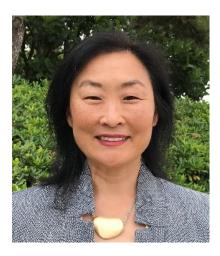


## Dr. Jinny Rhee Dean, CSULB College of Engineering



Dr. Jinny Rhee joined the CSULB College of Engineering as Dean in July 2021, bringing to The Beach years of experience developing innovative student success and faculty-development programs and forging strong relationships with industry leaders, alumni, and community partners.

Dr. Rhee comes to CSULB from San Jose State University, where, as Associate Dean of the Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering, she led programs that raised graduation rates, increased faculty and student diversity, improved academic advising, and pioneered staff and faculty workshops on antiracism and microaggressions.

As Associate Dean, Dr. Rhee led college-wide initiatives and assisted with strategic planning and fostering a positive, inclusive, and collaborative college culture. She managed undergraduate enrollment and impaction planning, admissions policies, engagement and retention efforts, and accreditation and undergraduate curriculum and program planning.

Dr. Rhee administered the \$1.8 million Silicon Valley Engineering Scholarship program, and was involved in over \$9.2 million in philanthropy to the SJSU College of Engineering and its affiliated programs, engaging corporate, alumni, and community partners.

She developed Engineering Programs in Community Service (EPICS @SJSU) to attract underrepresented minorities and women to engineering and tech and helped initiate the Industrial Technology Network Security Apprenticeship Program with Cisco Systems.

Nonprofit partnerships for EPICS were developed with Gilroy Compassion Center, San Jose Tech Museum, South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition, and the California Native Garden Foundation. Student EPICS teams have designed and built a mobile wash station and smart lockers for the homeless, an underwater drone for creek cleanup and wildlife identification, passive water purification for urban farms, and educational aquaponics exhibits, among other projects.

A champion of increasing gender diversity in engineering, Dr. Rhee in 2015 oversaw the creation of SJSU's Annual Silicon Valley Women in Engineering Conference, which has generated over \$600,000 in sponsorships to date. During Dr. Rhee's tenure as Associate Dean, the percentage of tenured women faculty increased to 23 percent in 2020, up from 18 percent in 2014, and the proportion of probationary women faculty increased to 40 percent in 2020, up from 27 percent in 2014. The number of female undergraduate students also increased from 14.8 percent in 2014 to the national average of 20 percent in 2020.

Six-year graduation rates for first-time freshmen increased from 47 percent in 2014 to 62 percent in 2020, and three-year graduation rates for transfer students from 49 percent in 2015 to 67 percent in 2020.

As Associate Dean, Dr. Rhee also improved retention of MESA participants, provided support to diversity student clubs, and worked to address bottlenecks to structural inequities in the calculus placement process.

Dr. Rhee joined SJSU as an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering in 2002 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2008 and Professor in 2013. Prior to being named Associate Dean, she served as Director of Assessment from 2013-14 in the SJSU College of Engineering's Office of Undergraduate Studies.

Dr. Rhee received her B.S. ('89), M.S. ('90), and Ph.D. ('95) degrees, all in mechanical engineering, from Stanford University. Her research interests include renewable energy, thermal management and student success strategies, particularly for engineering and STEM majors. She is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles on engineering education, student success, and mechanical engineering.

Dr. Rhee is a member of the EPICS Consortium Institution, California Engineering Liaison Council (CAELC), American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE), American Society of Mechanical Engineering (ASME), and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). She was the recipient of the SJSU College of Engineering's 2013 Applied Materials Teaching Excellence Award, and from 1995-2002.

You can follow her on Twitter @DeanRheeCSULB.