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SWE Outlook

May 2007

Letter from the President

This Spring, the section is again working toward its goals of student outreach and finding new and improved ways to serve its professional members. Barb Faust has organized the Certificate of Merit program for our section in order to recognize high school juniors and seniors with high achievement in Mathematics and Science. This program is a nice stepping-stone for students to learn about SWE as they move from high school to college. Volunteer presenters are needed at various schools; please see the e-mails from Barb so that you can help out in your area.

The Scholarship Committee selected six recipients of the Philadelphia Section's award program and recognized the winners at the annual banquet on April 25th. The section appreciates the continued support of the company and individual sponsors that made all six of these scholarships possible! We are pleased to have new and returning applicants from several schools in our section:

Rohm and Haas Awards

- Gina Casadei, Junior, Mechanical Engineering, York College
- Kelly Donmoyer, Sophomore, Civil Engineering, Villanova University

Lockheed Martin Awards

- Jacquelin Speck, Sophomore, Electrical Engineering, Temple University
- Clare Oven, Freshman, Mechanical Engineering, Villanova University

Merck & Co., Inc. Award

- Emily Chang, Senior, Chemical Engineering, University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Section Award

- Christine Roche, Junior, BioEngineering, University of Pennsylvania

Each of these recipients has shown the determination and positive attitude that SWE encourages in an engineering discipline, on their paths toward productive careers and community leadership.

Professional section members have voted to approve the new section Bylaws, and with them, the new officer structure as described last newsletter. This is a great move forward for the section which will help us better serve ourselves and reach our goals! Members should also have received the ballot for elected officers – these are due to Jennifer Wetzel by June 1, 2007. Thanks to the Nominating Committee for working to present great candidates for the ballot.

Elected officers and appointed chairs will meet during June in order to start transitioning duties and plan for FY08. We are also hoping to schedule a summertime retreat including fun activities, teambuilding, and planning so that we can kickoff the fall activities smoothly. Thanks to all section members, officers, and chairs who have worked hard this year to promote SWE and demonstrate its value to members, new members, students, and industry.



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SWE Calendar

Most up to date information can always be found on www.philaswe.org

Month/Date	Activity
June	
Tue 5 th	Emory Zimmers Memorial Golf Outing
Wed 6 th	Penn State Great Valley/ITAG Lecture
Fri 8 th	Section Report Due
Week of 18 th , TBD	FY08 Planning Meeting

Update Your SWE Profile

Have you recently moved? Do you have a new personal e-mail address? Did you accept a great new job offer? Then don't forget to update your National **SWE Member Profile** and tell us about it! The information listed in your profile is essential to SWE communication. We don't want you to miss out on important announcements and events, so remember to update your profile.

The process is simple. First, go to the National SWE website (www.swe.org) and log in using your Member ID and password. Next, click on Member Services in the left hand column. Finally, click on "Profile Update" in the first column and fill in all pertinent new information (i.e. mailing address, e-mail, education record, employer, etc.)!

End-of-the-Year Survey

Your comments are important to us. Tell us what you think! Please take just a few moments and a few clicks to tell us what you liked and maybe what you didn't like about SWE Philadelphia events, programs, and activities this year! The easy-to-complete electronic survey is now posted on our website (<http://www.philaswe.org/survey.php>). We truly appreciate your input!

Membership Renewal

Do not forget to renew your SWE Membership and pay your annual membership dues! **Members who pay dues before June 30th receive a \$5 discount!** Membership dues are important to the vitality of our section. A small percentage of the total Philadelphia member dues are returned to our section to fund various programs and events. You can renew your membership online or mail in your renewal form.

Online renewal is simple. Go to (www.swe.org/renew) and follow the instructions. Note: your SWE Member ID and password are required for online renewal. If you have questions concerning dues, feel free to contact any of the officers



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FY08 Section Officer Election

The slate of Philadelphia Section Officers proposed for the SWE Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008 is presented in this newsletter. First, read about each potential candidate below. Please then refer to the attached ballot and take a moment to vote. Votes may be submitted via USPS mail or via electronic ballot. Refer to the ballot for specific mailing instructions. All ballots must be postmarked by June 1, 2007.

