



SWE Outlook

The Philadelphia Section ~ Region E

FY14.6 March 2014

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello SWE Philadelphia,

March has been a busy month for our section. At our March 12th section meeting hosted by Dow, speaker Cheryl Teich, the President-Elect of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), delivered an engaging talk about the grand engineering challenges, with a focus on access to clean water. I'd like to thank Cheryl for informing and entertaining us, Dow for hosting and sponsoring dinner, and Jessica Snyder and Diane Ess for their efforts to plan the event. In the Outreach arena, I want to congratulate the Penn SWE collegiate section for another successful Girls in Engineering And Related Sciences (GEARS) Day! GEARS Day was held on Saturday, March 22nd, and we were blessed with beautiful weather for the event. In addition to the hands-on workshops, the high school girls attended a panel discussion about engineering school and careers. I was honored to sit on the panel along with a diverse group of collegiates, SWE-Phila members, and even former Region E Governor Colleen Layman, representing a variety of engineering disciplines and industries. The nearly 80 high school girls in attendance asked us plenty of great questions; it was wonderful to see them so engaged.

The section officers have also been busy planning our exciting events coming up in April and May. I especially want to highlight our annual awards brunch, scheduled for Sunday, April 27th in Philadelphia, so please save the date for that. Additionally, this year's Philadelphia Science Carnival will take place on Saturday, May 3rd. If last year's phenomenal attendance was any indication, our booth at the carnival will be action packed throughout the day, so please consider volunteering! Contact Amanda Weissman at outreach@philaswe.org if you're interested.

Finally, it is once again election season for our section, and we are looking to assemble a slate of candidates for section officer positions in FY15, with the voting to take place in late April. Serving as a SWE section officer is a wonderful way to give back to the section, play an active role in planning our goals and events, and further develop leadership skills. If you are interested in running for a position or just want to know more about what being an officer entails, please contact the nominating committee by emailing Alexis Wasserman at alexis.wall@sw.org.

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Danielle Dunn
FY 14 Section President

SOCIETY NEWS

Region E Conference “Engineer the Future”

We look forward to hearing from our attendees in our next newsletter!

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.

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!

Christine Gunther, Newsletter Contributor



- 1. What company do you work for?** NAVSEA Philadelphia
- 2. What is your position/title?** Mechanical Engineer, Compressed Air Systems
- 3. How many years have you been with your company?** Less than 1 year, recent college graduate
- 4. What are some of your hobbies?** Cooking, yoga, swimming laps, attending concerts, traveling
- 5. What was your first job ever?** Lifeguard
- 6. What is your favorite part of your job?** It's a nice balance between working in an office and traveling off-site to get hands-on experience on ships
- 7. Who do you admire most?** My parents. They've taught me how to work hard and enjoy life.
- 8. What was the last book you read?** *Blink*, by Malcolm Gladwell. It was a unique book that presented a lot of interesting information about the psychology of decision making.

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

Delaware Valley Science Fair - April 2

Philadelphia SWE will be sending Special Awards Judges to the Delaware Valley Science Fair to judge winners from recent local 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 crz333@gmail.com. You do not need to be present for the entire day to help out.

Member Knowledge Sharing - April 8th

When: Tuesday April 8th at 6 pm

Where: Great American Pub, Conshocken <http://www.greatamericanpub.com/>

Philadelphia SWE is hosting a meeting where women can learn from our own members. Amanda Weissman will present about the new tool Raspberry Pi. Becky Lamont will present a briefing on virtual and augmented reality as applied to Human Factors Analysis for aircraft maintainability. Jill Foster will be presenting "Phosphate Lubricant Technology". Please RSVP to this event at rsvp@philaswe.org by Friday, April 4th.

Philadelphia High School for Girls Career Day - April 25th

When: Friday April 25th during school hours

Where: Philadelphia High School for Girls, Olney St. Philadelphia

The Philadelphia High School for Girls is looking for volunteers to present to small groups of girls for three sessions. Volunteers would discuss career options with the girls and explain what employers in the workforce are looking for out of employees. If you are interested in volunteering please email Cassie Zook at crz333@gmail.com for more information.

Awards Brunch - Late April

Join us for a light brunch as we celebrate the successes of our year! We will be awarding our scholarship winners, hearing from a dynamic speaker, and enjoying each other's company. Attendees are welcome to bring guests!

Mother/Daughter Tea - June 22nd

Tilly Mint's Tea Room in Souderton. More details to follow!

