



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT	1
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	2
SOCIETY NEWS	2-5
SECTION NEWS	6-9
UPCOMING EVENTS	9
PREVIOUS EVENTS	10
MEMBER NEWS	10
CONTACT LIST	11

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello SWE Philadelphia!

As we kick off the new year, we have an outreach filled spring! On February 3rd, our members will support Widener University's Engineering Mini-Camp, a full day event dedicated to introducing high school students to various fields of engineering. In addition to hands on activities, there are panel events with collegiates and professionals, and a separate session was held for parents. Contact Jen Ligo at phila_outreach@swe.org if you are interested in volunteering for this event or ones similar.



While Region Conferences no longer exist, WE Locals are already off to a good start. The one closest to Philadelphia is being held in Providence, Rhode Island on April 20-22 this year and is sure to be a fantastic event. Additional details for this year can be found at welocal.swe.org; if you're up for some travel, there is a WE Local in Pune, India and one in Prague, Czech Republic!

In the meantime, consider joining us for the Philadelphia Science Carnival on April 28th. We are teaming up with Drexel University SWE for the second year in a row, and it's sure to be a success! We are looking for someone to head up the efforts from the professional Philly section. Let me know if you're interested!

Keep an eye on your email, our Facebook, and other social media accounts for information on our upcoming events. As we continue the second half of the year, we look forward to seeing new faces at our remaining events. You are always welcome to join us!

If you have ideas or questions, feel free to reach out to me at any time. I can be reached at phila_president@swe.org.

Mary Beth Biddle

Mary Beth Biddle

NEW MEMBERS



The Society of Women Engineers is constantly growing and welcoming new engineers in all stages of their careers. Here are the recent newcomers to the SWE Philadelphia Section.

Name	Membership Type
Cammy Trivellini	Professional
Bethany Bittering	Collegiate
Jennifer Dampf	Professional
Tara Jordan	Professional
William Fee	Professional
Maria Kauffman	Professional
Rebekah Mateer	Professional
Valerie Prucnal	Professional
Cara Fiala	Professional
Anoopoma Bhowmik	Professional
Anusha Janardhana	Professional
Mercedes Hagans	Colligate
Christie Tuttle	Professional
Amy Kaminski	Professional

SOCIETY NEWS

Diversity and Inclusion Fuels Innovation in STEM

On March 14-15, 2018 the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) will organize our annual Congressional Outreach Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Please consider attending this program entitled, "**Diversity and Inclusion Fuels Innovation in STEM,**" which is open to SWE members and members of other STEM organizations.

Participants will:

- Hear from leading subject matter experts from federal agencies
- Receive briefings on relevant legislative affairs
- Increase elected officials' awareness of the importance of diversity and inclusion in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce

SWE's 2018 Congressional Outreach Day will begin promptly at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 (with an optional lunch at noon), and will conclude by 4:00 PM on Thursday, March 15, 2018. All formal activities during this event will be held on Capitol Hill and at the **Washington Court Hotel,**

conveniently located next to the Capitol. (Upon registration, participants will be sent information to reserve a room at the Washington Court Hotel.)

During the two-day event, SWE members will have the chance to participate in pre-visit trainings, network, enjoy a reception with elected officials, and meet with representatives or congressional staff.

A more detailed agenda will be available soon. If you have any questions, please contact SWE's Washington representatives [Della Cronin](#) and [Russell Armstrong](#) at (202) 349-2304.

Space is limited and will be on a first come first served basis.. **Registration closes on February 16, 2018.** For more information about SWE's public policy priorities, please visit the advocacy section of SWE's [All Together](#) blog or our [Legislative Action Center](#). You can stay informed about SWE Advocacy through text alerts. Text SWE Public Policy to 56512 to sign-up.

We hope to see you on March 14-15, 2018, so [register today!](#)

FY18 Wow! Innovation Challenge

SWE is excited to announce the second **FY18 Wow! Innovation Challenge**. The challenge recognizes the innovative outreach techniques being used by SWE sections, MALs and global affiliates. Periodically, a section/MAL/affiliate will be recognized for a unique, creative approach to a component of outreach. SWE will award a \$1000 outreach stipend to the winning section/MAL/affiliate and will share the winning entries with the entire society.

FY18 Wow! Innovation Challenge #2

We want to hear about how your team raises funds for Outreach Events. How do you identify the best sources of funding and then successfully raise those funds to meet your target? It could be through third party donations or partnerships; perhaps you have a corporate sponsor who provides some financial support. How did you engage that sponsorship?

