

SWE Philadelphia Section

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Editor's Note:

Next newsletter deadline is **March 20th**. Please send articles to: V.Land@swe.org

See you at the Lamb Tavern - March 17th!

865 W. Springfield Road
Exit 3 (Rt. 1) off Rt. 476
North on Rt. 1
Left on Springfield Road
Tavern is on right

Cost is \$25.00
(Students \$10.00)
RSVP to Carole Stowell by
March 13th.

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**SWE Philadelphia Section
C/O Engineer's Club
Suite 36
215 South 16th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102**



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Visit our webpage at: <http://www.libertynet.org/~sweps>



**Society of Women Engineers
Philadelphia Section
March 1998**

***Letter from the President,
Janet Anderson***

Wow! What wierd winter weather, even for the Philadelphia region! I hope you haven't suffered any weather-related problems. As I've heard many say about this rain, "At least you don't have to shovel it!"

Our March meeting will give us a peek into academia. Our speaker is Professor Vicki Brown, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering at Widener (and the Student SWE section advisor). She worked in industry before moving into academia. She balances work and family (husband and 3 children). Professor Brown will address the special challenges and rewards of being female and how that affects her teaching, research, and service as a university professor.

Remember, you're always invited to join us for the board meeting before our dinner meeting. We start around 5 pm. Feel free to drop in!

We're still actively seeking folks to help with the Section next year. I think you'll find that the benefits of serving easily outweigh the effort. We all work together so no one has to work too hard!!

Please see our web page (<http://www.libertynet.org/~sweps/>) for more information about our speaker, Professor Brown, and our latest listings of job openings.

SWE Philadelphia Section

March 1998

Meeting: March 17th, Lamb Tavern, 6:00 PM

Speaker: Dr. Vicki L. Brown, Ph.D., P.E.

Topic: Balancing Career and Family Issues

Dr. Brown will address the special challenges and rewards of being a female university professor and how that affects her teaching, research, service. She will also comment on her experience in juggling an academic career and raising a family too.

Dr. Vicki L. Brown is an Associate Professor of Civil Engineering at Widener University which she joined in 1981. Vicki received her Ph.D. from the University of Delaware in 1988 and earned her B.S. from the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Pennsylvania in 1976. She has worked for the Pennsylvania Electric Company, Bechtel Power Corporation, and U.S. Steel. Vicki is a registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania. She was Appointed to the U.S. delegation (National Science Foundation sponsored) to the 3rd International Symposium on Non-Metallic (FRP) Reinforcement for Concrete Structures, Sapporo, Japan and was nominated by Widener Engineering students for induction into Tau Beta Pi as an "Eminent Engineer". Vicki has served on the NSF Planning Board for Research on Advanced Composites in Construction and is included in "Who's Who in Science and Engineering". She received the Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Vicki is affiliated with the American Concrete Institute, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society for Engineering Education, Society of Women Engineers and Tau Beta Pi. She is the faculty advisor to the Widener SWE Student Chapter. Vicki has published many technical papers and has presented "Evaluating Feedback from Male Colleagues" and "Alternative Career Paths for Engineering Technology Graduates."

Vicki has a 9 year old son and 2 daughters - ages 6 and 3. Her husband of 21 years is a mechanical engineer and currently works for Smith Kline Beecham.

Scholarship & Science Fair Judges Needed

- A Scholarship committee is now being formed to judge this year's scholarship contestants. Those interested in participating should contact Julie Gadsby: work - (610) 796-3509, fax - (610) 796-3595, home - (717) 560-6579 or e-mail jgadsby@ugi.com. Scholarships will be awarded on April 21st. Banquet will be held at the Radnor Hotel in St. Davids, PA.
- Delaware Valley Science Fair Judges needed for April 8th, Fort Washington Convention Center. Contact Susan Best or Barb Faust.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

National Career Centers JOB FAIR

Valley Forge
Convention Center

Monday, March 16th

For more information, see
insert in this newsletter

According to the National
Science Foundation (NSF),
graduate enrollment of women
and minorities in Science and
Engineering continues to rise.

