



# SWE Outlook

May/June 2006

## President's Corner

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### Enclosure

Ballot for Section Officers

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](mailto:azahari@rohmmaas.com) or Jurica Lee at [jurica\\_lee@yahoo.com](mailto:jurica_lee@yahoo.com).

As my term of president comes to an end I want to express my thanks to the membership. With your help this section has made great strides in the past few years. When I took office three years ago, we had a struggling section. While we had just under 100 members, attendance at meetings was usually 5-8 people and we had a handful of active members handling all of the committee positions. Now we have almost 150 members, regularly get 15-20 members at our monthly meetings and very few members chair multiple committees. Best of all we hosted a very successful Region conference with Drexel. While I still feel there is more to do, it is time for fresh ideas from new leadership. The ballots for the executive board are being distributed to voting members. Please take the time to vote for the board members by the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Besides the election of new officers we have one more meeting this year. In June we will have the annual Planning meeting. If you are thinking about getting more involved this is a great meeting to attend. The plan for FY07 will be laid and we will begin to fill committee positions. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The location will be sent out via e-mail and website in the next few weeks.

*Heather Bernardin*

## Websites to visit

- SWE National website: <http://www.swe.org>
- SWE Philadelphia NEW website: <http://www.philaswe.org/>

## Reminder

- Renew your SWE membership this summer!

## SWE Calendar

Date	Event	Location
May '06 (17 <sup>th</sup> , Wed)	Three Women Engineers Who've Made It and What They've Learned	Web
June '06 (1 <sup>st</sup> , Thurs)	Deadline to vote for FY07 executive board	Mail
(7 <sup>th</sup> , Wed)	Time Management	Web
(13 <sup>th</sup> , Tues)	Annual Section Planning Meeting	TBD
September (12 <sup>th</sup> , Tues)	Vanguard & SWE Technology Day	Malvern, PA

## National News

### **2006 SWE National Conference October 12-14, 2006 Kansas City Convention Center Kansas City, MO**

The SWE National Conference is the largest professional development and career conference for women engineers. The 2005 conference attracted more than 4,000 engineering professionals, engineering students, and corporate representatives. Our 2006 Kansas City conference theme, *Women Blazing Technology Trails*, focuses on technology, professional development, career advancement, leadership, and much more. Whether you are an undergraduate or graduate engineering student, a professional in a corporation or government, or an academic professional, this conference is for you! Join us for the premier event of the year!

#### **Hotel Block is Open – Make Your Reservations Now!**

[Kansas City Marriott](#)

200 West 12th Street

Kansas City, MO 64105

Phone: 816-421-6800

Rates: \$125.00 Single/Double \$135.00 Triple \$145.00 Quad

You can make your reservations online by using the following codes:

SWESWEA – Single/Double SWESWEB – Triple SWESWEC – Quad

## Message from the newsletter editors

We've enjoyed putting together the section newsletters this year. This will be the last newsletter of the fiscal year. We hope you've found them helpful. Many thanks to those who've provided input; special thanks to Barb Faust who took the responsibility for getting the hard copies printed and sent out. The next issue will come your way in the beginning of Fall, and we'll start with plans for FY07.

Sincerely,

*Jurica Lee and Aina Zahari*

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*

## **Section News**

### **❖ Annual Student Scholarship Winners**

The annual student scholarship banquet was held at the Sheraton Park Ridge Hotel in King of Prussia on April 13, 2006. We had the privilege of honoring several engineering students who received scholarships of \$1,000 each, and enjoyed a wonderful meal together with section members. Our keynote speaker was Codou Samba, a Capital Deployment Process Engineer with Rohm and Haas Company. She spoke about her transition from the academic world to the working world, and provided many insights for those who will be graduating. The scholarship winners are as follows:

#### **Jessica Mandrick - Swarthmore College, class of 2007, Rohm and Haas Scholarship**

Jessica is an Engineering and Studio Art major in her junior year at Swarthmore College. As a child she would build and rebuild the ship that was part of the Lego pirate set, "creating additional rooms each time, rearranging the floor plan, changing the structure, trying to build the best ship." Her interest in structures has continued. This past semester she was challenged to combine her "interest in studio art with" her "engineering skills" in a project to design a chair fabricated entirely from single-ply cardboard - no glue, no tape, just cardboard tabbed and slotted together. The design had to be both aesthetic and functional. Her final design was stable to a 400-lb load applied to the seat and remained standing up to a 450-lb load!

