

# Society of Women Engineers

## SWE Spoke

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### Fall Fundraising Summary



Jessica Weber  
Fundraising Chair

During the fall semester the main fundraising and social event for SWE is the Winter Formal. It was this past Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, held at the Best Western Inn on the Park. With approximately 200 people in attendance it seemed as though everyone had a blast. There was dancing, hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and a raffle. We were able to get gift certificates from many businesses on State Street to give out in the raffle on the night of the dance. I would like to thank everyone who helped make the formal a success, including all the volunteers for tickets sales and the other officers.

The other fundraisers which occurred during the fall semester were Bucky Book sales and selling SWE Gear. So far this semester we have sold 23 Bucky Books, very impressive!!

I'm glad that in my position as fundraising chair, I am able to help out SWE by raising money for our organization and its members, and have so much fun doing it!

### Evening with Industry - February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Anna Mielke and Renee Miller  
EWI Co-Chairs

Each year SWE sponsors its annual Evening with Industry (EWI) banquet. This year it will be held on February 4, 2008 at the Pyle Center on Lake Mendota from 5-9 pm. This event promotes networking in a comfortable setting, between corporate representatives and engineering students, through a career fair, dinner, and awards ceremony. Students are able to interact with company representatives in a smaller, more personal setting, discussing potential career opportunities in engineering. In years past, the event has successfully hosted over 40 companies and 200 students. The cost is \$10 for paid SWE members, which includes a \$20 dinner and a night of fun. As an additional benefit, scholarships will be presented during the awards ceremony. Please look for announcements regarding such scholarships in TWIS and on the SWE website. We look forward to seeing you and appreciate any help we can get. You can check out the SWE website:

<http://www.engr.wisc.edu/studentorgs/swe/Webpage/EWI.shtml> for any additional information or contact us with questions at: [swe\\_ewi@cae.wisc.edu](mailto:swe_ewi@cae.wisc.edu)

## SWE Members in Tune in Music City

Rachel Weber  
VP of Internal Relations

In Tune with Technology was the theme for the 2007 SWE National Conference held October 25-27 in Nashville, TN. There were 13 SWE members in attendance, plus former SWE President, Talia Esser, who received the SWE National Leadership Award.

Our UW-Madison section should be very proud because members were involved in the conference like never before. It was our first year participating in the Boeing Tech Team Competition, and our team took second place for their prototype of a foot guard for power-wheelchair soccer. Two SWE members, Kristen Seashore and Sara Worzella, attended as finalists in the National Poster Competition. Also, our section was one of two collegiate sections selected to host a booth at the Outreach Expo where we shared the successes of our outreach programs. Finally, at the Celebrate SWE Banquet, UW-Madison won the Collegiate Member Upgrade Award and a Certificate of Merit Award as an Outstanding Collegiate Section, two highly coveted awards.

Members who attended this fabulous trip were able to gain insight from seminars offered, network with fellow members- collegiate and professional, cruise for jobs at a 300+ corporate career fair, as well as cash in on some awesome career fair give-a-ways. One member even won a free iPod. Everyone enjoyed the group dinners, and a few SWEsters got to experience the Nashville nightlife.

Another amazing conference trip is right around the corner! The 2008 Regional Conference held January 25-27 at Bradley University in Peoria, IL is sure to be a ton of fun! Email [rweber1@wisc.edu](mailto:rweber1@wisc.edu) if you are interested in attending. The sign-up deadline is December 8.



### **A Chance to See Your Future**

Kelley Gerschke  
VP of Outreach

Wouldn't it be fantastic to know what all your hard work is for before you reach the end of your four, five, or maybe even six years at UW-Madison? Is your major one of those that has an unlimited amount of areas to choose from? You might have had an internship in one area, but few students have the time to check out everything before they graduate. And let's face it, classes can't show you what the working world is really like.

The Society for Women Engineers has tried to help its members learn more about where their major can take them by creating an event we call "Career for a Day." The idea behind this event is to provide students a chance to shadow at a company of their choice. It is through this opportunity that many members have discovered areas that they wish to pursue further, as well as those that they no longer hold an interest in. It is an excellent way to network with companies and to get a sneak peek into the corporate world. A few students have even received internship offers from their experiences.