Is your fundraising through SWE programs/stipends like Program Development Grants or winning a Wow! Innovation Challenge? Or is it event based sales where your team sells raffle tickets, tutoring services, etc.? We are eager to hear your ideas and practices!

How to Apply

Visit the [Wow! Innovation Challenge page](#) and click on "Apply for FY18 Wow! Innovation Challenge #2 here". Fill out the required information in the form and add your content.

Submission Period

Submissions will be accepted between January 8 – February 12, 2018. **Submissions must be received by 11:59 PM Central Time on Monday, February 12, 2018.**

Questions? Visit the [Wow! Innovation Challenge FAQ page](#) or contact [Veronica Robertson](#).

Let's Break Boundaries – WE18

It's time to [submit your presentation](#) for WE18, SWE's Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 18-20, 2018. More than 250 sessions will be selected.

The theme for WE18 is "**Let's Break Boundaries.**" For three days, thousands of women in engineering and technology will connect with one another and celebrate how they are breaking boundaries every day. They're crashing through barriers: graduating from engineering schools around the globe, working at top engineering firms, and innovating solutions to the world's biggest challenges.

Become a thought leader in engineering and present at WE18. As a speaker, you will have the opportunity to share your expertise and support the advancement of women in engineering and technology.

The deadline to submit is March 9, 2018. Check out content from WE17 and previous conferences on [SWE's SlideShare](#).

Apply for a SWE Scholarship!

In 2017, the Society of Women Engineers awarded more than 230 new and renewed scholarships valued at more than \$715,000. SWE Scholarships support women pursuing bachelor or graduate degrees in engineering, engineering technology and computer science both in the United States, and internationally.

Students complete one application and are considered for all scholarships for which they are eligible. The application process is entirely online including submission of recommendation letters and transcripts.

If you will be a sophomore through Ph.D. candidate in the 2018-2019 academic year, **apply online** for a SWE Scholarship **December 1, 2017 through February 15, 2018**. If you will be a freshman in the upcoming fall semester, you may apply **March 1 through May 1, 2018**. **Learn more on our SWE Scholarships page.**

Check out stories about our SWE scholars, donors and members who make our scholarship program possible on SWE's blog, ***All Together***.

Sign Up to Judge 2018 Scholarship Applications!

Investing in our next generation of engineers is important to our mission. That's why we're seeking professional members to judge 2018 upperclass and graduate student applications. **Judging begins March 1 and is completed by March 22**, so volunteers should [sign up today!](#)

Please send any questions to [SWE Scholarships](#) and we will respond promptly.

Nominations for International Senator

Are you a strategic thinker? Interested in charting the strategic direction of SWE? Nominate yourself or someone else for International Senator.

The International Senator is a member of SWE's Senate, and is responsible for:

- Charting the strategic direction of SWE by developing and adopting long-range goals for the Society.
- Developing and/or adopting proposed changes to the Society bylaws, policies, and procedures that are in line with the strategic plan.
- Conducting essential dialogue with Society membership on long-term trends and issues of common interest.

In accordance with the adoption of S-1803 "Senate and Regions" Proposal to Amend Bylaws, the International members must elect an International Senator to serve for a three-year term commencing on July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021 (FY19 – FY21).

The deadline for submitting nominations is **March 1, 2018** to **SWE Headquarters** and requires the following:

- Candidate statement as .doc, .docx or .txt, maximum of 400 words. Include name as you want it displayed on the slate.
- Photo in gif or .jpg format, at least 300 dpi. File size 1MB maximum.

Please be aware of the following responsibilities and time commitments before applying for the position:

- Senators must be voting members of the Society (except special Senators) and will serve for a term of three (3) fiscal years
- Senators should anticipate participating in a lot of virtual meetings and communications
- The role typically requires the following time commitments:
 - Monthly conference calls – 1 hour each
 - Participation in 1 sub-team
 - Annual Strategic Planning (2 mandatory face-to-face meetings, calls 1-5 hours per month)
 - Strategic initiatives (Variable)
 - Committees' strategic planning (Variable)
 - Communications (Variable)
 - Face-to-face Senate meetings – At least 2 per fiscal year
 - Annual Conference (Fall; 3 days – mandatory)
 - Winter Senate meeting (Winter; 1 day – mandatory)
 - WE Local (Spring; 1 day – currently not required, but highly recommended)
 - Offline discussions on bylaws amendments and motions (Variable)
 - Active communication with Society membership
- Funding for travel is currently available through SWE for the Winter Senate meeting and annual strategic planning sub-team face-to-face meetings. Future funding to be determined
- These roles and responsibilities are subject to change by the Senate leadership team as the governance changes continue to be implemented

Nominees should possess the five **SWE leadership competencies**:

- Communication
- Self-Management and Development
- Business Acumen
- Coaching, Mentorship and Sponsorship
- Leadership Abilities

Contact **Kate Hull**, Speaker of the Senate, to learn more about the role.

