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Letter from the President

I am immensely proud of all that we have accomplished this fall semester with our continued events and some exciting changes and innovation. Thank you to our dedicated officer team, the involvement of members, and our generous donors! Through our main pillars of professional development, outreach, and social support, our SWE section has made an impact on the UW-Madison campus and the surrounding community. Some highlights of the semester include a new membership milestone surpassing 300 paid members, super-section of Region H for the month of November, a Global Best Practice Award, and an Outstanding Collegiate Section Silver Level Award. I am honored to be serving as our section's president and eager to see what is instore for the spring semester!

We hope you enjoy this newsletter as an update to SWE alumni, company representatives, the community, and students about what we have accomplished together. There are always ways to get involved or support SWE and we enjoy sending this newsletter as a chance to share these opportunities with you.

Thank you again for your continued support and involvement! On Wisconsin!

Morgan Kemp  
Society of Women Engineers  
President 2017-2018
Community Outreach

Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts Committee had a great fall semester teaching about science and engineering through hands-on activities. With three Patch Days, over 200 Girl Scouts had the opportunity to come to campus and learn about sustainability and renewable energy as well as the engineering design process. The girls learned about water sustainability and made water bottle filters to discover efficient ways to filter dirty water using the limited resources they were presented with. They also learned about solar and wind energy. They built solar powered Lego cars where they worked in groups to design and build their car and tested and retested their cars featuring the solar panels at different angles. To learn about wind energy, they completed a MacGyver wind turbine challenge where they varied the blade size, number, and angle. Lastly, through interactions with female engineering undergraduate students, the Girl Scouts also learned more about college life and what it is like to be an engineer.

Meghan Collins and Elaine Jarosz
Community Service had a wonderful semester! As a committee, we value giving back to our amazing community in any way we can. To do that, we put on many different types of events. Our annual COE Fall Blood Drive was a huge success this semester! Together we soared above our goal of 30 units and collected 49! Each unit saves up to 3 lives, so we have impacted up to 147 patients with our drive. Volunteers also spent time with local kids at Kids Night Out at the Eagle Heights Community Center. This event benefits parents who are also students at UW Madison; the parents get a night off and the kids get a night out! This semester, we also introduced a new event: Card Making for Hospitalized Kids. SWE members came and made cards that are distributed to children who stay at the hospital for extended periods of time. This event went so well that we ended up having it twice, with a Christmas version to end our semester! All of our events could not have gone so well without the help of our amazing volunteers, so thank you to all of our volunteers for your kindness and support!

Raven Brenneke
**School Outreach**

As the school outreach officer, I work to expand our network with elementary through high school students and other community organizations around the Madison area. I plan events such as science activities with community center student groups, family science nights, and outreach events with schools. During this semester, I have mostly worked to expand our network and have planned many outreach events for next semester. We also have a partnership with JCI-NEXT (Johnson Controls) that I do conference calls with bi-weekly to discuss networking events and opportunities for our SWE chapter.

Next semester, in partnership with JCI-NEXT I am planning to host a speaker series on the UW-Madison campus. Through JCI-NEXT, SWE chapters from around Wisconsin will come to campus and listen to a key note speaker. I am also planning an event called Improv-a-do. For this event, elementary and middle school students from around the area come to compete in an engineering competition. This day is designed to test quick thinking and to provide an interest in science and engineering. I have also planned various family science fair nights for the upcoming semester.

Megan Olmscheid

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**Mentoring & Section Vitality**

Our outreach team has had another strong semester. From Girl Scout Committee hosting record numbers at patch days to Mentoring Committee organizing a Big Sibling/ Little Sibling families, we are continuing to support our peers and our surrounding community.

In addition to Girl Scout Patch Days and Mentoring events on campus, we have continued to promote diversity throughout our organization. Hosted by the College of Engineering, SWE members attended the “Breaking the Bias Habit” workshop in order to learn about implicit bias how to create a more inclusive environment. We also held joint events with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and WACM’s Women in Computing, including networking and Tech-Talk events with various companies.

After a successful semester, with the Engineering Tomorrow’s Careers Committee hard at work planning the annual outreach summer camp and the School Outreach Committee planning events for local schools and community centers, I am excited to continue watching the incredible officer team and members support outreach and diversity throughout our organization and campus.

