Have You Heard of SHPE? | College of Engineering

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Published in Utah State Engineer— Oct. 25 2018 —The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers is quickly becoming one of Utah State University’s most active student organizations.

Jorge Espinoza, Professor Idalis Villanueva, Lucy Campos and Paula Munoz participated in the 2017 national SHPE conference in Kansas City, Mo.

Members get career development and service opportunities, learn leadership skills and connect with top industry leaders to find meaningful engineering careers and internships.

SHPE’s mission at USU is to change the lives of its members by empowering the Hispanic and Latino community to realize its fullest potential and to impact the world through STEM awareness, access, support and development.

Faculty advisor, professor Idalis Villanueva, says SHPE offers a two-fold mission which benefits both student members and residents in the local community.

SHPE offers students a mix of activities and events throughout the year.

“We communicate with the Hispanic community culturally and linguistically to discuss the importance of engineering careers,” said Villanueva. “We support parents and students in college admission procedures, and we motivate children to pursue engineering or STEM careers through our continual presence in their lives.”

SHPE leaders envision a world in which Hispanics are highly valued as influential innovators, scientists, mathematicians and engineers.

SHPE has an active outreach mission. Each year student members organize several events for grade school students. Events include Science and Engineering Day for 4th-8th graders, the Science Unwrapped lecture series and the Cache Makers engineering and design workshop for kids ages 6-12.