation (Ex: Tropicana, Piper aircraft, Triumph Aircraft, Tamlite, Car manufacturers, Plane manufacturers, medical equipment manufacturers)
☐ Fiber Optics and Telecom (Ex: PCS, AT&T, Verizon, Corning, AFL)
☐ Electronic Systems Sales (Ex: Medical equipment, Laser systems, Telecommunication systems)
☐ Solar Energy (Ex: Solar City, Solar Energy Systems, FPL)
☐ Department of Defense Contractor (Ex: Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Harris Corporation)
☐ Entertainment (Ex: Disney World, Universal Studios, Hollywood studios, Television stations)
☐ Health Care [Ex: Hospitals, Medical equipment manufacturers (Awareness Technologies), Medical equipment installers (Remetronix), Medical equipment field service (GE Medical)]
☐ Research and Development (Ex: Lawrence Livermore National Labs, CREOL/UCF, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute)
☐ Semiconductor manufacturing (Ex: Laser Components, Infrared Associates, Intersil, Intel, Nvidia)
☐ Other: ____________________________

Would you like help with: *
Please check all boxes that apply.
☐ Finding internships
☐ Finding job opportunities
☐ Creating a resume
☐ Creating a LinkedIn account
☐ Job interview skills
☐ Other: ____________________________

Would you be interested in volunteering as a student ambassador to promote our program at IRSC events and open houses? *
☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes to the above question, please contact me at the following phone number:
Your answer ____________________________
Would you be interested in joining one of our student chapters? *
Benefits include attending conferences, receiving magazines, connecting with professionals in field, and so on.
☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes to the above question, please contact me at the following phone number:
Your answer______________________________________

How was your experience with IRSC so far? *
Please tell us about what you like and what you think we can do better.
Your answer______________________________________

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME
How did you hear about the Electronics Engineering Technology (EET) Program?

- IRSC Advisor: 19%
- College Fair: 8%
- IRSC Website: 27%
- Family/Parent: 15%
- Brochure/flyer: 8%
- Another Student: 11%
- Other (teacher, own research, online): 12%

Why did you choose to study EET at IRSC?

- Career Prospects: 9
- Interest in Electronics/Lasers/Robotics: 16
- Hands-On: 10
- It's Inexpensive: 7
- Someone Else Suggested It: 2
- Other: 1
Are you currently employed?

- Yes: 81%
- No: 19%

Is your job related to the degree you are pursuing?

- Yes: 19%
- No: 81%
Which field do you prefer to work in?

- **Electronics**: 38%
- **Robotics**: 22%
- **Lasers & Photonics**: 14%
- **Fiber Optics / Telecommunications**: 10%
- **Solar Energy**: 14%
- **Other: Self Sustainability**: 2%

![Bar chart showing number of responses for each industry sector.](chart.png)

What industry sector would you like to work in?

- Fiber Optics and Telecom: 2
- Department of Defense Contractor: 3
- Semiconductor manufacturing: 6
- Manufacturing /Automation: 8
- Research and Development: 4
- Power, Water or Gas Utilities: 8
- Solar Energy: 9
- Entertainment: 4
- Federal State or Local Government: 2
- Health Care, Medical Equipment installers & field service: 6
- Electronic Systems Sales: 4
What would you like help with?

- Finding Jobs: 18
- Finding Internships: 10
- Creating a Resume: 5
- Job Interview Skills: 5
- Creating a LinkedIn Account: 2

How was your experience with IRSC so far?

- Great: 46%
- Structured Scheduling: 11%
- Hands-On: 4%
- Affordable: 7%
- Negative Feedback: 14%
- Friendly Environment/Helpful Instructors: 18%
Conclusions

Here is what we have learned from the fall 2017 EET Robotics and Photonics incoming cohort:

1. Most of the students learned about our program from the IRSC website and IRSC advisors.
2. They chose to study EET at IRSC because they have an interest in Electronics, Lasers, and Robotics and because the program is hands on and has great career prospects.
3. 81% of our incoming students are employed in a non-electronics related job.
4. 38% of the students prefer to work in electronic system design and repair, 22% in robotics, 14% in laser and photonics, 10% fiber optics and telecommunications, and 14% in solar energy.
5. Most of the students would like to work in the solar energy, utilities, manufacturing automation, healthcare, or semiconductor manufacturing upon graduation.
6. Most of the students need help with finding jobs and internships, creating resume and interviewing skills.
7. Most of the students had a great and friendly experience with IRSC so far with 14% giving the following feedback we need to consider for program improvement:
   a. “My one discomfort has been with being the only girl in my year 1 EET program.”
   b. “Not great. I’ve had some ego led teachers. The store has spectacularly failed to provide my course required EET kit w/ multi-meter, and my own personal learning needs haven’t been met.”
   c. “Very challenging program.”