

Society of Women ENGINEERS

SWE SPOKE
Issue 1

November
2001-2002



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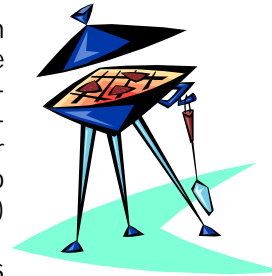
SWE's Mission:

- *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*
- *Demonstrate the value of diversity.*

“THOSE COOL FUNDRAISING CATS AND DOGS...”

The rain held off long enough on Monday, October 15 for the grills to be fired up on the Engineering Lawn. Sponsored by Abbott Laboratories, SWE held their Fall-Grilling-Extravaganza (also known as the SWEenie Weenie) and had a great time doing it.

Armed with 200 hamburgers and 80 "All Beef" Hot Dogs, members grilled, wrapped, and sold their products to make over \$250!!!



While not all of the food was sold, those who did buy a burger or dog claimed it was the best meal (and deal) on campus that day.

For those of you who missed out on participating in this semester's grill-out, no need to worry. There will be another SWEenie Weenie next semester!

Karen Mandl

BIG SIB/LITTLE SIB OFF TO A GREAT START!

Big Sib/Little Sib had their fall 2001 kickoff on Wednesday September 26th. We had a great turnout for the kickoff and there are over 50 sibs participating in the program this semester. The kickoff was a chance for everyone to get to know their sibs, eat some free food, and accept the big sib/little sib challenge. The first two groups of sibs to complete the challenge will receive gift certificates for dinner at Paisan's.

Our first Big Sib/Little Sib event was a

study social that was held on Wednesday, October 3rd. This was a great time to get some homework done, get advice from sibs, and of course eat lots of free pizza from Papa John's.

The next event planned for BS/LS is a movie night in Engineering Hall. This event is tentatively planned for the beginning of December. Check out This Week in SWE for exact details.

Meredith Bond and Liz Thottakara

GOALS OF SWE

- Inform young women, their parents, teachers and counselors, and the general public of opportunities in the field of engineering.
- Disseminate information on the qualifications and achievements of women in engineering.
- Encourage women engineers to attain high levels of educational and professional achievement.
- Create a sense of belonging and unity among engineers with diverse backgrounds and interests.

SWE OFFICERS

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President	Megan Gullicksrud	mgullicksrud@hotmail.com
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Mentoring	Merideth Bond	mlbond@students.wisc.edu
	Liz Thottakara	eathottakara@students.wisc.edu
School Outreach	Amanda Lum	arlum@students.wisc.edu
Special Events	Juliana	juliana@students.wisc.edu
Tech Events	Currently open	Contact our president if interested

Contact Info

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room 301

Office Hours:
9:55 – 4:30
Monday-Friday

Phone Number:
608/262-3387

E-mail:
swe@cae.wisc.edu

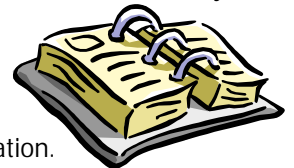
Mailing Address:
1513 University Ave.
Madison, WI 53706

Fax:
608/265-6643

Website:
www.cae.wisc.edu/~swe

FALL EVENT CALENDAR

For more information on these events (including time and location), visit our website (<http://www.cae.wisc.edu/~swe>) or check your email for *This Week in SWE*, our weekly email message with details on upcoming SWE events.



November

- 15 SWEGA Coffeehouse, 5-6 pm, Muddy Waters (1 N. Randall)
- 26 Section meeting with Ford, 6 pm, see *This Week in SWE* for location.
- 28 Communication Meeting, 6:00 pm, 4160 EH
- 29 SWEGA Coffeehouse, 5-6 pm, Muddy Waters (1 N. Randall)
- 30 College of Engineering Winter Formal, 8:00 pm-12 midnight at the Edgewater Hotel

December

- 1 Habitat for Humanity
- 3 EWI tickets on sale
- 6 Memorial of Montreal Massacre (see *This Week in SWE* for details)
- 6 Distinguished Member Banquet, 6:00 pm
- 13 SWEGA Coffeehouse, 5-6 pm, Muddy Waters (1 N.Randall)
- 16-21 Good Luck with Exams!

This schedule is not complete. The dates of some events have not yet been set.

HOMECOMING 2001

As it's now tradition, SWE took part this year to the Homecoming events. We paired up with an engineering sister organization, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). This year's theme was Badger Luau, giving the



festivities a Hawaiian flavor. The Homecoming week was packed with fun events, the Badger Games, Tug-o-War, Yell-like-Hell, the Banner competition and the Parade. I was personally involved in these two last events. Jessica Harris was the team leader for the Banner competition. The canvas was framed in bamboo-like sticks, tied with twines. The banner represented a wonderful 3-D picture of a man and a woman on a Hawaiian beach. Hair, skirt and decorations were props attached to the canvas, rather than simply painted. We were proud of the final product!

