

SERU/UCUES Research Symposium

A New Generation of University Students: Understanding the Student Experience and Seeking Opportunities to Translate Analysis into Practice

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ABSTRACT

***Gender Differences in Self-Identification with Peers in Their Academic Major
Among STEM Students at the University of California***

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This study aims to explore women's continued under-representation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) majors and careers in spite of higher postsecondary educational enrollment when compared to their male peers. Analyses will use University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES) data from 2006 to examine gender differences in self-identification with peers in their academic major among STEM students. Investigating the relationship between environments - academic or social - and institutional structures across STEM majors adds to our understanding of why women leave STEM majors and can suggest ways to increase retention of these women.