To find out more on NSF
statistics on women, visit their
web site:

[http://www.nsf.gov/
cgi-bin/getpub?98302](http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?98302)

1998 "Young Engineer of the Year" Award

On February 24th, the Delaware
Valley "Young Engineer of the
Year" Banquet was held at the
Racquet Club in Philadelphia.
Ms. Elaine Elbich was this year's
award recipient. Ms. Elbich is an
engineer with the Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation.
This is the third consecutive year
that a woman has received this
award.

Past award recipients include:

Carol Reich (1997)
Day & Zimmermann International, Inc.

And

Lisa Walton (1996)
President, SWE-Lehigh Valley Section

NOTE OF THANKS

"Dedicated to achieving equity and
full participation for women in all
areas of science and technology."

February 23, 1998

On the behalf of the Association
for Women in Science (AWIS), I
would like to extend a big **Thank
You** for your help with the AWIS
events at the Philadelphia
conference. We have heard quite
a bit of positive feedback from
those who attended.

All in all it was a great success!
Thank you!

Sincerely,

Judith Leone
AWIS Intern

SWE Philadelphia Section

March 1998

FY 99 COMMITTEE CHAIR OPENINGS

CAREER GUIDANCE

This committee develops and organizes engineering activities to help female students (elementary through high school) learn about our profession. These activities include science fairs, workshops, and competitions. The Scholarship, Student Liaison, and Certificates of Merit Committees work closely with the Career Guidance Chair. This position is a Standing Committee, which allows the Chair to vote at section meetings.

AWARDS

This committee prepares nominations for the SWE Awards that are distributed at the National Convention. Section members that fulfill certain requirements can be nominated for SWE Fellow Awards. The deadline to submit nominations is by December 15th.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is produced using Microsoft Word. The format is available on diskette and is easy to update. If you are creative, you can redesign the newsletter to include Clip-Art or pictures taken by our Publicity Committee. This committee can be a shared responsibility between an editor, who creates the newsletter, and a publisher, who copies and mails the newsletter. Currently, the section mails 200 newsletters per month.

WEB PAGE COORDINATOR

Working on a web page has never been easier with Netscape Communicator or Microsoft Front Page. If you have an interest in maintaining the SWE web page for next year, contact Barbara Zubenko at bzubenko@dca.net. Barbara will provide training and documentation on the steps involved.

ETSCO REPRESENTATIVE

Attends Engineering Technical Societies Council Meetings. ETSCO's goal is to introduce youngsters to science and technology fields. Contact Fran Nelson at (215) 542-0700 to find out more about ETSCO and the duties of this position.

MOORESTOWN PROJECT

Nancy Hunley, Patricia Noonan, and Ricky Gordon continue to work with the Middle School to develop a program to encourage young women to enter the engineering profession. Martin Marietta has contributed four Power Macintosh computers to the effort. Several CDROM discs with interactive software developed specifically for the targeted age group are being purchased. Barbara Zubenko has identified another CDROM and a book, which also may be appropriate. If you have found effective printed material for ages nine through thirteen presenting engineering as a viable career choice for women, please call Nancy Hunley (609) 753-8874.

The group has targeted a Career and Science Day scheduled for April 4th, 9 AM – NOON, in Moorestown, New Jersey, as an initial showcase for their material. If you are interested in helping on that day, and especially if you are skilled with Power Macs, please call Nancy Hunley.

NASA/SWE SCIENCE FAIR CAMBERSHIP PROGRAM

The Society of Women Engineers Science Fair Campership Program sends young minority women who participate in Science Fairs to a week at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, with all expenses paid (transportation, room, and board).

To qualify, you must be a minority female whose ethnic background is African American, Hispanic, Native American, or Pacific Islander. You must be in the 8th through the 11th grade, and have entered a Science Fair at the local school, district, city, region, state or national level during this school year, to be eligible to compete in this SWE program. You need only be a Science Fair participant, not a winner.

To compete, you must complete the application and return it to your local SWE contact by April 15th. With your application, you must submit a letter of recommendation for a math or science teacher who is familiar with your science background.

To obtain an application, contact Janet Anderson (302) 738-5443.