Candidate(s) for President:

Jennifer Garner - Jennifer has worked as an engineer for Merck & Co., Inc. for the past nine years. Upon graduation from Stevens Institute of Technology with a B.E. in Chemical Engineering, Jen served as SWE Membership Chair and as the Counselor for Stevens in New Jersey. In 2002, she moved to Pennsylvania is now an engineer in the Vaccine Technology and Engineering department supporting raw materials. In the Philadelphia section, she served one year as Section Representative and continues to be the Swarthmore counselor. In 2005-2006, Jennifer served as the co-Chair for the Region E Conference held with Drexel University and in 2006-2007 has served as section president. She is also a member of the International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers.

Candidate(s) for Senior Vice-President:

Alexis Wallen - Alexis has been involved in SWE since her freshman year of college in 1999, when she enthusiastically dived into activities in Stanford SWE. At Stanford, she served as Elementary Outreach Co-Chair, Fall Banquet Chair, and Secretary; and she attended two regional and three national conferences. After graduation, she began working at Merck & Co, Inc, where she currently develops vaccine purification processes as an engineer in Bioprocess Research and Development. In Philadelphia SWE, she has served as the University of Pennsylvania Counselor and as a member of the Region E Conference Planning Committee. She is very excited to have the chance to serve the Philadelphia SWE Section as Senior Vice President, and her primary goals are to: a) promote overall member involvement; b) provide useful, fun, and interesting professional development opportunities; c) promote interaction between the professional section and the student sections; d) promote relationships between the student sections; and e) assist struggling collegiate sections.

Candidate(s) for Vice-Presidents: **Members will vote for TWO Vice-Presidents**

Danielle Dunn - Danielle first joined SWE as a freshman at Rice University in 1999, and became a vice president of the section her senior year. Since moving to Pennsylvania and joining the Philadelphia section, she has served as a newsletter editor, followed by a year as Vice President and a workshop coordinator for the Region E Conference hosted at Drexel (FY06). Currently, she works in the Merck Research Labs as a staff engineer in fermentation process development. Danielle would like to see our section continue to increase member participation in both section meetings and volunteer activities, as well as establish stronger ties with collegiate sections in the Philadelphia area.

Diana Fernie - Diana has been actively involved in SWE for the past seven years. While attending Drexel University, she devoted her time as Website Coordinator for two years and then served two consecutive terms as President coordinating all section operations. Currently, Diana is the Philadelphia Website Coordinator and Drexel Counselor. Diana hopes to assist the section in a smooth transition to the new officer structure as well as getting new members involved by creating new committee chairs to better serve the goals of the section. As an engineer-in-training (EIT), Diana's professional accomplishments include designing medium voltage electrical distribution systems for the Philadelphia International Airport and Philadelphia Water Department while working for Schiller and Hersh Associates, a MEP consulting firm.



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FY08 Section Officer Election (cont.)

Maryann Santitoro - Maryann Santitoro joined SWE in 2006 as a corporate member. She has worked in the Technology Operations Planning Department for The Vanguard Group since 1998. Prior to joining Vanguard she has held various technical and business positions at Conrail, Dunn and Bradstreet, CIGNA, and The Wall Street Journal. Maryann holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Rider University and both Master of Science and Master of Philosophy degrees from the University of Pennsylvania.

Candidate(s) for Secretary:

Cassandra Shoup - Cassie has been an active member of SWE for six years. While attending Purdue University she held the following collegiate SWE leadership positions: Office Assistant, TEAMS Outreach Chair, Membership Director, and Section President. Cassie is employed by MWH as an associate engineer and works on environmental remediation projects. Her goal as Secretary for the upcoming year is to organize and track the section's activities in an effective and useful means that will allow the section to grow and build on previous successes.