Rachel Turner and Christine Mui were the team leaders for the float project. It all started with an idea from Jenny Bauer (ASME Chair): last summer she suggested how much she'd have liked to see a spitting-flame volcano on our float. It was time to realize the wonderful idea: an impromptu design of a flame thrower was needed. The ideas of using rubbing alcohol and propane were rejected in favor of using some torch fuel. Extensive testing sessions gave us the insights on how to tune the sprayer for the fuel, the best pressure for the fuel tank, the best position for the igniting wick. A final touch was given to the project

when the fabric and the small palm trees were added to the sides of the volcano. In the meantime, Angela Neidermire's idea of tying candies to paper flowers bearing the names of our organizations was well under way as about 500 paper flowers were prepared.

The day of the parade came and lots of people showed up to ride the float. We lined up in Langdon St. for staging about one hour and a half before the parade began. The last testing before the parade took place...and we found ourselves wrestling with flames out of control! Now we were all charged up, and the parade started! We literally lighted up the whole scene and warmed up the participants' spirits with our flames. From kids to adults, everyone in State St was amazed by our float! As soon as the parade ended, the Awards Ceremony took place at the Memorial Union: we proudly came home with an overall third place for all the events in the Homecoming Week.

Great job to SWE and ASME: see you all at the next homecoming!!!!

Paolo Piagi



“The last testing before the parade took place...and we found ourselves wrestling with flames out of control!”

NOTABLE NUMBERS

Rape Crisis Center
24 hour crisis line
251-7273

Sexual Assault Nurse
Examiner Program
267-6206

University Health
Services Crisis Response
265-6565

Campus Women's Center
263-8093

LGBT Campus Center
265-3344

Multicultural Student
Center 262-4503

Dean of Student Office
263-5700

SAFE Nighttime
Transportation 262-5000

Women's Transit
Authority 256-7233

*(Published by Associated
Students of Madison)*

SECTION MEETING WITH EATON — SEARCHING FOR JOBS

Eaton, an \$8 million global industrial manufacturer, visited UW – Madison for a SWE section meeting on October 8th. Eaton is listed as 213 in the Fortune 500 and manufactures highly engineered products that serve industrial, vehicle, construction, commercial, and aerospace markets.

Matt Halferty, an HR Supervisor from Eaton, spoke about how to perform a job search. With the state of the economy, many people who are looking for jobs are nervous. However, Halferty showed that industry trends suggest the long-term outlook for engineering careers is very good.

It is essential to start your job search with an idea of what is important in your life and for your career. Utilize resources such as career services, career fairs, the internet,



and newspapers to find opportunities. Once you have found an open position, translate the advertisement to find critical information. Pay close attention to the job description, instructions for applying, required characteristics, and desired characteristics. Another option is to search for unadvertised jobs through networking or even a paid professional recruiter.

With the technical skills engineers possess and the knowledge of how to perform a job search, the future looks bright for our careers!

A special thanks goes out to Matt Halferty and Eaton for

visiting and sharing all of the valuable information.

Mary Jischke

HOMECOMING BADGER GAMES

First of all I would like to give a huge thank you to all of those brave souls who participated in the Badger Games on October 22nd. Especially to those who came in as back ups at the last minute, thanks for pulling through for us, guys. A great time was had by all who participated, and it gave people from the two separate organizations a chance to meet each other. The team did an excellent job and Bucky even

pitched in to give us a helping hand. I must say I was impressed with our ability to race through the spoon game and the Dizzy Izzy game was very humorous. One of the members of our team even won a cool door-prize. I hope everyone had a blast. Once again thanks to everyone who joined in the fun. On Wisconsin!

Sarah Melsen

SOME EVENTS OF INTEREST...

11/16-11/18

United Council's 10th Annual Multi-Cultural Issues Conference: Building Unity. "Solidarity in the Struggle" Madison, Wisconsin. We need women with experience to teach workshops on subjects like Women In Politics, Sexual Assault, Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Feminism Modern Day Applications, Sexism, Socialization of Women in our society, etc. For flyers and more information, contact: Su Ann Rose 608-263-3422 (phone)

11/20

The Annual Ruth and Helen Dickie Seminar Competition 5:30 pm in 516 S.M.I. (Medical Sciences Complex) Abstracts are due one week earlier on November 13. Application forms and guidelines for the competition can be found on the web at <http://www.neuroscience.wisc.edu/gwis.htm>.