In addition to her technical pursuits, Jessica is serving as site coordinator for Swarthmore's "Dare to Soar" student-run tutoring program at a homeless shelter, an academic mentor for freshman engineering majors, and as part of a committee of faculty, staff, and students who aim to increase the number of women and minority majoring in the sciences and engineering.

#### **Emily Chang - University of Pennsylvania, class of 2007, Rohm and Haas Scholarship**

Emily is a Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering major in her junior year at U of Penn. She is pursuing a career in research and development in pharmaceuticals and biotechnology. She studied abroad for five months in Australia where a course in biopharmaceuticals strengthened this career choice. Results of her research in virus-imprinted polymers were presented at the annual Biomedical Engineering Society conference in 2004. Her report on experimental work as a Merck Undergraduate Research Scholar on methods to reduce the undesired phenomenon of cross-hybridization in microarrays received an award from the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council this year.

Recently, Emily and her co-chair of the Educational Outreach program of the Penn SWE Section organized a Girls Technology Day to promote science and engineering to elementary and middle-school girls in the West Philadelphia community. She is also an accomplished musician, and was instrumental in starting and running a campus newsletter called "The Soapbox," which promotes sociopolitical debate in an open forum.

#### **Angel Feng - Drexel University, class of 2008, Lockheed Martin Scholarship**

Angel is a Mechanical Engineering student in her pre-junior year at Drexel University. In her two co-op assignments, her first with the Philadelphia Housing Authority and her second with Traumer Consulting Services, she has expanded her practical knowledge of construction-related matters such as creating fire-evacuation plans for a building, handling construction delays, and other issues that involve critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Angel attended the 2005 SWE National Conference in California and served on the planning committee for the 2006 Region E Conference co-hosted by the SWE Drexel and Philadelphia Sections. She is an officer of the Drexel Section of ASME and served as Activities Coordinator for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Philadelphia Area Young Engineers Forum, a networking event for students and professionals that was held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at Drexel.

## Section News (cont.)

**Noël Camacho - University of Pennsylvania, class of 2007, Merck & Co., Inc. Scholarship**  
Noël is a Bioengineering major in her junior year at the University of Pennsylvania. Her desire to study bioengineering stems in part from her years of summer work at a camp for disabled children. She wants “to be a part of the engineering community that develops more sophisticated technology to improve the quality of life for all people,” and the disabled community in particular. At Penn, she joined the Solar Car Race Team as a freshman and is now Co-Team Leader. She has the true spirit of team work – and has already realized that she does not have the best solution to every problem and that it is fun to discover a solution that is the product of team collaboration.

Last summer Noël served as a Resident Teaching Assistant for Penn’s Summer Academy of Applied Science and Technology Program for top-tier high school students interested in nanotechnology. She also organized, implemented, and taught a nanocrystalline solar cell lab for all the students. She has also worked on the Penn SWE’s Girls in Technology Day program to show the Solar Car to girls in the West Philadelphia community.

### 2006 SWE Scholarship Winners



Noël Comacho, Jessica Mandrick, Angel Feng, Emily Chang



Jessica's Chair Design

## Section News (cont.)

### ❖ Region E Conference

SWE-Philadelphia Section and SWE - Drexel University Collegiate Section co-hosted the 2006 Region E Conference held on March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006 at the Drexel University campus and at the Sheraton University City. Jennifer Garner from the Philly Section and Krystle Nagle from Drexel served as co-chairs. Thanks to their leadership and the hard work and planning of the committee, we had a very successful conference. Of the approximately 250 people who attended the conference, about 65% were students from 26 engineering schools in five states.

The conference began on Friday night with a lovely Chocolate Social, complete with chocolate fountains and a fun ice-breaker activity, at the Sheraton. The Saturday program started with breakfast at the Sheraton, followed by a career fair and workshops on a wide range of topics for students and professionals at Drexel. Fifteen companies and two universities sent career fair representatives. Our lunch-time speakers at Drexel were Ronna Robertson, SWE National President, and Florence Hudson, SWE Special Director of Strategic Planning who provided an overview of the SWE/IBM Women in Technology Initiative program to encourage young people to pursue careers in math, science, and engineering. Students participating in prototype presentation of this program during the Region E Conference were able to converse with SWE professional and collegiate members during lunch.

