

# Is technology just men's thing?

Extended Abstract<sup>†</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

Gender inequality in Information Technology (IT) was made evident at the beginning of 2000 and it continues to be a relevant problem today. This phenomenon is reflected by the number of women enrolled in IT degrees at the University of Seville (US) and highlights the need to carry out more actions to promote sensitization, visualization and empowerment of women in technology.

## CCS CONCEPTS

• **Social and professional topics** → **Computing education**; *Computing education programs* • **Social and professional topics** → **User characteristics**; *Gender*

## KEYWORDS

ACM proceedings, gender, Information Technology, Computing education

## 1 INTRODUCTION

While gender distinctions do not seem apparent on the use of technology, the chances of a woman going from consuming certain technological elements to considering making them or studying them in depth are really low.

## 2 WOMEN IN IT STUDIES

In Spain, women enrolled in Engineering and Architecture degrees represent only 25.8% of the total of alumni, according to the latest report from the Ministry of Education.

This percentage is even lower in IT. [Fig. 1](#) shows the number of students enrolled in

IT degrees at the University of Seville (ranked among the 500 best universities in the world), in the last 5 academic years. The number of women interested in this discipline is practically non-existent throughout the period.

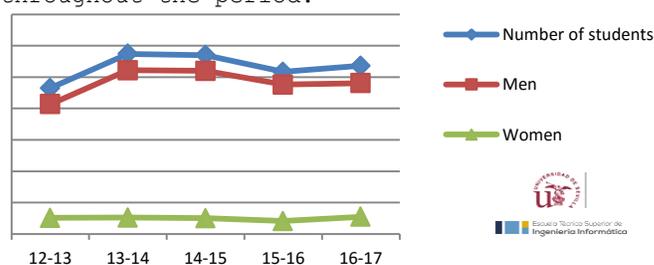


Figure 1: Total number of students enrolled in IT degrees at the US.

In fact, the highest number of women enrolled has been reached in 2016-2017, with a total of 55 compared to 481 men enrolled that same year. This represents a percentage of only 10.26%, as shown in [Table 1](#).

Table 1: Percentage of men and women enrolled in IT degrees at the US

Academic year	Men (in %)	Women (in %)
2012-2013	89.03	10.97
2013-2014	90.94	9.06
2014-2015	91.23	8.77
2015-2016	92.07	7.93
2016-2017	89.74	10.26

In light of this data, the sufficiency of the initiatives that were suggested in the past could be questioned. Therefore, an analysis of their impact is necessary in order to make further improvements to successfully demonstrate that technology is not just men's thing.