



SWE Outlook

March/April 2006

President's Corner

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We will gladly include news items, photos, and activities from SWE Student Sections and nearby SWE Sections in SWE Outlook. Announcements for other organizations will be included as time and space permit. Please send inputs to newsletter editors Aina Zahari at azahari@rohmmaas.com or Jurica Lee at jurica_lee@yahoo.com

Signs of spring are all around. The birds are returning and the crocuses are in bloom. That means it is time for our spring activities. The crowning event of this year is the Region E conference, which we are hosting with Drexel this month. With the conference in our backyard it is a great time to meet and network with other SWE members in our region. The committee has been hard at work all year to make this a great conference. Go to <http://www.philaswe.org/conference/conference.html> for more information.

The spring also is the time for student focused activities. Our scholarship committee is in full swing with applications due from the students on March 14th. If you are available to help with the judging please contact our new scholarship chair, Irena Ziec at iziec@rohnhass.com. The scholarship banquet will be held on Thursday April 13th at the Sheraton Park Ridge in King of Prussia. It is wonderful to hear the achievements of these remarkable women, as well as mingle with fellow SWE members.

In addition to the scholarship awards, it is time for the science fairs and certificate of merit awards. These are activities aimed at encouraging high school age girls to participate in math in science. Last years SWE science fair winner also received a scholarship from us. If you are interested in helping with either activity please contact Barb Faust at barbfaust@netcarrier.com.

Finally it is not too late to run for an executive committee position. The slate is being put together for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Section Representatives (1-2). If you are interested in running please contact me at habernardin@yahoo.com for more information.

Heather Bernardin

Some websites to visit...

- SWE Philadelphia NEW website: <http://www.philaswe.org/>
- SWE Region E conference site:
<http://www.philaswe.org/conference/conference.html>

SWE Calendar - FY06

| Date | Event | Location |
|--|---|--|
| Mar '06 (14 th , Tues, a.m.) (19 th , Sat) (31 st - April 2 nd) | International Women's Day event AAUW Touch the Future Program Region E Conference | DeVry University, Fort Washington, PA Lansdale, PA Philadelphia, PA |
| Apr '06 (13 th , Thurs) | Annual Scholarship Banquet (6 PM) | Sheraton Park Ridge, King of Prussia |
| May '06 (8 th , Mon) | Technical Tour | TBD |
| June '06 (13 th , Tues) | Annual Section Planning Meeting | TBD |

National News

❖ National Committee Chair/Chair Elect Applications

We are pleased to announce the call for FY07 Committee, Task Force, and FIG Chair/Chair Elect Applications. This year we continue expansion of the process to all open leadership positions. The purpose of the application process is to allow all SWE members the opportunity to express an interest in these types of leadership roles within the Society. It will also allow us the opportunity to better match our members' strengths and interests to the needs of the Society.

We continue to see the value of succession planning and continuity as critical to the success of our committees/task forces/groups. There are a few committees that have been identified as strategic committees. For those committees whose Chair is in their final year, we will have Chair Elects that will be selected through the application process as well. These Chair Elects will serve one year as Chair Elect and one year as Chair for a total commitment of two years. An individual currently serving as a Chair who would like to continue in the role can re-apply.

To view the application and descriptions for open positions in FY07, please check out the national website at www.swe.org. Click on "About SWE" on the left hand side and then "Committees".

Applications are due to SWE HQ at hq@swe.org by **April 3, 2006**.

The **SWE MISSION** is to:

- *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;*
and
- *demonstrate the value of diversity*

Announcements

❖ International Women's Day Event at DeVry University

There will be an International Women's Day event held at DeVry University titled "What Women Really Want: How American Women are erasing Political, Racial, Class and Religious Lines to Change the Way We Live". It'll be held on **Thursday, March 14, 200, 8:00 am-10:30 am**. To register for the event please visit

<https://www.techcouncil.org/calendardetail.cfm?CalendarID=723>.

