

# SWE Outlook

# The Philadelphia Section ~ Region E

FY14.5 February 2014

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello SWE Philadelphia,

I'm sure you're all looking forward to spring as much as I am! As the weather warms up (please oh please), our SWE section's activity level will be heating up as well. First up is our March meeting, to be hosted by Dow on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Cheryl Teich, the President-Elect of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). Please save the date and join us for her inspiring talk. You'll find more information about that event and others in this issue of *SWE Outlook*.

The SWE/Widener University Engineering Girls Camp was held on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> as scheduled despite the significant snow storm earlier in the week. Dr. Vicki Brown, a civil engineering professor at Widener and the "mastermind" behind the camp each year, told me that approximately 260 high school girls attended this year, a significant increase over previous years. At least 14 SWE-Phila members volunteered to help with the lab activities and/or serve on the career panels. Thank you to Vicki and to all of the volunteers for once again making this event a success in its 15<sup>th</sup> year!

Last but certainly not least, we are facing another change in the section leadership. Our current section Secretary Marie Brady is moving to Virginia and will be resigning as Secretary as of March 1. I'd like to thank Marie for her service to our section and wish her the best of luck in her new town! Per our bylaws, the executive council has elected a new Secretary to serve for the remainder of FY14. Congratulations to Tessa Anodide, and welcome back to the SWE-Phila board!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT 1

SOCIETY NEWS 2

SECTION NEWS 3

UPCOMING EVENTS 3

PREVIOUS 4

MEMBER NEWS 5

CONTACT LIST/OPEN 6-7 POSITIONS

#### In this Edition:

## **Contributing Authors:**

Danielle Dunn Mary Beth Biddle

#### **Editors**:

Cassandra Zook Christine Gunther

Submit Articles To: newsletter@philaswe.org

#### **Danielle Dunn**

FY 14 Section President

#### SOCIETY NEWS

#### Save the Date!! Region E Conference "Engineer the Future"

Region E and the Virginia Tech Collegiate Section are excited to host the 2014 SWE Region E Conference at the Inn at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA from 28-30 March, 2014.

The conference offers a diverse selection of events including workshops, graduate school and career fair, networking events, and catered meals featuring distinguished female speakers.

Final registration deadline is 14 March.

For more information about the conference, registration options, as well as details on travel and accommodations, go to <a href="http://www.sweregioneconference.org">http://www.sweregioneconference.org</a>.

#### Congratulations to the host of Region E Conference 2015: Drexel University

We received three well presented bids from Drexel University, Rutgers University, and Syracuse University/Professional Section to host the 2015 Region E Conference and are proud to announce that Drexel University won the bid. Congratulations Drexel University SWE! We look forward to working with you.

#### Congratulations to the Jessica Snyder: SWE's "Faces of the CPC"

Dow Chemical recently awarded Jessica Snyder for SWE's "Faces of the CPC"! Pictured below she is with Karen Horting and Rich Wells, VP & Site Leader for Dow Michigan Operations. Way to go, Jessica!



#### **SECTION NEWS**

#### Welcome to the FY14 Philadelphia SWE Officers!

Get to know some of our new FY14 section officers! Check out the answers to these interview questions below to see what they have in store for our section this upcoming year and to learn more about them!



#### Jill Foster, Awards Chair

- 1) What is your position/title/job responsibilities at work? Development Chemist II
- 2) What do you like best about SWE? SWE has so many benefits: professional development, life advice, opportunities to challenge yourself, and fun events.
- 3) What is the most important lesson you have learned throughout your career?

Always keep an open, positive mind, and be honest.

- **4) Do you have any hobbies?** Snowboarding, arts & crafts, gardening, hiking, disc golf, and volunteering.
- 5) What is the best book you have ever read and why? The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom is my

favorite book because it's a fast read that truly touches the heart and is written from a unique view.

#### **Seeking Corporate Contacts**

If you know someone in your company who is in charge of or interested in making donations to a philanthropic organization, please let the Society of Women Engineers Philadelphia Section know so that we may get in touch!