The conference banquet was held on Saturday evening at the Sheraton. Margaret C. (Peggy) Burns, Vice President of Engineering for Lockheed Martin's IS&S Business Area, delivered a captivating and entertaining talk, sharing her experience being a woman engineer over the past few decades, and reinvigorating conference attendees on the beauty and value of engineering to society. The conference ended with breakfast and Region business meetings on Sunday morning at the Sheraton.

Thank you to all the conference volunteers and attendees for making the conference a memorable and successful event, filled with camaraderie, opportunity for development, and networking. Below are several photos taken at the conference. Please visit <http://philaswe.org/picturepro/nfpicturepro/> for more pictures.



Career Fair Team - Rohm and Haas



Workshop Session



❖ **Technology Day at Vanguard: “Acknowledging the Accomplishments of Women in Information Technology”**

Save the date! Vanguard and the Society of Women Engineers will host this exciting event in recognition of women and their accomplishments in IT.

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2006

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Place:** Vanguard Majestic Building, Malvern, PA

The event includes a panel discussion on “IT in the Workplace,” dinner, and several workshops. For more details, please visit [http://www.vanguardevent.com/email/060505\\_Technology\\_Day4.htm](http://www.vanguardevent.com/email/060505_Technology_Day4.htm). To pre-register, please contact Craig Gilmer at [craig\\_d\\_gilmer@vanguard.com](mailto:craig_d_gilmer@vanguard.com). Please include the e-mail address where you may be reached in August in order to receive final registration information.

## ❖ FY06 Year In Review – SWE Philadelphia

Overall, the SWE Philadelphia section had a very successful year! We have more people getting involved in section activities, many new faces at meetings, had the biggest turnout ever for the SWE-Widener Engineering Mini-Camp, organized a tremendously successful Region E Conference, and garnered great corporate support, particularly from Rohm and Haas, Lockheed Martin, and Merck. In addition, we have a fantastic new website thanks to Diana Fernie. Alongside these key accomplishments, we continued our participation in ongoing programs such as the Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition, judging at local and regional science fairs, scholarship awards for students in local engineering schools, the national SWE Certificate of Merit program, and workshops at the American Association of University Women Touch The Future Program. In the past fiscal year, we held meetings at various locations throughout the area to enable more people to attend at least one event. Following is a chronological recap of our main meetings and events:

**September '05** - Kick-off social at Champps America in King of Prussia

**October** - Technical meeting at the Rohm and Haas Engineering Division in Croydon with a talk by Janet Hammill of Rohm and Haas on "So Where Are We On the Journey to Business Excellence?"

**November** - Dinner meeting at Fountain Side Seafood & Grill in Horsham with a talk by Lynda Brittain on Managing Personal Finances

**December** - Holiday social at On the Border at Neshaminy Mall in Bensalem

### **January '06**

- Joint meeting with ISA (Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society) at the Siemens campus in Fort Washington. Topic: Information Systems: Calibration Management
- Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition on January 28th for 7th and 8th grade students. SWE Philadelphia provided a Special Award for the best "Quality of Life" design to Glen Landing Middle School in Blackwood, NJ.
- Fund-raising for corporate and member support of the Region E Conference, Section Scholarship awards, and Engineering Mini-Camp support

### **February**

- SWE-Widener Engineering Mini-Camp for high school girls at Widener University on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. We had the largest turnout ever when 105 girls and 75 parents showed up in spite of threatening weather!
- Engineers Week activities throughout the area

### **March**

- Science Fair judging to determine recipients of SWE Special Awards.
- AAUW Touch the Future Program at the Penndale Middle School on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **March - April**

SWE Philadelphia and Drexel Sections co-hosted the 2006 Region E Conference held on the Drexel University campus and at the Sheraton University City on March 31st to April 2nd.

### **April**

The Annual Awards Banquet was held to honor recipients of SWE Philadelphia scholarship awards and to recognize contributions of our members and corporate.

### **May - June**

Certificate of Merit awards to high school girls who have demonstrated three years of excellence each in the study of mathematics and science and who are active in their school, community and/or church.

### **June**

Planning Meeting for FY07

## ***Sincere Thanks to ...***

### **Corporate Sponsors**

We would like to acknowledge the support provided by our corporate sponsors who have enabled us to have such a successful year. In particular, we honor the following corporate sponsors for their generous support of the Region E Conference and other programs this year.

