

Title: The World of Color: Seeing the Relationship Between Quantum Theory and Colors of Nature

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This paper seeks to illustrate the problematic nature of an attempt to close the gender gap in STEM through an augmented point system by highlighting the ignored causations of the gap. In the pursuit to minimize the discrepancy between male and female students of its engineering program, the University of Technology, Sydney in Australia received approval in 2019 to begin the process of awarding female applicants to its engineering program with ten more admission points than men, and is the first university to do so. Furthermore, it is notable that Australia's STEM workforce is highly fragmented with respect to gender, as, specifically, 12% of the nation's engineers are female (www.engineeraustralia.org). In the university's execution of its current strategy to deescalate the gap, the institution is attempting to fix a complex problem through a numerical method which falls short of creating an educational space which can allow for a future with more female STEM workers. Although the university will be able to guarantee an equal amount of men and women within its engineering program, it does not address the primary causations of the gap which will likely prevail and undermine the university's attempt at reaching equality, because the limiting prejudices which inform individuals about what a student of STEM ought to look like or act like will likely still be vigorous within the university's engineering program. In order to close the gender gap in a more enduring way, this paper proposes a strategy which focuses upon the discourse surrounding STEM.

Works Cited

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