Melanie Rogers

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**Outreach and Diversity**
As VP of Internal Relations, I was able to coordinate our section’s involvement in WE17 in Austin, Texas! The conference had almost 15,000 attendees total, and 17 of them were from our SWE section. Our members were able to attend meaningful breakout sessions, go on interesting tours in Austin, check out the giant career fair, and interview with some big-name companies! The conference was an amazing opportunity for our members to develop professionally and learn how to better reach out to girls in our community. Our members supported our Boeing Tech Team during their presentation at the conference. We also got to meet with other members of SWE in Wisconsin at a breakfast on the last day. We are very proud to have received a Silver section award as well as a Best Practice - Global award. With next year’s conference being nearby in Minneapolis, Minnesota next year, we are hoping to have even more members in attendance!

I also hosted an event called "Let's Talk Leadership" in November. This was a small-group discussion-based event where we watched TED talks and other videos about leadership from influential women leaders. We reflected on our own leadership skills and styles and made a list of qualities that good leaders have. Another event that I hosted this semester was a fun sendoff event for our seniors graduating this semester! We had a great time socializing at the Sett and wishing our seniors the best of luck in the future.

Next semester in March, we are planning to attend the WE Local conference in Milwaukee. This is a new event starting this year after collegiate-hosted regional conferences were discontinued. We are excited to have some of our newer and younger members experience this event so they can see all that SWE has to offer! 

Allie Winek
New Member Committee

This semester with New Member Committee, we began with a large kickoff event to provide more information on SWE and how to get involved while making lots of friends. The members had the opportunity to shadow officers to gain more knowledge about the organization and leadership roles. Both the members and officers loved these shadowing sessions! At monthly meetings, upperclassmen came to share their knowledge of industry, research and study abroad. In their first semester with SWE, new members became more involved and gained knowledge to help them in leadership roles in the future. New Member Committee is super excited to take on second semester with Engineering EXPO and create more events for members to enjoy.

Allison McDougal

Engineering Tomorrow’s Careers Camp

Engineering Tomorrow’s Careers (ETC) Camp is part of UW-Madison SWE’s outreach to female high school students in the Midwest. The goals of this camp are to give girls the opportunity to explore various disciplines within engineering, meet other young women with similar interests, and see what life in college is like. Typical activities include lectures, labs, and tours of UW-Madison engineering facilities. Lectures are given by UW staff members or engineers from local labs or companies. The activities will cover nearly all fields of engineering at UW to give campers a chance to find out what interests them the most. This year’s camp will run from Sunday, June 17th to Friday, June 22nd. Campers and counselors dine and stay overnight in one of UW’s lakeshore dorms, Dejope Residence Hall, for the week.

The majority of our work this past semester has been planning out the most general details for the camp. Rather than do a mass paper mailing to attract new campers, we have changed our approach and sent out emails to school teachers and principals with informative letters for prospective students as well as flyers to print out and hang out around their school if they wish. We can’t wait to continue planning next semester and get ready to invite our campers to campus.

Jenna Pavela and Lily Samuels

Technical Communications

The main responsibility for Technical Communications is to update and maintain our chapter section’s website not only for our members, but also for our corporate sponsors. Technical Communications also hosts a technical event for members each semester, so I partnered with DoIT, the campus tech center, to provide an introductory Matlab workshop in November.

Sara Sigman
This semester there were over 85 SWE members who participated in the Mentoring Committee’s Big Sib Little Sib (BSLS) program. Every semester in the BSLS program, we create teams with students with similar majors. We mix together underclassmen and upperclassmen. This is a great opportunity for the underclassmen to find mentors in SWE as well as meeting other friends in their major. This semester in the program we did multiple study nights. Study nights provide a relaxed setting for the members to get to know each other better and get class help.

Besides running the BSLS program, we also began planning for our Day on Campus event in the spring. During Day on Campus, we invite admitted students to spend the day with SWE to learn more about UW-Madison and SWE in general. We also host an overnight the night before the event for students who would like to experience a bit more of our campus. This year we plan to continue the partnership with the College of Engineering Admitted Students Day. Day on Campus will be held on Saturday March 17, 2018. We look forward to having this event in the spring and continuing our BSLS program!

Valya Brady and Ellie Pecore

Professional Development

This semester SWE introduced a new position for professional development. The goal was to provide another resource for members that cater more specifically to their needs to progress in the professional world, while also maintaining the positive and open environment of SWE events.

