

## FOSTERING AND DEVELOPING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY BETWEEN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FACULTY AND STAFF

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

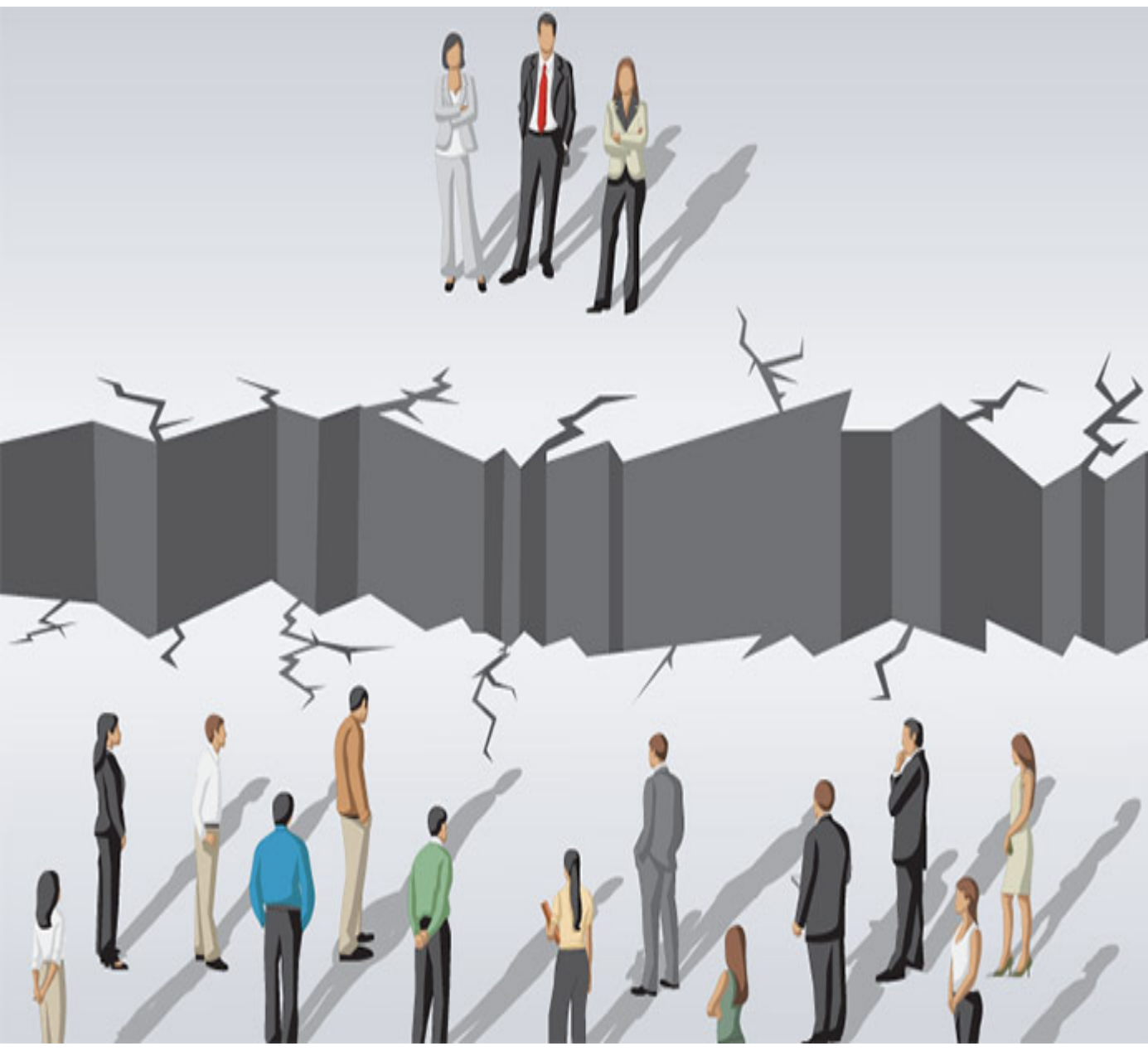
Improve communications between faculty & staff. Support & accept different cultures. Connect faculty & staff through various events. Promote understanding & respect. Share different perspectives & experiences.

### PROJECT ACTIONS

Time commitments and willingness to participate in various activities to bring faculty & staff together. Example: Lunches, social events, tours, combining 1 or 2 faculty/staff meetings each semester. Reach out to other Engineering Schools for mentoring / suggestions on how they connect.

### PROJECT IMPACT

- Discover each unique contribution.
- Develop stronger working relationship and a sense of belonging.
- Encourage a climate of positive communication.
- Breakdown barriers/misconceptions that separate “them (faculty)” and “us (staff)”.
- Share different perspectives and experiences.



### FUTURE STEPS

- ❖ Set up team: Involve ME Staff Advisory Committee, Mechanical Engineering Leadership Team, and Mechanical Engineering Cabinet
- ❖ Encourage ideas/suggestions from the team
- ❖ Initiate one idea

### LESSONS LEARNED

- ❖ How to start the conversation
- ❖ Feels like a disconnect
- ❖ Lack of knowledge of what each staff member does to contribute

