

# FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

UVic's Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science has established itself as a leader of education programs in Canada, making it possible to list the following achievements:

- Placed in the top 10 among Canada's 40+ engineering schools.
- Offers the greenest civil engineering program in the country.
- Created the first biomedical engineering program in Western Canada.
- Delivers the only accredited software engineering program in BC.
- 100+ faculty members teaching more than 3,000 students.

Over the last decade, the faculty has doubled its number of undergraduate students and continues to grow. To address the ongoing demand for engineering and computer science programs, UVic and the Province of BC announced last summer they are building a six-story extension to the existing Engineering and Computer Science Building. It will include instructional, research, and computer labs, first-year design studios, and more. An adjacent High-Bay Structures Research Lab is also planned, which will feature a three-story space equipped for the unique work of civil engineers.

Under its new dean, Mina Hoorfar, the faculty is in the process of developing its very first strategic plan, which will allow it to more effectively communicate its values and goals to internal and external audiences alike. As the faculty's first woman dean, encouraging equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) are at the top of Mina's list of priorities.

Mina feels much more can be done to improve the representation of diverse groups. Post-secondary institutions have had increasing success with proper representation in students and faculty members, but it doesn't come close to Mina's vision.

She is working on implementing an effective mentorship program for new faculty members from under-represented groups, and leading the faculty's 2030 Initiative. This initiative aligns with Engineers Canada's plan to raise the percentage of licensed woman engineers to 30 percent by the year 2030.



Mina Hoorfar -Dean of Engineering and Computer Science.

The 2030 Initiative looks to support women and non-binary students through all stages of their careers, including before joining the faculty, during their time as students, and after they graduate. This support will be possible by building girls-only outreach programming, supporting women students in faculty through awards and mentorship programs, and providing targeted career services and sponsorship when women students are preparing to transition into the workforce.