#### ***Diamond:***

Lockheed Martin Corporation -conference and scholarship support  
Rohm and Haas Company - conference, scholarship, and mini-camp support

#### ***Gold:***

Merck - conference and scholarship support  
Washington Group International - conference support  
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. - conference support

#### ***Silver:***

The Vanguard Group - conference support  
National Starch and Chemical Company - conference support

#### ***Bronze:***

Kling Architects, Engineers, Interior Design - conference support  
Accenture, LLP - conference support  
Gestalt, LLC - conference support  
Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) - conference support  
Microdesk, Inc. - conference support  
Infosys Technologies, Ltd - conference support  
PA Department of Transportation - conference support  
Arkema Group - conference support  
Aramark Technical Services - conference support  
AAI Corporation - conference support  
Goldman Sachs - conference support

#### ***Sponsor:***

Penn State Great Valley School of Graduate Professional Studies - conference support  
Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science - conference support  
Valero Refining Company - NJ - conference support

### **Drexel University College of Engineering**

We acknowledge Dean Güçeri for all of the conference support provided by the Drexel University College of Engineering throughout conference planning and for all of the activities held on the Drexel campus.

## **SWE Counselors**

We'd also like to recognize the SWE Counselors for Collegiate Sections in our area:

- Drexel University - Irena Ziec
- Swarthmore College - Jennifer Garner
- Temple University - Aina Zahari
- University of Pennsylvania - Alexis Wallen
- Villanova University - Heather Bernardin
- Widener University - MaryAnn Skehan

## **Volunteers**

Many individuals tirelessly contributed their time and energy to make our activities a success. We sincerely hope that the efforts were rewarding and that the energy will be sustained. Although we are not able to thank each and every one, we would like to take this opportunity to mention several individuals:

- Webmaster – Diana Fernie
- Janet Hammill of Rohm and Haas Company for sharing her knowledge of Six Sigma at our section meeting
- Lynda Brittain for being our guest speaker on financial matters
- Susan Best for serving as the section's Engineers' Week Liaison with the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council
- Organizers and participants at Future City:
  - Steering Committee Members - Jen Wetzel and Susan Best
  - Volunteers and judges
- Participants in the SWE-Widener Engineering Mini-Camp:
  - Overall organization and coordination - Vicki Brown
  - Workshop and lab presenters from the Philadelphia Section included: MaryAnn Skehan, Danielle Dunn, Barb Faust, Carole Stowell, Christine El-Beyrouy, Ayana Wood, Codou Samba, Maggie Schwartz, Tessa Winkler, Sharon Perez-Suarez, and Lisa Colosimo
- Science Fair judges - Barb Faust, Tracy Flathmann, Maggie Schwartz, Carole Stowell, and Lisa Walton
- Touch The Future Engineering Workshops - Susan Sciaratta and Barb Faust
- Scholarship Banquet presenter – Codou Samba
- SWE Certificate of Merit presenters - Ayana Wood, Carole Stowell, Agnes Muranyi, Jennifer Wetzel, Karen Jehanian, MaryAnn Skehan, Lisa Colosimo, Doreen Nixon, Nicole Wilson, Jessica Nee and Barb Faust
- Region E Conference Organizing Committee and volunteers
  - Conference Co-Chairs - Jennifer Garner/Philadelphia and Krystle Nagle/Drexel
  - Planning Committee - Megha Basu, Heather Bernardin, Kathy Duong, Danielle Dunn, Barbara Faust, Angel Feng, Diana Fernie, Shilpa Ghandi, Deena Grattan, Florella Haines, Jill Heinly, Susan Hougendoubler, Karen Johnson, Pooja Kapoor, Chong McLaren, Christine Miller, Karen Miu, Victoria Morgan, Doreen Nixon, Shannon Oglesby, Christopher Stewart, Alexis Wallen, Tessa Winkler, and Ayana Wood
  - Volunteers working the conference - Idil Akatn, Jade Blackwood, Ellen Peng, Tina Geevarghese, Cristin Yavorsky, Jamie Calverley, Seyma Aslan, Chi Nguyen, Becky Sichler, Lauren Oberholtzer, Jessica Lyman, Kyle Kessler, Sophia Tettch, Kayleigh Beidleman, Melissa McCaughey, Tam Tran, Owen Farrell, Dan Illson, Joe DeMaio, and Danit Maor
- Last but not least, the SWE Philadelphia FY06 Section Officers, Board members, Committee and Program Chairs: President Heather Bernardin, Vice President Danielle Dunn, Section Representatives Shannon Oglesby and Sharon Perez-Suarez, Treasurer Barbara Faust, Secretary Carole Stowell, Career Guidance - Doreen Nixon, Membership - Jennifer Wetzel, Newsletter Editors - Jurica Lee and Aina Zahari, Scholarship Program - Irena Ziec, Corporate Liaison - Michelle Lore, Student Liaison - Tessa Winkler, Professional Development - Kristin Awrachow, Job Bank - Maggie Schwartz, Publicity - Deena Grattan, Engineering Mini-Camp - Vicki Brown, Engineers Week Liaison - Susan Best

