

SJSU This Week
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DEAN WEI TESTIFIES BEFORE CONGRESS

Last week, College of Engineering Dean Belle Wei spoke before House Democrats in Washington, D.C., as part of the Innovation Forum: A Commitment to Competitiveness to Keep America Number One, which focused on new and creative ways to confront the competitive challenges we face as a nation. Wei, who was invited by House Leader Nancy Pelosi to cover the vital role of education, testified that innovation goes beyond the classroom. “It involves the students’ ability to connect the dots, to stretch their ingenuity, to go beyond themselves, to reach something higher,” she says. “What is missing in American engineering education is drive and motivation, a much needed awakening of students to the new world of globalization. We must let students know this is not a creeping crisis, it is a burning crisis.” Wei cited SJSU’s successful Global Technology Initiative as one direction to take. Other panelists discussed research and development, broadband, energy and small business success. Contact Wei at belle.wei@sjsu.edu.