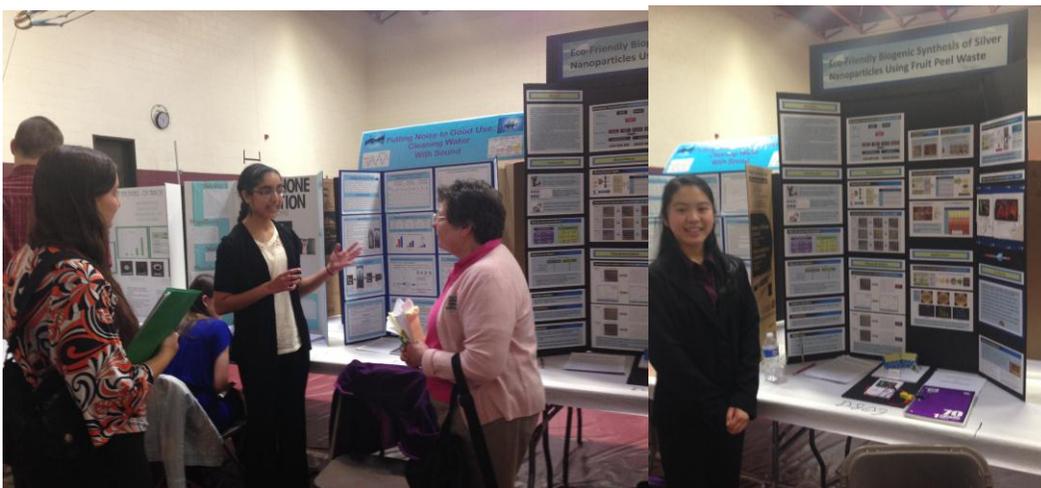
PREVIOUS EVENTS

Grand Challenges of Engineering and You

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. Cheryl Teich, the Reaction Engineering Expertise Leader in Dow's Chemical Engineering Solutions Technology Center drilled down from the high-level “Grand Challenges” to an actual operating process intended to address one key issue, and explored how critical thinking progresses the development of real solutions. The event had a great turnout with over 40 attendees, at least 10 of which were SWE members.

Science Fairs - March 11, 14, and 15

Philadelphia SWE sent representatives to the Bucks County, Montgomery County, and Lehigh Valley Science fairs to judge and award Special Award prizes to girls who submitted exceptional engineering related projects. There were many exceptional projects ranging from topics such as effective bio-fuels to programming and robots to super absorbent polymers! With so many great projects it was easy to award as many as 7-10 awards per fair! Many thanks to Barb Faust for coordinating these events.



Penn Society of Women Engineers Presents: GEARS Day

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 photos below show girls in several of the many workshops they were able to attend. Photos are courtesy of Nicole Woon, UPenn SWE president.



SWE Diversity and Inclusion Drives Innovation in STEM Capitol Hill Day

On March 5th–6th, SWE organized the 2014 “Diversity and Inclusion Drives Innovation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)” Capitol Hill Day in Washington, D.C. This two-day event commenced with a day of Congressional visit training. There has been a significant increase in the interest on STEM education and diversity; members of NSF (National Science Foundation) and various organizations spoke about recent bills and actions that are taking place to support diversity in the STEM fields. During the evening reception, several Congressional champions of STEM and diversity-related issues addressed the group. On March 6th, SWE President, Stacey DeVecchio addressed the group, followed by brief updates from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Congressional staff members, and prep time for upcoming meetings. Afterward, we met with the legislative assistants for Senators Patrick Toomey and Bob Casey, and Representative Allyson Schwartz to express the importance of and ask for support of STEM programs. We encouraged them to advocate funding for NSF programs, such as Broadening Participation in Engineering and ADVANCE, and the efforts of the NASA Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity. We also informed them of local outreach events that we are involved with and programs that our company, Quaker Chemical, supports. Overall, we received affirmation of commitment and full support of the importance STEM education and diversity in STEM fields.

– Jill Foster and Claire Larsen

AIST/ Philadelphia Chapter



MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cassandra Zook was awarded Junior Engineer of the Year for her command at NSWCCD (Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division) Philadelphia. She was selected by her peers and supervisors for this award. Congratulations, Cassie!

Do you have exciting news to share? It could be anything from graduations to birthdays, engagements to professional accomplishments. Email the [SWE Newsletter Editors](#) with your exciting news!

OFFICER CONTACT LISTING

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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 (communications@philaswe.org) 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	
April 2 nd	Delaware Valley Science Fair
April 8 th	Member Knowledge Sharing
April 25 th	Philly Girls High Career Day
April 27 th	Awards Brunch



Society of
Women Engineers

ASPIRE • ADVANCE • ACHIEVE

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.