11/26

SWE Section Meeting, 6-7 pm. Topic: Panel on co-op, intern and grad school opportunities. Food provided! Location TBA.

11/30

SWE/GWN (Graduate Women Network) brown-bag, 12-1 pm, Union South (check TITU) Speaker: Sandra Arnn, Director of Engineering Career Services Topic: THE JOB HUNT . Desserts and drinks provided!

Regular events:

- PAVE (Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment): Every Tuesday 5:30 Helen C White (check TITU for room) Help pave the way for survivors of sexual violence!
- International Coffee and Conversation

(Continued on page 5)

SWE GRADUATE AFFAIRS GET ACTIVITIES UP AND RUNNING...

The Graduate Affairs (SWEGA) committee is currently made up of a few busy but committed individuals at various stages of their graduate careers. After having a bunch of scattered meetings in September and October, we decided to focus on starting up a regular meeting time for all women engineering grad students in the College, as well as finalizing the SWEGA website, and developing collaborations with other organizations such as Graduate Women in Science (GWIS), the Graduate Women Network (GWN) and the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES).

As already mentioned, we decided to organize a biweekly gathering of women graduate students to promote sharing problems and experiences between new students and those of us who have been here a little longer. The SWEGA Coffeehouse started up on October 18, and meets every other Thursday – the next one will be November 15 and then November 29. Meet at Muddy Waters (1 N. Randall, corner of Randall and Regent, about 5 minutes from the Engineering campus) at 5:00 pm for coffee and conversation. All are welcome – come as you can, and bring a friend!

October saw a continuing relationship between SWEGA and GWN – on October 26, SWE members were invited to attend a brownbag with guest Denice Denton (Dean of Engineering at University of Washington). Goodies were provided by the Women Faculty Mentoring Program, and was co-sponsored by the Women Faculty in Physical Sciences. The final brownbag will be November 30 at Union South with guest Sandra Arnn (director of Engineering Career Services), and treats will be provided by our very own SWE chapter. (Thanks, SWE!) GWN Brownbag dates for the spring semester will be posted on the SWEGA calendar as soon as they are set.

For the spring semester, SWEGA and GWIS will co-sponsor a panel discussion based on various employment options in academia for women scientists and engineers. Keep an eye on the SWEGA website for updates!

Thanks to everyone who has helped out so far this semester, and we hope to see folks at the SWEGA Coffeehouse and the GWN brownbag!

Call for volunteers!

We are looking for interested grad students to help out with three other projects:

- We need mentors for undergraduates who are thinking about applying for graduate school;
- We need volunteers from each department who would be willing to help orient new students to their department, and who also might be willing to write a section of a graduate student orientation handbook (We have a couple existing examples we can work from, but we need a departmental perspective as well!);
- We are trying to organize an advising session for undergraduates interested in applying to grad school. We're hoping to have it in December, and need grad folks who can help lend a hand and some advice on where to apply, how and when.

If you would be interested in helping out with one or more of these projects, send us an email (swe@cae.wisc.edu (subject: Grad Affairs)). Hope to hear from you soon!

To stay in touch with SWEGA, subscribe to our listserv at <http://mail.cae.wisc.edu/mailman/listinfo/societywomenenagr/>.

Alice Pawley

“...we decided to focus on starting up a regular meeting time for all women engineering grad students in the College...”

(Continued from page 4)

Hour: Every Friday at Union South from noon until 2:00PM (check TITU for room)

- Ten Percent Society -- UW-Madison's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender student organization (general business meetings): every Wednesday at 7:00 PM, Memorial Union (check TITU for room)

CHIMERA SELF DEFENSE PROGRAM

Campus: Dean of Students, 75 Bascom

City: Rape Crisis Center

(608)263-5702 Campus: Joey Humke

(608)251-5126 Rape Crisis Center

Hours: M-F 8 am-5 pm

Chimera is a self-defense class designed espe-

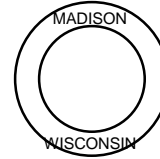
cially for women. Chimera teaches physical and psychological self-defense skills usable by all women, no matter what age, size, strength or physical ability. Learn awareness, precautions, assertiveness and physical techniques. Chimera is dedicated to teaching that women and girls have the right and ability to protect themselves from violence. Campus classes are taught each semester, including the summer session. Call for class schedule, cost and registration info

For more information, contact Joey Humke in the Dean of Students Office, 81 Bascom Hall, telephone 263-5702, mjhumke@mail.bascom.wisc.edu.

Society of Women ENGINEERS

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SWE SPOKE

ISSUE 1, NOVEMBER 2001-02

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS
STUDENT SECTION NEWSLETTER
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Editor: Paolo Piagi
Layout: Alice Pawley

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