Marie-Elena Reyes

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Marie-Elena Reyes is the President and Founder of the Frida Kahlo Institute for Women at the Borderlands (FKI) a non-profit dedicated to research, programs, and advocacy for the education of Latinas and American Indian girls and women of the Borderlands. Reyes currently also serves as an expert for the Engineering Equity Extension Service (EEES) an NSF grant to the National Academy of Engineering, providing consulting on gender research, faculty and staff development with respect to best practices in gender equitable engineering education.

Reyes' past work focused on developing outreach programs and research on the Women in Science and Engineering Program (WISE) at the University of Arizona to increase the participation of women from underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering, and math careers while researching methods for infusing science education with gender and multicultural perspectives. Reyes served as an Assistant Research Scientist with the Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW) for six years, specifically working on research and outreach programs for the Women in Science and Engineering Program (WISE). Reyes was the director of the *Frontera Grrls@* Clubs project which created computer clubs for middle-school girls in Latino, American Indian, and African American communities. Reyes was the Principal Investigator of the National Science Foundation *Futurebound Program* from 2001-2005, a recruitment and retention program for women of color in science and engineering fields, transferring from Pima Community College to the University of Arizona.

Reyes was the Project Evaluator for Girls in the SYSTEM (Sustaining Youth in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) an NSF-funded project that brought science, technology, engineering, and math activities to girls in grades 3 - 8, especially underserved and economically underprivileged in Tucson, Arizona. The project was a collaboration of WISE, science, math, and engineering faculty from the University of Arizona and the Sahuaro Council of Girl Scouts. The project engaged children in the use of challenging, hands-on STEM activities that support and expand their abilities of scientific investigation and technological problem solving. Additionally the project delivered STEM workshops for in-service and preservice teachers and parents.

Reyes has served on the Executive Board for the Women in Engineering Programs Advocates Network (WEPAN), the Committee for Diversity with Sigma Xi Scientific Honorary Society, the Diversity Task Force of Millennium Report Oversight Committee at the University Of Arizona, and was a 2003 fellow with the National Hispana Leadership Institute.