The address for the campus is DeVry University, 1140 Virginia Drive, Fort Washington, PA 19034. Map and directions can be found at <http://www.devry.edu/philadelphia/campus.html>. Questions can be addressed to Melissa Delicci at 610-975-9430 x4564

❖ Speaker Request for The Engineering Career and Education Symposium at Community College of Philadelphia

The Community College of Philadelphia chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers will be holding an Engineering Career and Education Symposium and are looking for professionals to speak at their event. The symposium will be over two days, March 16 and 23 '06. On the 16th, the topics being discussed will be "Careers in Engineering" and "Engineering Education". Three professional engineers are needed for the "Careers in Engineering" segment to give an overview of the many diverse fields of engineering, whereas three professors and college administrators are needed for the "Engineering Education" segment to speak on engineering curriculums and the necessary skills required for an engineering career. On the 23rd the topics discussed will be "What's new in Engineering?" and "Engineering Organizations". Three professional engineers are needed for the "What's new in Engineering" segment to speak about the latest advancements in engineering. Several organization representatives are needed for the "Engineering Organizations" segment to speak about the advantages of membership in organizations to disperse information and assist in enrolling student members. All four segments will consist of a 45-minute section in which all three speakers will give a brief 15 minute discourse on their area of expertise and then a 15 minute Q&A. If you or someone you know are interested in participating, please contact Joseph T. Heard at 267-210-8230 or at ccppres@yahoo.com.

❖ New film about a woman mathematician needs your help!



The Witch of Agnesi was a sine curve studied by Maria Agnesi, the 18th century Italian mathematician who is one of the first documented women to write a math textbook. Agnesi's curve was mistranslated by a Cambridge professor in 1801 as the "Witch" and thus permanently misnamed such. In this film, Agnesi has returned to the present time and is planning a heist into the museum where the canonized inaccuracy rests. Maria Agnesi is going to rewrite history, literally!

This Temple University MFA thesis film is produced, directed and written by emerging women artists. Similar to the field of engineering, there are fewer women that work professionally in the film industry, particularly as directors. We are looking for people who are interested in supporting this project both to bring a positive image of a female mathematician to the screen and to support the work of women artists. Although we have gotten many in-kind services dedicated to this project, there are still fixed costs that are necessary for this production such as processing and transferring the film stock and sound. We have to raise \$12,000 by June 2006 to make this film! We hope that members of SWE can help. Any donation (from \$25 to \$2500!) will move us closer to our financial goal, allowing us to produce a quality film. All donors will be acknowledged in the film's credits as follows: \$3000 and up--Executive Producer, \$2000-\$3000--Associate Producer, \$1000-\$2000--Assistant Producer, \$500-\$1000--Generous Contribution, \$100-\$500--Special Thanks, \$99 and less--Thanks. For more information on the project and ways you can support us contact: Malati Rao- Writer/Director 215-765-6820, Sara Zia Ebrahimi- Producer Email: witchofagnesi@gmail.com **Please make checks payable to:** Malati Rao, 2226 Fairmount Av, #3F, Philadelphia PA 19130

Section News

❖ Future City Competition

Thanks to the participation of the dedicated teams and volunteers, the 2006 Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition was a great success! Here is a list of the winners:

First Place - Our Lady Help of Christians School, Abington, PA

Second Place - Drexel Hill Middle School, Drexel Hill, PA

Third Place - Kutztown Area Middle School, Kutztown, PA

Honorable Mention - Carl Sandburg Middle School, Levittown, PA

Honorable Mention - Paterson Charter for Science and Technology, Paterson, NJ

Honorable Mention - Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Rockaway, NJ

In addition to the Regional Competition awards, forty three organizations provided special awards. Each of the thirty one competing schools received at least one award. SWE Philadelphia sponsored the "Quality of Life" award which was given to Glen Landing Middle School, Blackwood, NJ.