Career for a Day occurs over winter break. It is for any member during any year of college. You don't even have to know what you want to major in; maybe this will be the way you can find out.

This year we have over 34 members who are participating and even more companies who want YOU to come and visit them. It is a rare opportunity to get a glimpse at your possible future. Though it is getting late in the planning process, if you are still interested in participating and forgot to tell me, go ahead and email me at [gerschke@wisc.edu](mailto:gerschke@wisc.edu). There are no guarantees, but maybe I can still work my magic and give you a chance to see your future.

### **Technically on Your Toes**

Jessica Naves  
Technical Communications

**NO!** That is what my fellow SWEsters and I practiced yelling at the Self-Defense Workshop early in November. For those who couldn't make it, I'll highlight some of the interesting things we learned at this event that made me lose my voice for a whole week.

Let's start with some facts: 72% of rape/sexual assault victims knew their attacker; about 44% of rape victims are under age 18 and 80% are under age 30; since 1993, rape/sexual assault has fallen by over 69%. ([www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)) Keep in mind that it's estimated the majority of cases go unreported. So, the moral of the story is to keep your wits about you and do your best to prevent a bad situation from happening in the first place. Tips for doing this might include yelling (something descriptive) to call the attention of others, standing to face the other person while standing in a strong stance, and making their small talk hard by refusing to volunteer personal information. Of course the handful of participants and I learned a few moves such as getting out of certain kinds of holds and ways to kick and punch an attacker that could come in handy should a situation arise. If any others are interested, I'd recommend taking a look at [www.danecountyrc.com/chimera/](http://www.danecountyrc.com/chimera/) for more info on the sessions available in and around campus.

**But wait!** We had another technical event of note: the Car Maintenance Workshop held late November with the Hybrid Vehicle Team. We had a great presentation given by the members of the team. They showed us how to change the oil, jumpstart a car, check various fluids, and how to change a tire. It's rewarding for me to know that another group of our members can now change a tire with confidence. Two lucky members were also the recipients of brand new tire pressure gauges!

## Officer Info

Please feel free to contact any officer with questions about their committee or how to get involved! E-mail addresses can be found on the SWE website:

<http://www.engr.wisc.edu/studentorgs/swe/>

### Executive Officers

President: Molly Johnson

VP of Internal Relations: Rachel Weber

VP of Communications: Heidi Mielke

VP of Finances: Kristy Juno

VP of Outreach: Kelley Gerschke

VP of External Relations: Andrea Hilliker

Graduate Affairs: Emily Blem

### Committee Chairs

Boeing Team Tech Leader: Laura Valenstein

Community Service: Jen Kovars

Engineering Tomorrow's Careers Co-Chair: Laurel Moses

Engineering Tomorrow's Careers Co-Chair: Julie Feld

Evening With Industry Co-Chair: Anna Mielke

Evening With Industry Co-Chair: Renee Miller

Fundraising: Jessica Weber

Girl Scouts Co-Chair: Jenny Gerschke

Girl Scouts Co-Chair: Tracy Grenfell

Marketing Communications: Lauren Wenzel

Mentoring Co-Chair: Janelle Anderson

Mentoring Co-Chair: Alyssa Fenske

School Outreach: Kelsey Kornaus

Special Events: Sarah McCoy

Technical Communications: Jessica Nayes

## Upcoming SWE Events

Dec 8<sup>th</sup> - BSLS Bowling Night  
Union South

Dec 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> - EWI Ticket Sales  
10:00am - 2:00pm  
Engineering Hall Lobby

Dec 11<sup>th</sup> - Officer Communication Meeting  
8:15-8:45pm  
1045ECB

Dec 12<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Card Making Party  
7pm  
Location: tba

Dec 13<sup>th</sup> - Ice Skating  
11:15pm  
Shell (near Camp Randall)

Dec 28<sup>th</sup> - SWE Scholarship Deadline  
Midnight

GOODRICH



Schlumberger



Rockwell  
Automation



I LOVE  
SWE!

SWE

need more info!?



<http://www.engr.wisc.edu/studentorgs/swe/>  
and check out the Calendar at:  
<http://my.calendars.net/swecalendar>

### Join the SWE Facebook group

- Receive reminders of upcoming events
- Network with other SWE members
- Put a face to all those names you have learned!