Candidate(s) for Treasurer:

Rebecca Snelling - Rebecca has been involved in SWE for 5 years, starting as a member of the Smith College collegiate SWE section from 2002-2006. She was vice-president of the section her junior year and president of the section her senior year. Upon graduation, she moved to the Philadelphia area and began working as an analyst for Accenture Consulting where she is currently designing, building, and testing interfaces between two databases. In the upcoming SWE year, Rebecca looks forward to becoming more involved in the Philadelphia SWE section. Although she does not have treasurer experience, she will apply her general organizational skills and learn the specifics from the previous treasurer.

Candidate(s) for Section Representatives: **Members will vote for TWO Representatives**

Heather Bernardin - Heather has been a professional member of the Philadelphia SWE section for 17 years. During that time she has held the positions of newsletter editor, secretary, scholarship chair, counselor, vice president, president and section representative for the section. Her goal for the year is to get the Philadelphia Section more involved in regional and national matters. Heather is currently self-employed as an IT contractor. Firms who need supplemental staffing hire her, particularly when they are developing new technologies.

Danielle Mauz - Danielle has been a member of SWE since sophomore year of College, and was the SWE Secretary at the University of Delaware during her senior year. She was very involved in planning the trip to the SWE National Conference for Fall 2005 in Anaheim, CA. This year, her first year out of college, she is running for Section Representative of the Philadelphia section. In total, she has been involved in SWE for 4 years. Danielle works at Rohm and Haas Company as a Process Engineer at the Engineering Division, doing process development and detailing options by using computer simulation and modeling.

Candidate(s) for Alternate Section Representative:

Andrea Manning - Andrea L. Manning joined SWE in August 2006. She is currently employed as the Standards Engineer for Engineered Arresting Systems Corporation (ESCO), a division of Zodiac. As Standards Engineer, Andrea is responsible for all configuration control related to the Engineered Material Arresting System (EMAS) product line, including creating and maintaining product drawings and installation & maintenance procedures.

Andrea is also involved in managing the over 40 research and development programs currently underway for the EMAS product. Mrs. Manning received her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. She is very interested in becoming more involved in SWE and looks forward to participating in SWE activities in the coming year.

Election Ballot for FY08 Officers

The slate of Philadelphia Section Officers proposed for the SWE Fiscal Year beginning 1 July 2007 and ending 30 June 2008 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.

Electronic votes may be submitted by e-mail to jwetzel@pobox.penn.edu

To be counted in this year's election, ballots must be post-marked by 1 June 2007. Note: we will have two Section Representatives and an Alternate Section Representative next year as the Section has more than 100 voting members.

President: Jennifer Garner _____
Write-In _____

Senior Vice President: Alexis Wallen _____
Write-In _____

Vice Presidents:
Please vote for TWO Danielle Dunn _____
Diana Fernie _____
Maryann Santitoro _____
Write-In _____

Treasurer: Rebecca Snelling _____
Write-In _____

Section Representative 1: Heather A. Bernardin _____
Write-In _____

Section Representative 2: Danielle Mauz _____
Write-In _____

Alternate Section Representative: Andrea Manning _____
Write-In _____

Secretary: Cassandra Shoup _____
Write-In _____

From:

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



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SWE National Conference

Society of Women Engineers 2007 National Conference

October 25-27, 2007

Nashville Convention Center

Nashville, Tennessee

Heralded as the country-music capital of the world, Tennessee's fast-growing capital city also shines as a leading center of industry and higher education. One of the South's most vibrant cities, Nashville blends industry, first class facilities, history, culture and entertainment with Southern hospitality to create a memorable conference experience. Our conference will be located downtown near historic Broadway offering an outstanding selection of restaurants, specialty shopping, honky tonks and other entertainment options.

The SWE National Conference is the largest professional development and career conference for women engineers. The 2006 conference attracted more than 4,000 engineering professionals, engineering students, and corporate representatives. Our 2007 Nashville conference theme, Women In Tune with Technology, 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!

