Score for Intellectual Merit Criterion

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit
Very Good

Explanation to Applicant
The applicant has excellent leadership, organizational, teamwork and research abilities. There is a clear discussion of the fit between the research project proposed and the school/group chosen for graduate school. The application has a limited discussion of publications or presentations resulting from the applicant’s research experience. The applicant’s record of publication needs to be improved. The personal statement is well written and compelling. The research plan is well organized and credible.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts
Excellent

Explanation to Applicant
The past involvement of the applicant in integrating research and education and encouraging diversity is excellent and well discussed. There are clear plans to continue such activities. The impact on society of the proposed research activity is important and well discussed. There is an excellent discussion of how the research conducted will be disseminated.
Score for Intellectual Merit Criterion

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit

Very Good

Explanation to Applicant

The applicant has been involved with both independent and group research projects, which have not been communicated effectively, but has resulted in one publication, that is not listed or described, nor is the publication journal noted. Her ability to plan and conduct research is evident through her previous projects, which were conducted in a team and independently.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts

Excellent

Explanation to Applicant

The applicant has promoted diversity through hosting the Society of Women Engineers and encouraging women to pursue engineering careers, volunteering at Cal Day, also promoting women to become engineers. She has served as a tutor and exposes undergraduates to topics as an example of integrating research with education at all levels. Her previous research has not been communicated to a larger audience, but does note that her group’s research results have been published. The applicant intends to benefit society through reducing emissions that are produced from automotive engines and reducing fuel consumption. Even though she lacks in producing publications, she intends on publishing in peer-reviewed journals.
Score for Intellectual Merit Criterion

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit

Very Good

Explanation to Applicant

This applicant has clearly demonstrated the ability to plan and conduct research, both independently and as a member of a team. There is an in-depth research plan which the applicant appears well-qualified by her prior experiences to conduct. The application addresses how the past and proposed research advance knowledge and understanding in the selected and related fields. The applicant discusses how the selected graduate institution supports the proposed research, although this portion of the application could be strengthened. The application would also significantly benefit from evidence of publications, posters, reports and presentations which demonstrate the ability to interpret and communicate research findings to a broader audience.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts

Good

Explanation to Applicant

The application outlines several previous and current contributions which integrate research and education for broader audiences. The application could be strengthened by evidence in the form of publications, posters, presentations and reports of the ability to communicate the findings and methods of research to larger audiences. More robust and focused plans to both broaden opportunities and to integrate research and education related to the proposed research would also lend merit to the application.