SECTION NEWS

Volunteer Training - Resources

If you plan on volunteering with a Philadelphia SWE event, please review the following resources on STEM volunteering!

2017 Engaging Diverse Communities in Hands-On STEM (presented by the Franklin Institute)

- [Presentation](#)
- [Webinar](#)
- [2014 Philadelphia SWE Outreach Volunteer Training](#)

Please contact phila_outreach@swe.org with any questions.

Event Coordinators Needed – Help Plan an Event with PHL SWE!

Are you interested in helping to plan a tour, technical talk or social for SWE Philadelphia in the upcoming months?

- We are looking for 1 volunteer for each event to finalize event dates & details and to act as the SWE lead working with event partners (i.e. meeting location and other partner groups participating in the event, if applicable).
- Responsibilities include: working under the direction of the VP Professional Development (Jill Ditzler) to communicate with partners to set up event, finalize event logistics, and to attend the event & provide a copy of the attendance list to SWE officers.
- Time estimated to plan an event is ~1-2 hours total.

If interested, please email Jill (VP Professional Development) at: phila_profdev@swe.org

Open Positions – Philadelphia SWE

Part of what makes the Philadelphia SWE section so great is the amazing participating of our members who keep it running like a well oiled machine. Read the open positions available for our section to see how you can get involved in FY16!

Awards Banquet Chair

Plans and organizes the SWE Philadelphia End of Year Banquet.

Awards Coordinator

Focuses on member and section recognition. Compiles packages to submit section for regional and society awards. Assists in submitting packages for members nominated for society awards. Helps identify any awards to be given at end of the year banquet. This year, will begin to develop foundation for yearly section awards for members.

Certificate of Merit Chair

The Philadelphia SWE Section invites local high schools to participate in the SWE Certificates of Merit program. Each year, upon teacher or counselor recommendation, SWE recognizes up to three female students in each high school for outstanding achievement over three years in both mathematics and science. Each certificate is embossed with the student's name, date of award, and either "Highest Honor", "High Honor", or "Honor."

1. Contact local high schools (list provided) inviting them to recognize students who have excelled in math and science
2. Prepare certificates honoring said students
3. In some cases, help schools find SWE members who can present the awards in person

Corporate Liaison

Connects Philadelphia SWE to local companies, some of whom may be able to provide meeting locations, or financial support.

Meeting Coordinator

Assist the VP of Professional Development in coordinating meeting locations, invites, attendee lists, and other miscellaneous task.

Science Fair Coordinator

Each year, Philadelphia SWE attends the Delaware Valley Science Fair. The coordinator organizes volunteers to attend the science fair. The group judges students who are presenting engineering related projects. After the science fair, the coordinator sends recognition to the winners.

Social Media Chair

Publishes content regularly to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram

Webmaster

Regularly update website content based on upcoming events, offer changes, etc. Receive input from President, VPs, and biweekly emails

If you're interested in any of these positions, please send an e-mail to Mary Beth Biddle at marybethb422@gmail.com.

Do you shop on Amazon? You could be missing an opportunity to help SWE!



AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same Amazon Prime benefits. All you have to do is use a specified link when signing in to Amazon to shop like always and Amazon donates money to the organization you specify. If you shop on Amazon but use the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2604522> to log in 0.5% of the price of your purchase will be donated to Philly SWE! It only takes one click and then Philly SWE gets extra money to host events for you!

Seeking Corporate Contacts

If you know someone in your company who is in charge of or interested in making donations to a philanthropic organization, please let the Society of Women Engineers Philadelphia Section know so that we may get in touch!

The Society of Women Engineers is the world's largest advocate and catalyst for change for women in engineering and technology. We help members reach their full potential as engineers and leaders through networking, professional development and the shaping of public policy. And, we inspire young girls to become engineers and support them with scholarships. To that end, the Philadelphia section solicits donations and allocates the funds to scholarships and programs geared towards professional development and outreach.

Stay up to date with SWE PHL through social media!

Website: <http://philadelphia.swe.org/>

Find the latest events, add our google calendar, and learn about volunteer opportunities

Facebook: www.facebook.com/philaswe

See past event photos, upcoming events and interesting articles

Twitter: [@PhilaSWE](https://twitter.com/PhilaSWE)

Join in the conversation, event reminders and photos! **#PhilaSWE!**

Instagram: [@PhilaSWE](https://www.instagram.com/PhilaSWE)

Share your SWE memories with us and check out photos from this year's events!