# **Professional Development**

## ❖ **SWE National Web Seminars**

Mark your calendars for the following SWE Web and live seminars. Replays of past seminars are also available. Information can be found at [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org) under professional development programs.

### **SWE, NSBE and SHPE Present**

#### **Six Sigma: What is it and how can it advance my career?**

May 10, 2006, 3:00 pm EST, [Registration now open](#) - free for SWE, NSBE and SHPE members; \$49 for non-members. Generously sponsored by **Abbott**.

#### **Three Women Engineers Who've Made it and What They've Learned**

Featured speakers are:

Natalie Givans, Vice President, **Booz Allen Hamilton**

Lori Cumming, Chief Engineer, **General Motors Corporation**

Jennifer Sterling, Director, Transmission Planning, **Exelon Corporation**

May 17, 2006, 3:00 pm EST, [Registration now open](#) - free for SWE members; \$49 for non-members. Generously sponsored by **Cummins Inc.**

#### **Time Management: How to get it all done and stay sane when you don't!**

June 7, 2006, 3:00 pm EST, [Registration now open](#) - free for SWE, NSBE and SHPE members; \$49 for non-members. Generously sponsored by **Kellogg's**.

## ❖ **SWE National Seminar: "From Pain to Gain: Enhancing Relationships through Conflict Management"**

**June 22, 2006 at Crowne Plaza O'Hare Airport, Rosemont, IL  
One-Day Seminar for Entry/Middle level managers**

To many, both just the idea and for sure, the experience of conflict bring up images and feelings of pain. However, with good conflict diagnosis and management skills, work relationships can often become superbly productive, more so than if there never was any conflict.

Teams that become effective at managing their internal conflict are much more likely to become high performing teams than those that never experience conflict, at least overtly, at all.

This day-long session will focus on hands-on strategies for both diagnosing the causes of conflict and for choosing strategically effective conflict management strategies.

You will learn more about your own conflict management style, its strengths and areas of development as well as how to identify in which situations particular conflict styles are most effective. Additionally, tenets and strategies from the Harvard Negotiation Program on win-win negotiation will be presented and applied to your organizational cultures. Plan on hands-on discussions of specific challenges you commonly experience at work -- what causes them and what strategies will be most effective in managing these conflicts. This one-day seminar is generously sponsored by Abbott Laboratories.

Register today at [www.swe.org/gain](http://www.swe.org/gain).



**SWE Philadelphia Section  
The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia  
215 South 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:phila_info@swe.org)

**SWE Philadelphia Section Newsletter  
May/June 2006**

**Annual Planning Meeting  
June 13, 2006**

**Remember to vote for FY07 Section Officers  
Ballots must be post-marked by June 1, 2006**

**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.*

**SWE-Philadelphia Section  
Election Ballot for FY07 Officers**

The slate of Philadelphia Section Officers proposed the SWE Fiscal Year beginning 1 July 2006 and ending 30 June 2007 is given below. Please vote and send your completed ballot to:

Jennifer L. Wetzel  
SWE-Philadelphia Election Ballot Teller  
19 Windsor Circle  
Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002

The teller's address is printed on the back of this form. For convenience, you may fold the ballot, secure the loose end with tape, attach postage, and mail without an envelope. Please sign the outside of the ballot or envelope to validate your ballot.

To be counted in this year's election, ballots must be post-marked by 1 June 2006. Note: we will have two Section Representatives next year as the Section has more than 100 voting members.

President: Jennifer Garner \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President: Tessa Winkler \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: Barbara C. Faust \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Section Representative 1: Aina Zahari \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Section Representative 2: Heather A. Bernardin \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Victoria Morgan \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-In \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments or Suggestions:

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From:

Jennifer L. Wetzel  
SWE-Philadelphia Election Ballot Teller  
19 Windsor Circle  
Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002

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