The Society of Women Engineers is a national nonprofit educational and service organization that aims to 1) engage female students of all ages in math, science, and technology and 2) to support the development of female engineering professionals in today's workforce. To that end, the Philadelphia section solicits donations and allocates the funds to scholarships and programs geared towards professional development and outreach.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Grand Challenges of Engineering and You: March 12th**

The National Academy of Engineering has developed a list of "Grand Challenges." The list is broad in scope and potential impact, encompassing many overarching societal issues. As practicing engineers, we can understand and contribute to the "Grand Challenge" vision by employing our technical skills in concert with our critical thinking skills. We will drill down from the high-level "Grand

Challenges" to an actual operating process intended to address one key issue, and explore how critical thinking progresses the development of real solutions. Dinner will be provided at no cost to attendees.

When: Wednesday March 12th at 6:30 pm

Location: Dow Chemical - Spring House (near Ambler, PA)

RSVP to rsvp@philaswe.org by March 6th if you would like to attend.

#### Save the Date!! Penn Society of Women Engineers Presents: GEARS Day

Saturday March 22nd at the University of Pennsylvania

GEARS Day gives high school girls a chance to interact with engineering professionals, professors, and undergraduate and graduate students while participating in hands-on laboratory workshops representing various engineering fields. The girls at UPenn are looking for panel speakers. Contact pennswe.gear@gmail.com with questions or interest in volunteering.

### Science Fairs - March 11, 14, 15 and April 2

Philadelphia SWE will be sending Special Awards Judges to the Bucks County Fair, Montgomery County Fair, Lehigh Valley Fair, and the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. If you are interested in volunteering to review student projects and interview students to find out which engineering related projects submitted by girls should be given awards please email Cassie Zook at <a href="mailto:crz333@gmail.com">crz333@gmail.com</a>. You do not need to be present for the entire day to help out. Dates for the various fairs are below:

Bucks County Fair - March 11th Montgomery County Fair - March 14th Lehigh Valley Fair - March 15th Delaware Valley Science Fairs - April 2nd

#### Member Knowledge Sharing - To be rescheduled

Philadelphia SWE is hosting a meeting where women can learn from our own members. 3-4 women will talk to the group about their job or the kinds of project they work on. It may be a technical, problem-solving, or project management related topic for approximately 15 minutes each. Please contact Diane Ess ASAP at <a href="mailto:profdev@philaswe.org">profdev@philaswe.org</a> if you have any questions. This event has to be rescheduled due to weather. Date to be announced shortly.

#### PREVIOUS EVENTS

# Widener Mini Camp - February 8th

When: Saturday, February 8, 2014

Location: Widener University, Chester, PA

The camp was an opportunity for high school girls interested in science and math to explore engineering careers in a hands-on laboratory setting with women engineers from SWE and female engineering students and alumni from Widener University. There was a separate Parents Program that ran concurrently with the Girls Camp. With over 260 girls in attendance, it was a record breaking year for Widener! Attendees from seven different states were able to experience different fields of engineering first hand. With labs ranging from biomechanics to bridge design to creating a lie detector, each attendee was sure to learn something new and fun! The Philadelphia SWE volunteers enjoyed sharing their experiences and love of engineering.

#### **Top Secret Rosies**

When: Monday, January 27, 2014

Location: Villanova University, Villanova, PA

After dinner and some informal networking, SWE members from the professional section, Villanova University, and the Community College of Philadelphia sat down to enjoy a viewing of the documentary *Top Secret Rosies*. First debuted at the Society Conference, the movie highlights the women who dedicated themselves to our country through ballistic calculations during World War II. As a program that began here in Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania, the women were sought out for their superior math skills. These Top Secret Rosies worked around the clock to create ballistics tables for every weapon in the United States' artillery. Not only were these women an important aspect of winning the War, but they also helped to usher in the computer age. It was inspiring to see the great accomplishments of the women who worked before our time.

#### MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

SWE Philadelphia is happy to announce the engagement of member Jennifer Garner to Lou Casta, Ph.D. Jen and Lou share interests in travel, music, fun in Philadelphia, home brewing, and science! They met in the spring of 2013 and got engaged on Dec 25, 2013. Jen and Lou hope to tie the knot in 2014 and look forward to a happy future together.

Congrats, Jen and Lou!

Do you have exciting news to share? It could be anything from graduations to birthdays, engagements to professional accomplishments. Email the <u>SWE Newsletter Editors</u> with your exciting news!

# OFFICER CONTACT LISTING

Elected Officers	Name	<u>Email</u>	
Executive Council Voting Members			
President	Danielle Dunn	president@philaswe.org	
Vice President Outreach	Amanda Weissman	outreach@philaswe.org	
Vice President Prof Develop	Diane Ess	profdev@philaswe.org	
Vice President Communication	Mary Beth Biddle	communications@philaswe.org	
Secretary	Marie Brady	info@philaswe.org	
Treasurer	Alexis Wasserman	treasurer@philaswe.org	
Section Representative	Elisha Rios	elisha.rios@merck.com	
Section Representative	Tori Morgan	vmorgan811@verizon.net	
Alternate Section Rep	Amanda Weissman	outreach@philaswe.org	
FY14 Co	ommittee Chairs and S	ection Leaders	
Outreach Group			
Awards Coordinator	Jill Foster	foster@quakerchem.com	
Certificate of Merit	Nicole Wilson	nicolecwilson@hotmail.com	
Collegiate Liaison	Maria Legato	Legato.maria@gmail.com	
Girl Scouts Co-Chair	Jill Cardamone	jcardamone@gmail.com	
Girl Scouts Co-Chair	Elizabeth Rowland	erowland1824@gmail.com	
Engineering Mini-Camp	Vicki Brown	vbrown@mail.widener.edu	
Engineers' Club of Philadelphia Liaison	OPEN		
Scholarship Program	Tori Morgan	scholarship@philaswe.org	
Professional Development			
Corporate Liaison	Annie Liu	corporate@philaswe.org	
Meeting/Events Coordinator	Tracie Spangler	rsvp@philaswe.org	
Communications			
Membership	Jennifer Garner	membership@philaswe.org	
Newsletter Editor	Cassandra Zook	newsletter@philaswe.org	
Newsletter Editor	Christine Gunther		
Webmistress	Diane Ess	webmaster@philaswe.org	
Collegiate			
Drexel Counselor	Elizabeth Henning	Eah827@gmail.com	
Swarthmore Counselor	Rebecca Rose	rebecca.snelling@gmail.com	
Temple Counselor	Jennifer Bullock	jennifer.bullock.jb@gmail.com	
University of Pennsylvania	Alexis Wasserman	president@philaswe.org	
Villanova Counselor	Alisha Tricciola	alisha.trocciola@gmail.com	
Widener Counselor	MaryAnn Skehan	maryann.b.skehan@boeing.com	
Messiah SIG Counselor	OPEN		

#### **Open Officer Positions**

We have an open officer position that needs filling for the FY14 year due to the transitioning of some of our members. Taking on an officer role is a great way to get more involved in the section and have an impact on the decisions made. Feel free to contact Mary Beth (<a href="mailto:communications@philaswe.org">communications@philaswe.org</a>) if you are interested for more information.

**Engineer's Club of Philadelphia Liaison** - Responsible for coordinating with the Engineer's Club to share information with our section.

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS PHILADELPHIA SECTION, REGION E

PO BOX 1105 Norristown, PA 19401 www.philaswe.org info@philaswe.org

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

October		
March 11th	Bucks County Science Fair	
March 12th	Grand Challenges of Engineering and You	
March 14th	Montgomery County Science Fair	
March 15th	Lehigh Valley Science Fair	





Mission: Stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders, expand the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in improving the quality of life, demonstrate the value of diversity.

The Philadelphia Section was one of the original chartering sections of SWE, chartered on May 27, 1950.