What is Formula Student?

- Formula Student is an annual competition now in its 21st year.
- Hosted by the IMechE at Silverstone Circuit.
- Students design and build a single seater race car to compete in various events.
- Competition is recognised worldwide and takes place in many countries.
- Many Formula Student graduates go on to work in professional motorsport such as Formula 1.
- Ideal proving ground for engineers of the future.

Women in Formula Student

- There have been 3 female Sun Racing captains since the team’s formation in 2003.
- All Sun Racing female members reported that they always felt welcome as part of the team and have never been made to feel any different due to their gender.
- Team members also reported that having a mixture of men and women on the team helped the team be more rounded and perform better. In particular it was noted that the non-engineering female sometimes picked up on things that other’s didn’t thus making the team think differently about designs and hence perform better.

The Challenges

- Introduction of AI competition, starting in 2019.
- AI event allows students to develop software and code for their vehicle.
- New AI competition will allow a look into what the future of motorsport engineering may hold.
- Sun Racing are currently working on implementing a full aerodynamics package.

The Future

Women on Engineering Undergraduate Programs at University of Sunderland

- 4.9%

Women working in engineering in the UK

- 11%

Women in Sun Racing Formula Student Team

- 17%

Statistics taken from University of Sunderland and WES Statistics. (www.wes.org.uk)

2018 Sun Racing Car at Silverstone

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