

Society of Women Engineers

SWE Spoke

2007-2008, Issue 2

October 2007



New Distinguished Member System	1
Gear Up for Community Service	1
8 Job Interview Mistakes	2
Outreach Activities Begin	3
Upcoming SWE Events	4
Officer Roster	5
To Be Distinguished	5

Gear Up for Community Service!!

Hello SWEsters! There are quite a few upcoming community service activities to get excited about. Just around the corner is Homecoming and we should do our best to represent SWE in the food drive, the Charity Run/Walk, and also the blood drive.

On Halloween, we are going to participate in Trick or Treat for Canned Goods. We will go around collecting canned good in a local neighborhood for Second Harvest Food Bank. It should be a lot of fun and costumes are definitely encouraged! We will also need to distribute flyers to the neighborhood the week before.

On November 9th, we are scheduled to make a dinner for the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House acts as a home away from home for families with children undergoing healthcare treatment. We will need to plan the dinner, go grocery shopping, and then go make the dinner at their kitchen. I hope a lot of people will get involved in these activities and there will be more opportunities to come!

Any questions feel free to contact me!!

Jen Kovars
kovars@wisc.edu
Community Service

Are You Distinguished?

The Distinguished Membership Policy has changed once again. We truly appreciate everyone's dedication to this organization, but to be a distinguished member should mean that you've accomplished more than the average member. The new policy is displayed below. We hope you are up to the challenge! The calendar on the website is now color coded to help!

2 General Meetings (yellow)
(Section Meetings and Kickoffs)
2 Committee Meetings (red)
(Brainstorming and Planning Sessions)

Boeing Tech
Community Service
Fundraising
Girl Scouts
Mentoring
School Outreach
Tech Events
Marketing

2 Outreach Events (blue)
2 General SWE events (any color)

8 points total

Please see Page 5 for what it means to be a ...

Distinguished Member!

8 Job Interview Mistakes

Laura Valenstein
valenstein@wisc.edu
Boeing Team Tech

For many aspiring engineers, the end of the Fall career fair marks the beginning of a series of promising interviews. Here are a few key things you should avoid when trying to land your dream job. For more tips on interviewing, visit the UW Engineering Career Services website at: ecs.engr.wisc.edu.

1. Chewing Gum

Gum is not a good substitute for self-confidence. Gum chewing looks appropriate only in vintage movies.

2. Not Doing Your Homework

It is not necessary to memorize the company's annual sales and profit figures, but you should know something about their products or services. Find information about employers from current employees or websites and business magazines.

3. Skipping a Dress Rehearsal

You wouldn't make a speech to a class or student organization without planning what you're going to say, yet people walk into job interviews every day just assuming that brilliant words will leap to their lips. Make a list of the questions you'd ask if you were interviewing someone for this job and rehearse the best answers.

4. Not Admitting Flaws

To the question, "What is your greatest weakness?" illustrate a weakness that you've tackled successfully. Respond by identifying the weakness, describing specific steps you have taken to improve, and communicating the results. Be honest: Nobody believes you when you say your flaw is working too hard.

5. Not Asking Questions

When the interviewer asks, "What questions do you have?," replying that he/she has covered the subject so well you don't have a thing to ask about is a bad idea. It makes you look uninterested and unimaginative. Take this opportunity to "close" with a question or two.

6. Bad-Mouthing Your Boss

Never say anything negative about a person or employer for whom you have worked. It brands you as a complainer.

7. Name Dropping

Attempts to play "who do you know" with your interviewer have backfired. Drop the name of someone and it could turn out to be the hiring manager's worst enemy.

8. Forgetting to send a Thank You

Send a Thank You to all of your interviewers within one day of the interview. Doing so reaffirms your interest in the position and indicates attention to detail.



Procter & Gamble

GOODRICH



Outreach Activities Begin!

This year, the School Outreach Committee has a lot of fun things planned. We're focusing on helping younger students expand their knowledge whether it be in science and engineering, or reading and writing, just as long as we're sharing our time, it's worth it! Being a first-year officer, I'm really excited to see a lot of enthusiasm among our members. I've set up some of the same activities that were also done last year, but because of all of the feedback, we have a new activity for this year!

