SWE AT A GLANCE

The University of Wisconsin-Madison SWE section is a very visible and prominent organization on campus and in the community. Throughout the year, members gain communication, leadership and teamwork experience through participation in our various activities. Below is an overview of some of the opportunities and committees available to SWE members.

SECTION ACTIVITIES

- Section meetings with company presentations - eight are held each year (one per month)
- Corporate and plant tours are offered to expose members to technical and professional activities

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Members organize and participate in a variety of local service events including: blood drives, food drives, park clean ups, nursing home visits, Ronald McDonald dinners, and Habitat for Humanity

DIVERSITY AFFAIRS EVENTS

- SWE holds joint events, such as section meetings, plant tours, team building activities, and social events, each year in conjunction with other campus diversity organizations through the Diversity Affairs Office

EVENING WITH INDUSTRY (EWI)

- EWI is a career fair that allows for interaction between corporate representatives and students
  - The evening includes networking, dinner, and a scholarship and achievement awards presentation

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

- SWE hosts restaurant fundraisers
- Section apparel and care packages are sold to students and their parents to help add to the budget

GRADUATE AFFAIRS

- Graduate students have regular gatherings to discuss mutual successes and challenges
- The graduate affairs officer organizes faculty and graduate student lunches as well as grad school workshops

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES

- Our section is known for our high attendance at both the national and regional conferences
- Members make valuable contacts with other SWE student and professional members from around the nation as well as develop personal skills, leadership skills and ideas for their SWE student section

THE SWE SPOKE – OUR NEWSLETTER AND OUR WEBSITE

- SWE publishes a newsletter each semester to keep alumni and interested companies updated on our upcoming events, meetings, and employment opportunities
- Our section information can be accessed on-line on our new website

TECHNICAL EVENTS

- SWE competes in the Boeing Team Tech Competition – A National SWE design challenge competition
- SWE members help with Engineering Expo, a weeklong event that educates the public about engineering
- Members attend Tech Skills Workshops on topics including a machine shop hands-on training
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Outreach to pre-college students is a main focus of the UW-Madison SWE chapter. Our program has been recognized several times at the SWE National Conference, including receipt of the Corning Glass Works Incentive Grant in 2003 (the highest outreach achievement for student sections) and the Young Scientists of America Award for Outstanding Community Outreach for a Student Organization in 2007. We strive to reach students and children of all ages and backgrounds, to increase awareness of the opportunities in engineering.

DAY ON CAMPUS

- Women in their senior year of high school who have been accepted to the UW-Madison College of Engineering are invited to spend a day on campus with SWE
  - Students and parents get a taste of college life as an engineering student with a full day of presentations, panel discussions, and tours
  - Many of the students choose to spend a night with the SWE member on campus
  - This visit to campus is often the deciding factor in the college choice for these young women and many of our members and officers were introduced to SWE at Day on Campus

ENGINEERING TOMORROW’S CAREERS (ETC)

- High school females throughout Wisconsin and surrounding states are invited to attend the annual week-long ETC summer camp to explore engineering as a career opportunity
  - The camp includes UW-Madison professor and student speakers, hands-on engineering labs in each discipline, team building workshops, social activities, and overnight accommodations in the dorms
  - Many students enroll at UW-Madison as engineering students after this experience

GIRL SCOUT BADGE WORKSHOPS

- SWE organizes three or four Science Badge Days where around 100 Girl Scouts from all over Wisconsin come to UW-Madison to earn three science related badges in one day
  - Other engineering organizations collaborate with SWE to plan and run these Badge Days

MENTORING

- The Big Sib, Little Sib program pairs incoming underclassmen freshmen with upperclassmen SWE members
  - The participants are assigned “families” which consist of new and experienced SWE members
  - Families help to welcome the newcomers, advise them for classes, and learn to balance fun with work
  - Social events such as bowling, ice skating, and study nights are held throughout the year

SCHOOL OUTREACH

- The new Junior High Mentoring Program pairs junior high students with SWE members as mentors
  - In addition to the individual mentoring, an on campus event is held to teach the junior high students about engineering
- SWE Members volunteer their time as tutors in local schools on a regular basis
- SWE students host hands on activities with area schools and after school programs on a regular basis, stressing the importance of science and math