

Oct. 12, 2019

SASE National Conference 2019

By: Madison Pisone

Have you ever wondered what it's like to see a bunch of people go crazy over jobs at a nationally recognized event?

After stumbling downtown with my Uber driver, I arrived late to the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) National Conference at the David Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA. I decided to attend the Career Fair that they were hosting on Saturday, October 12. This was my first time attending the event and it was by far the largest gathering of Asian Americans that I have been to. Seeing the support, love, and trust being promoted by and for the Asian community was astounding.

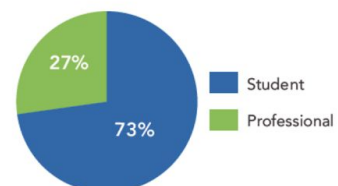
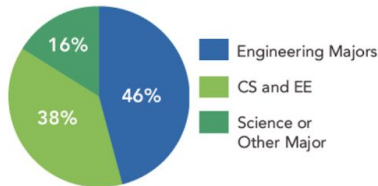
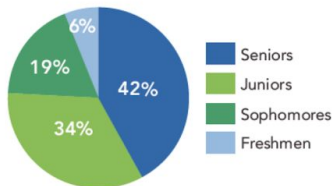
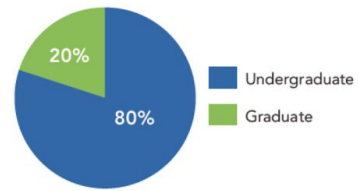
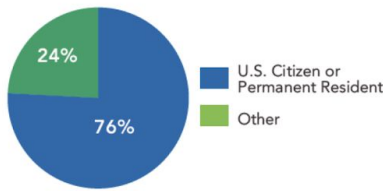
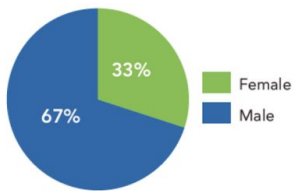
Many times folks of Asian descent will be overlooked in the workplace. By this I mean that Asian Americans are trusted to do their job and only their job as few Asian Americans get promoted to managerial and corporate jobs. We excel in the workplace as Engineers but there is a significant drop-off when you graduate up the corporate ladder. There is not enough representation of Asian Americans amongst the corporate and managerial ranks.

This National Conference straight up acknowledged this fact and worked to help provide a toolbox for the next generation. In the days leading up to the Career Fair, many events, speakers, and workshops were held to guide and support Asians in the workplace. It also allowed many students to make vital connections with recruiters and professionals. Considering that networking is something that Asians get overlooked for, these events were very useful. The impact this conference had on its attendees was priceless. See the infographic below for details on the attendees from last years conference. This infographic details the size and range of the audience affected.

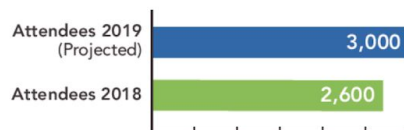
2018 Conference and STEM Career Fair Attendee Profiles and Data:

2,600 Total Attendees

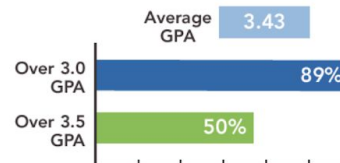
128 Universities Represented



**Conference and
STEM Career Fair**



**Conference and
STEM Career Fair attendees
have great GPAs!**



Overall, this conference developed a positive community for Asian Americans, and other ethnicities in STEM related fields. Who knew that such an event could be SO impactful? As I wrap this up, I just want to emphasize how important it is to celebrate minorities, to celebrate our differences, and most importantly to celebrate each other. Moving forward, I'd love to see and attend the continuation of this event, but I'd also like to see the creation of new events like the 2019 SASE National Conference.