In fact, this week is the first week that some of the SWE members get to start tutoring students at Randall Elementary School. We will go once a week for an hour to see the same student throughout the entire semester. This will build a great relationship by having some fun while helping the student grow academically as well. Other events that we have planned for this semester are a joint activity with ASME to give an engineering tour to students from Oregon High School. Also, for the upcoming semester, we have requested to be assigned to volunteer at a Madison school for Science Olympiad. If you aren't familiar with this, it's just a fun competition, where schools form a team, prepare for the different science activities and challenges, and then go to a competition to present all of their knowledge. It's a lot of fun to see how excited students can be over science! Also, we will be going to some family science nights at different elementary schools to perform an experiment, and talk about how cool engineering really is.

I love that SWE fully supports reaching out to other schools and students to help them in any way possible. In the school outreach committee, we have great opportunities for you to be involved with your community and share some of your knowledge with those who need it!

If you've got any questions, suggestions, or need anything, feel free to contact me via e-mail and I'll get back to you right away. Thanks for all your hard work!

Kelsey Kornaus
kornaus@wisc.edu
School Outreach

We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.

Winston Churchill





Upcoming SWE Events!!

Oct 19 - BSLs Pizza Making and Study Night
6:30pm
220 W. Gilman St.

Oct 25-28 SWE Nationals in Nashville, TN

Oct 30 - Officer Communication Meeting
8:15 - 8:45pm
1045 ECB

Nov 2 - Distinguished Lecture Series:
Dr. Mae Jemison
1:00 - 2:00pm
Location: tba

Nov 3 - Girl Scout Badge Day
9:00am - 3:00pm
Engineering Hall

Nov 8 - InterOrg Advising Night
6:00 - 7:00pm
1106 Mechanical Engineering

Nov 9 - Ronald McDonald House
Time: tba

Nov 14 - Section Meeting with Abbott Labs
7:15 - 8:15pm
1800 Engineering Hall

Nov 17 - Girl Scout Badge Day
9:00am - 3:00pm
Engineering Hall

Nov 19 - Officer Communication Meeting
6:30 - 7pm
1045 ECB

Nov 30 - Winter Formal
8:00pm - Midnight
Best Western Inn on the Park

Dec 4 - Section Meeting
6:00 - 7:00pm
1800 Engineering Hall

Dec 6 - Distinguished Member Banquet
6:00pm
Location: tba

Dec 8 - BSLs Bowling Night
10:00pm

Dec 11 - Officer Communication Meeting
8:15 - 8:45pm
1045 ECB

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: Lauren Wenzel

Mentoring Co-Chair: Janelle Anderson

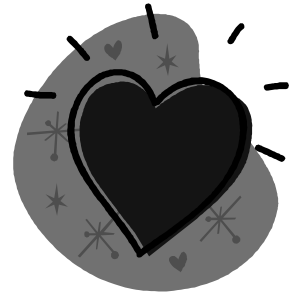
Mentoring Co-Chair: Alrssa Fenske

School Outreach: Kelsey Kornaus

Special Events: Sarah McCoy

Technical Communications: Jessica Nayes

I LOVE
SWE!



To Be Distinguished...

Eligibility Requirements:

Distinguished Membership is SWE's program to reward its members for attending meetings and being involved in SWE each semester. Distinguished Membership, of course, is only open to paid members. To join, see membership information on the Welcome page.

The Point System: Points are awarded one per activity, including committee meetings, chapter meetings and other activities during the year. We only know that you have participated if you sign in on the sheets we provide at each activity, so be sure to sign in. A total of eight points, two of which must be from planning committee meetings, two of which must be from attending general meetings, and two from an outreach event will earn your Distinguished Membership.

The Rewards of Distinguished Membership:

A Distinguished Membership Banquet is held once a semester, at which SWE will honor the Distinguished Members with a certificate and of course a lovely meal! Becoming a distinguished member of SWE not only rewards you with a certificate and a meal, but gives you something valuable to put on your resume. Good luck!

SWE

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!