Refer to the SWE National website for full hotel reservation information

Rates range from \$139.00-\$169.00 Single/Double

Gestalt & SWE Professional Meeting

SWE Philadelphia was proud to co-host a professional development meeting with Gestalt, who sponsored dinner and a speaker at their Camden NJ headquarters on May 23rd, 2007. Alana Dann, a Project Manager with Gestalt and an engineer with thirty years of software developing experience, spoke to the group about Agile Methodology and her role as "Scrum Master". The Agile Methodology was developed in part by Ken Schwaber, who defined the term "scrum" to replace the traditional concept of what a project manager does. Agile concepts can be used by a project team in order to focus on deliverables to a customer and to move a project forward in defined segments. The concepts allow for flexibility in the roles of the team members as well as in the scope and path that projects take. While this may sound disorganized, the Agile methods ensure that the voice of the customer is always in the forefront and that projects can adapt to changes while still moving forward. Alana has used these techniques and her role as Scrum Master for software projects for the US Air Force over the past two years. Following her presentation and discussion with SWE members, Jennifer Garner and Michele Lore gave a presentation on the SWE mission, the Philadelphia section goals and accomplishments, and about corporate membership and its benefits. The group discussed events from student outreach to girls and collegiate women, to the Regional and National conferences for both students, professionals, and industry representatives and recruiters. The section extends its thanks to the Philadelphia and New Jersey members who attended this event, and to Gestalt for considering SWE as a partner in the recruitment and advancement of women engineers.



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Member Highlight: Willa J Hightower

Profession/Job Title: Manager in Finance, Special Project - Mission FIRST

Employer: Exelon Corporation (www.exeloncorp.com)

Work Description: Appointed to the **Mission: Finance Innovation** through **Responsible process and System Transformation** team where our objective is to: Evaluate Finance's capabilities and effectiveness in meeting business reporting and control requirements and Transform processes and systems to achieve world-class performance levels in Finance.

College/University: Bachelor Industrial Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology (GA Tech), MBA - Finance from Georgia State Univ

Years as a SWE member: 2

Tell us a little about yourself:

Willa is an Industrial Engineering graduate of Georgia Tech and went on to pursue her MBA at Georgia State University with an emphasis in finance. Willa has been in the energy industry since 1996. She has been able to put her engineering and finance knowledge to good use in marketing to large commercial and industrial customers with Georgia Power, in generation project evaluation for Mirant and in developing long-range financial plans for Exelon Generation. She was recently appointed to the Mission FIRST team as the Generation Finance representative.

Willa's grandmother once told her "to whom much is given, much is required." Willa demonstrates her commitment to her community by being an active member of Bright Hope Baptist Church, as an active board member of the Legacy of Love Foundation and Family Services of Chester County, in various leadership roles in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. along with a host of other activities. Willa J Hightower is the President of the Philadelphia Chapter of American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE). In addition to all of the volunteer activities, Willa enjoys ballets, plays and Broadway musicals. Willa is expecting her first child in July.

SWE Philadelphia Section Bylaws

In April 2007, the Philadelphia Section of the Society of Women Engineers voted to approve a brand new set of bylaws. The draft revised bylaws were submitted to the National bylaws committee for review after an initial member comment period. After the comment period expired and once preliminary approval was granted from the National committee, the bylaws were open to a member vote. Nearly 20% of our total voting members participated in the voting process, with 100% of the ballots received voting to approve the new bylaws.

All SWE sections are required to revise their current bylaws in accordance with the new template provided by the Society. The Philadelphia Section was one of the first professional sections to accomplish this task. The Executive Board would like to thank all of the members that voted and a special thanks to Susan Best for her guidance and hard work in the bylaws revision process!

As a result of the new bylaws, the Philadelphia Section will welcome the addition of new officers next year. The Section standing committees were eliminated and instead multiple vice president positions, including one senior vice-president, have been created. We hope that the new officer structure will improve overall communication and help to distribute responsibilities more evenly among section leadership.



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

Address Correction Requested

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