

Women in STEM: A Digital Oral History Project

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Salmon Library & Departments of Theatre & Engineering Technology

Overview

- Women comprise the major of college students, however they make up a minority of students in STEM majors.

UAH Women to Men Student Ratio

42% vs 58%

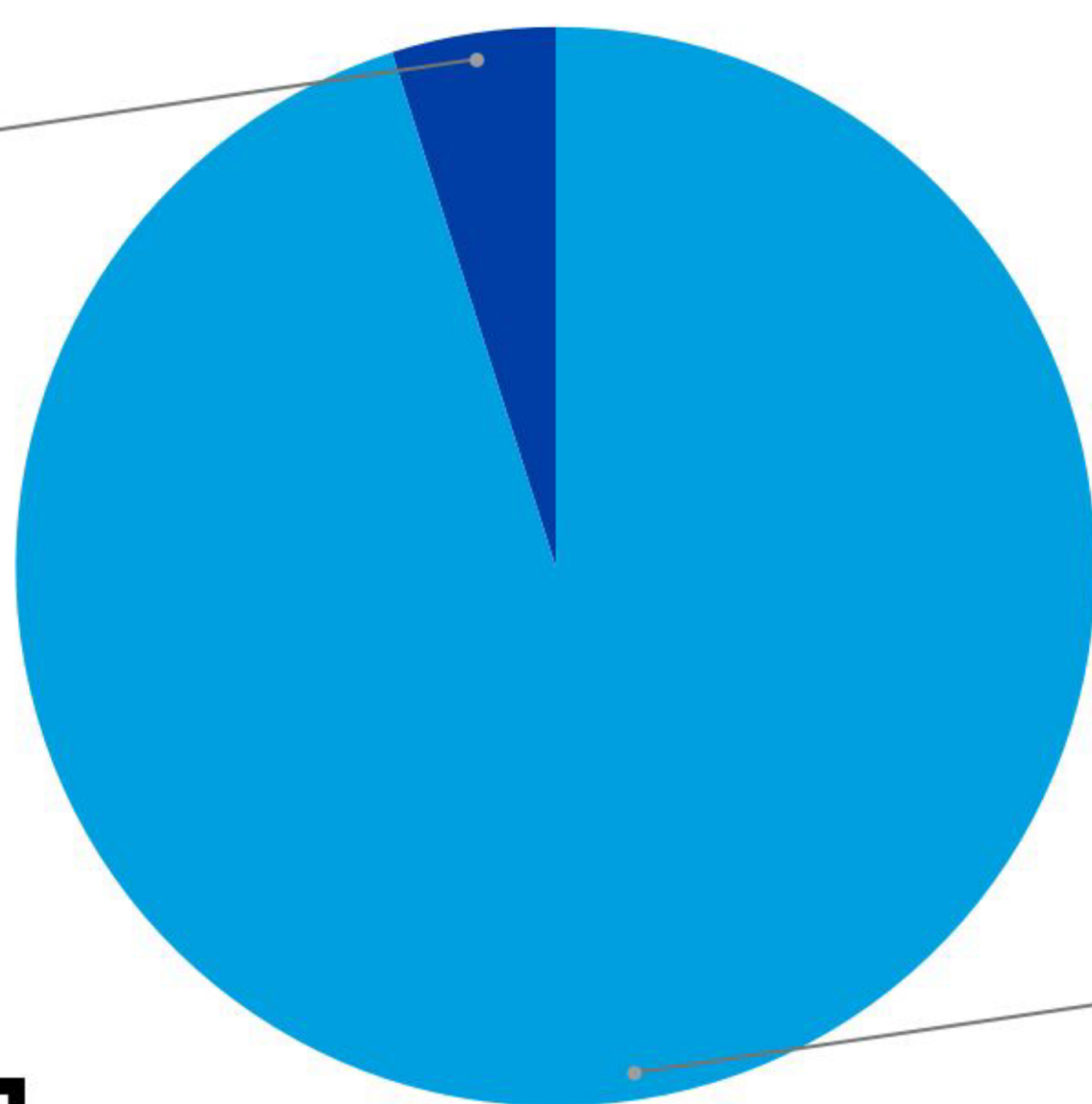
- Women in STEM professions are also underrepresented in archival documentation about their experiences.

Case Study: UAH Oral History Archives

- Out of 163 oral history interviews in the UAH collections...

Men to Women Ratio in UAH's Oral History Collection

Women
4.9%



Men

95.1%



QR Code to the interviews

References

1. Kelsey M. Irvin, et al. "Oral Histories of Distinguished Female Leaders: Inspiring the Next Generation of Young People in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)", 2014 ASEE Annual Conference & Exposition, June 15, 2014
2. Jordana Hoegh & Alice L. Pawley, "Modeling the Career Pathways of Women STEM Faculty through Oral Histories and Participatory Research Methods," Paper presented at the 2010 ASEE Annual Conference in Louisville, KY. June 23, 2010.
3. Allen, Beverly B., Fawn-Amber Montoya, and José Antonio Arturo Ortega. *Practicing Oral History to Connect University to Community*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2019.

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Process



- Women of different professions, experiences, and time in the field were chosen.
- Questions asked covered topics like:
 - Early Childhood interests
 - Research Experience
 - Work Experience
 - Advice for women interested in STEM

Explanation/Conceptual Framework

- Oral histories are a technique used to collect stories of individuals and make them a part of historical records.
- Projects like "Oral Histories of Distinguished Female Leaders" used oral histories to inspire the future generation of women in STEM.

Impact

- People will have permanent access to the interviews in UAH's digital archives to hear the experiences of women today.
- This study demonstrates the need for the future inclusion of all voices in oral history collections, and encourages other similar projects