Many SWE Members were involved in the competition. Jennifer Wetzel and Susan Best are Steering Committee members. Marian Labos and Shanna Pendleton from the NJ section served as the special award evaluators for the SWE award. Marian also served as an Essay Judge. Amanda Barr, Sarah Ciez, and Amy Peterson from Drexel SWE served as Escorts.

Schools are already signing up for the 2007 competition. If you are interested in working with a school or as a volunteer, please visit our website at www.futurecityphilly.org or e-mail jwetzel@futurecityphilly.org.



Section News (cont.)

❖ 2006 Region E Conference

Plans are well under way for the 2006 Region E conference, co-hosted by our SWE Philadelphia Section and the SWE-Drexel Student Section. Please check out the conference website for up-to-date information, schedule and registration form: <http://www.philaswe.org/conference/conference.html>.

❖ Science Fair Judges Needed

SWE Philadelphia, Lehigh Valley, and DelMar Peninsula Sections serve as judges and provide SWE Special Awards at local science fairs. The Philadelphia Section also provides judges and special awards at the regional Delaware Valley Science Fairs Competition. If you are interested in serving as one of the judges who determine the projects that advance to the next level of competition, please visit www.Drexel.edu/dvsf/regional_fairs.htm for contact information of science fair coordinators throughout the region. If you wish to serve as a SWE judge, please contact Barb Faust at Barbara.Faust@swe.org.

❖ SWE/Widener Engineering Mini-Camp

Thanks to everyone who helped at the SWE/Widener Engineering Mini-camp. Despite the poor weather forecast, there were 105 girls and 75 parents who showed up for the event, the biggest turnout ever for this event. The annual camp is an opportunity for high school girls interested in science and math to explore engineering careers in a hands-on laboratory setting with women from the SWE Philadelphia and Delmarva Sections, as well as female engineering students and alumni from Widener University.

Professional Development

❖ SWE National Seminars

Mark your calendars for the following SWE Web and live seminars. Information on registration and meeting times will be made available on www.swe.org.

| Topic | Audience | Date |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 3 Part Communications Web Seminar Series (3:00 p.m. EST) | | |
| Part 3 - culture and gender diversity | Entry/Middle level managers | 4/25/2006 |
| Project Management Best Practices One Day Seminar | | |
| Overbooked? Overworked? Overwhelmed? Discover a Life in Balance | Middle level managers | 3/31/2006 |
| Six Sigma: What is it and how can it advance my career Web Seminar | All | 4/11/2006 |
| Three Women Engineers who've made it & what they've learned Web Seminar | Entry/Middle level managers | 5/10/2006 |
| Time Management: How to get it all done and stay sane when you don't Web Seminar | All | 5/17/2006 |
| Team Building & Conflict Resolution One Day Seminar | Entry/Middle level managers | 6/7/2006 |
| | Entry/Middle level managers | 6/22/2006 |

SWE 2006 Region E Conference



Women Engineers: Bridging the Past, Present and Future

SWE 2006 Region E Conference

Drexel University Philadelphia



When: Friday, March 31 - Sunday, April 2, 2006
Where: Drexel University/ University City Sheraton
3141 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Deadline for registration is **March 17, 2006**. Please visit <http://www.philaswe.org/conference/conference.html> for a registration form and other pertinent information. For all registration forms postmarked or time stamped after March 17, 2006, please add an extra \$25 unless you are just attending Sunday's meeting.

Conference Sponsors & Career Fair Participants



Conference Sponsors





**SWE Philadelphia Section
The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia
215 South 16th St, Suite 36
Philadelphia, PA 19102**

Address Correction Requested

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.philaswe.org>
Contact Us by E-mail: phila_info@swe.org

**SWE Philadelphia Section Newsletter
March/April 2006**

**2006 Region E Conference
March 31-April 2, 2006
Information Inside**

ASPIRE - ADVANCE - ACHIEVE

The Society of Women Engineers is a non-profit, educational service organization dedicated to making known the need for women engineers and encouraging young women to consider an engineering education.