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=4173718

Show your colleagues your professional interests by joining the SWE Philadelphia group and find professional opportunities shared with SWE through our network

Philadelphia SWE Technical Spotlight

Learn more about where your fellow SWE Philadelphia members work in the Greater Philadelphia area!



Amy B. Kaminski, P.E., PTOE

1) What type of engineer are you?

I work as Transportation Engineer. I serve as the appointed Municipal Traffic Engineer in several municipalities in eastern PA and perform transportation engineering for private, municipal and institutional clients. My work duties include roadway, signal, pedestrian and traffic calming designs along with transportation impact studies, multimodal planning and design; along with Pennsylvania highway occupancy permitting on state roads.

2) What company do you work for?

Gilmore & Associates, Inc. G&A is a full-service civil engineering firm with six offices in eastern Pennsylvania.

3) What was the most interesting project you have been a part of?

The most interesting project I can recall recently was a project I worked involving a traffic signal retiming effort in Philadelphia under a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant. The project team retimed several major travel corridors in the City of Philadelphia. I really enjoyed the team I worked with and I also enjoyed working with the City of Philadelphia Streets Department. It's very rewarding to work on a project you know will be well received by the community when you move traffic more efficiently along a busy corridor.

4) How does diversity impact your work?

I graduated from college in 1984 and immediately started working as an engineer-in-training for Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in the Transportation Technical Services Department at Central Office (Columbus). In 1984, I can't recall meeting any other female engineers at ODOT and therefore, I think I may have been the only female engineer working in Central Office. I found it amusing that I was often mistaken as a secretary for many meetings I attended; but interestingly enough, the department I worked for was very diverse. Thirty years later I find what is most recognized by my clients is my skill and experience and I do not find that diversity impacts my work.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stay Tuned for More Events This Spring!



PREVIOUS EVENTS

Yoga Community Class and Informal Social

On December 16th, our very own Sharon Vuong (treasurer) taught a vinyasa yoga class to finish out her 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training at Pureenergy Studio in Paoli. Sharon led the all-level class with confidence, and all attendees left feeling re-centered and calm - a perfect afternoon right before the holidays. Students included SWE members, fellow yoga teachers-to-be, and Sharon's family and friends. Following the class, SWE members chatted over appetizers at Christopher's in Malvern. Social events are a great way to get to know other SWE members, especially those who are new to the organization and the area! We'd like to thank Sharon for coordinating the event and wish her well in her yoga classes.

UPenn Networking Social

Philly SWE and the University of Pennsylvania hosted a joint networking and social event at Cavanaugh's Headhouse in Center City Philadelphia on November 14th. The women and men who attended enjoyed happy hour specials. There were discussions about work, art, applying for MBA programs, and the beautiful fall weather.

MEMBER NEWS

Do you have exciting news to share? It could be anything from graduations to birthdays, engagements to professional accomplishments. Email the [SWE Newsletter Editor](#) with your exciting news!

OFFICER CONTACT LISTING

FY17 Elected Officers	Name	Email
Executive Council Voting Members		
President	Mary Beth Biddle	phila_president@swe.org
Sr. Vice President Communication	Julie Williams	phila_communications@swe.org
Vice President Prof Dev	Jillian Ditzler	phila_profdev@swe.org
Vice President Outreach	Jennifer Ligo	phila_outreach@swe.org
Secretary	Kimberly Lam	phila_secretary@swe.org
Treasurer	Sharon Vuong	phila_treasurer@swe.org
Section Representative	Maria Legato	legato.maria@gmail.com
Alternate Section Representative	Aurora Achong	aurora.achong@gmail.com
FY17 Committee Chairs and Section Leaders		
Outreach Group		
Certificate of Merit Coordinator	OPEN	
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Girl Scouts Chair	Sam Schneider	samschneider25@gmail.com
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Scholarship Coordinator	Pauline Rusciano	philaswescholarships@gmail.com
Science Fair Coordinator	OPEN	
Science Carnival Chair	OPEN	
FY17 Professional Development		
Corporate Liaison	OPEN	
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Awards Coordinator	OPEN	
Awards Banquet Chair	OPEN	
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SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS
PHILADELPHIA SECTION,
REGION E

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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 18-20, 2018	WE18



Search SWE Philadelphia



Mission: 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, demonstrating the value of diversity

The Philadelphia Section was one of the original chartering sections of SWE, chartered on May 27, 1950