Sandy Evans Is Pres. Of Women Engineers

The first conference of women engineering students was held on April 2nd and 3rd at the Sarah Drexel Van Rensselaer Dormitory. More than seventy women engineering students representing nineteen colleges in the Industrial East were guests of the Drexel Society of Women Engineers.

At this meeting Drexel’s Phyllis “Sandy” Evans, a junior in the college of engineering, was elected the first president of the Society by the Council which is composed of two members from each district. This constituted the first step toward victory for those women who are victims of discrimination; however, Sandy took her first big leap when a student at Lower Merion High School where she participated in the all-boys’ school band, in unlady-like shop courses, and in the all-boys’ lacrosse team. In addition, she became the first girl to join the local unit of the Civil Air Patrol and later became a member of the American Rocket Society. After graduation she hopes to continue working with United States Navy on rocket experimentation.

Thirteen girls enrolled in the college of engineering banded together a few years ago and formed the Drexel Society of Women Engineers. This year they took an even bigger stride and expanded their society to merge with 200 girl engineering students from other colleges from Massachusetts to Washington and from the Atlantic coast to Pittsburgh. At the conference the representatives organized a governing council composed of two representatives from each district with meetings to be held twice a year and conventions held not less than once a year with the Engineering Society’s publication edited quarterly.

The two-day conference opened with greetings from Dr. Robert C. Disque, dean of the college of engineering at Drexel, Mrs. Dorothy R. Young, dean of women at Drexel and the Adviser to the Society of Women Engineers at Drexel, and Professor A. W. Grosvenor. At the dinner in honor of Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth, noted woman engineer, representatives heard her
stress the need for scientific training.

The purpose of the Society which were set up at the meeting are to establish a code of ethics, to educate the public in the need for women engineers, to foster congenial relationships between women engineers and industry, to help undergraduates find their place in industry, and to encourage and assist all women who show an aptitude and desire to study engineering.

The society plans three types of membership—full membership for all women working toward engineering degrees, associate memberships for women studying in related fields, and graduate membership for district alumni.