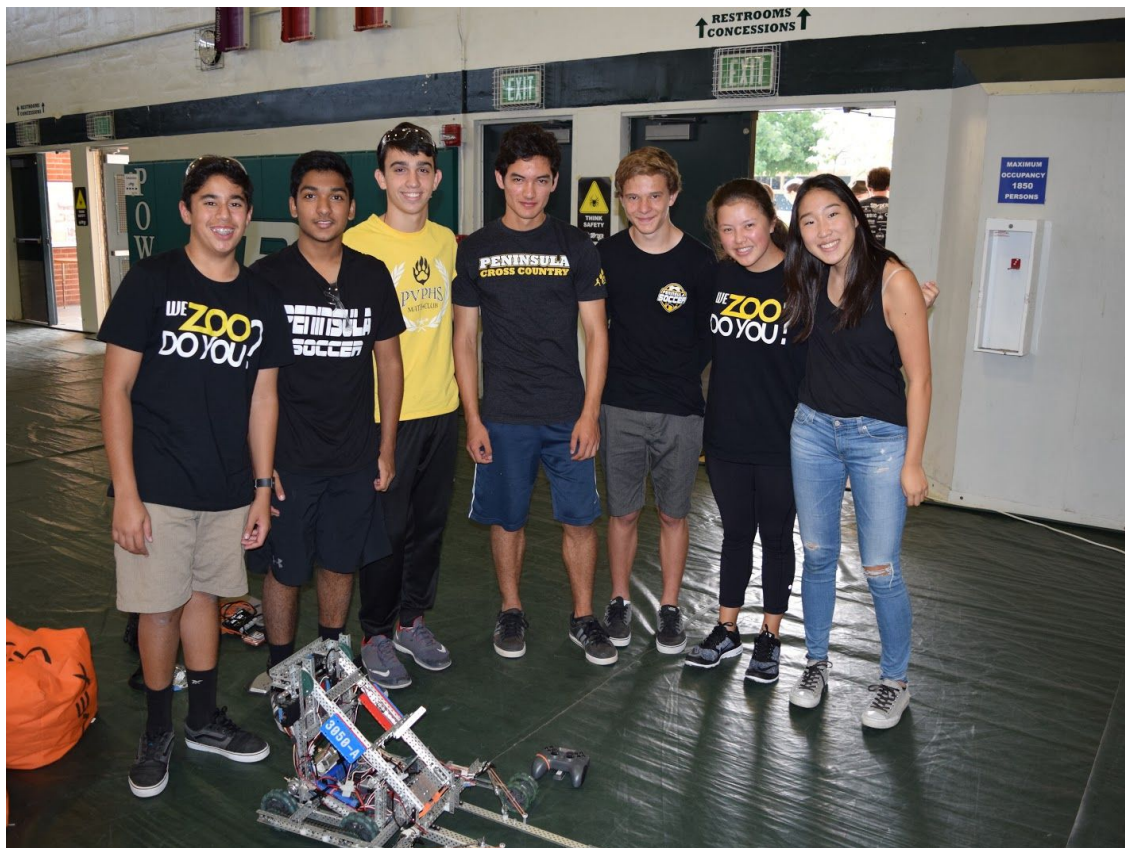


# THE UNDERREPRESENTATION OF WOMEN

*In engineering*





3050A with one other male member absent

# Hello!

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Locally, I'm currently in a team with mainly boys; therefore, me and my other female teammate are massively outnumbered. The 1:3 ratio of girls to boys causes difficulty at times to get our points across, but we've been making progress so far.

I had been tasked with being the lead for the design team. The team had shaky beginnings since none of us had competed in VEX before. In the end, it was apparent that the team respected everyone regardless of race, gender, or religion. We were placed on this team not to pick fights, but to win.



## EXPERIENCE

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At tournaments, I personally faced some challenges. It is obvious that mostly boys attend these VEX competitions. For instance, I have noticed teams of twenty guys huddled around a table in coordinating t-shirts. Not a single girl was on that team, or even their sister-teams. Scouting around for possible alliances is even more of a nightmare. At times, some guys think I'm a sister of one of their competitors.

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## END NOTE

For this reason, whenever our team wins an award, the moment we stand to shake the judges' hands and collect the plaque, I smile with conviction that despite our limited numbers, girls are just as capable as boys to compete.