As the first semester of this position, it felt important to form a good basis for future professional development endeavors. In the beginning of the semester there was a kick-off meeting, which served as an open forum to figure out what members wanted out of this position. This led to a workshop for navigating online resources. Stephanie Salazar Kann, the Assistant Director of our Engineering Career Services, came in to talk about how to get the most out of the Engineering Services tools, LinkedIn, and Glassdoor. She gave a brief overview of some key features of the resources, but left it very open for conversation and questions for the students who went to the event.

Following this event and into the future of SWE’s Professional Development, the goal is to add to the SWE website so members can always have access to sample resumes, useful Ted Talks, job openings, positive reminders, etc. Also, to create more events that caters to not only younger undergrads who are trying to build their resumes, but upperclassmen and grad students who are looking forward to careers or further education. Overall we will try to build a well-rounded platform for any students who want to better their professional development skills as they move forward here at UW-Madison.

Cristina Uribe
Special Events aims to create an environment to establish friendships and make connections with other members of SWE, no matter the major or grade level. Highlights of the semester included our semester-long fitness competition Sweatin’ with SWE, an officer Cyc ride, ice skating, Run Santa Run 5K, finals Good Luck Potluck, and the SWE Social!

The SWE Social was a huge accomplishment and attracted people from not only SWE, but other engineering organizations like the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. This was a great event that allowed our members and other students to eat, dance, play games, and have a fun time.

Next semester we are hoping to engage our SWE section with more fun events!

Lynn Braun and Desiree Fluoro
External Vitality

External Relations

Our SWE section was fortunate to work with many diverse companies throughout the fall semester! We had a variety of company sponsored events including a super section meeting during the fall career fair, three monthly section meetings, and a site tour at two different companies located outside Chicago. SWE was fortunate to receive a grant from the Wisconsin Engineering Student Council in order to make the trip to Chicago possible.

Thank you to all of the companies that sponsored us this semester, we greatly appreciate your support! Next semester, we plan to increase our company database by networking with local companies and visiting sites throughout Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Any companies that are interested in becoming more involved with UW-Madison SWE or have any questions, please email me directly at uwsweexternal@gmail.com. Thank you again for your generous support of SWE!

Sage Bladow
Evening with Industry

Each spring, SWE sponsors its annual Evening with Industry (EWI), and this year it will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, 2018 from 5-9pm at the Lowell Center in Madison, WI. EWI is a networking career fair and formal dinner that provides UW Madison engineering students with the opportunity to network with various companies and learn about career opportunities. In turn, these companies are exposed to the UW Madison campus, and company representatives can personally speak with students who specialize in areas of their interest. Company registration is now open and can be found on our website, http://swe.slc.engr.wisc.edu. The cost for companies is $250, which includes a booth at the career fair and dinner for two representatives. Student tickets are $5 for SWE members and $8 for non-SWE members, which include a dinner valued at $20 and an excellent opportunity to network with companies. Student ticket sales will take place two weeks prior to the event in the Engineering Hall lobby. If you have any questions, please contact ewiswemadison@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Emily Vesper

Boeing Tech Team

This past year the Boeing Tech Team worked on a project for Hydrite Chemical Company, creating an emissions reduction unit. Over the course of the year the team, made up of biological, biomedical, civil and chemical engineers learned about the mechanisms used for both adsorption and absorption. We went through the engineering process and brainstormed 20 designs, which were then narrowed down to 5 using knowledge of the processes and engineering intuition. These five ideas were then narrowed down to our best three using a design matrix. These three designs were turned into prototypes, and tested at Hydrite's Cottage Grove location. After a successful summer of testing we compiled our data and were able to recommend to Hydrite that none of the prototypes were an improvement over the current method. We then presented our project and results at the national conference in Austin, Texas. While we were unable to find any new results, our research has been proven useful to Hydrite in other projects.

Lisa Krzyzanowski
Our Sponsors

Thank you to all of our generous sponsors who give their time, knowledge, and funds to allow our organization to be successful. We could not be so involved on campus and in the community if it were not for these contributions. We are incredibly grateful for the close relationships we foster with so many companies, and we hope that those can continue to grow. Our SWE section would not be possible without you!

If your company is interested in sponsoring SWE, visit the For Industry tab on our website and click on “Get Involved”: http://swe.slc engr.wisc.edu/get-involved/
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Allie Winek

Vice President of External Relations
Sage Bladow

Vice President of Communication
Michelle Lei

Vice President of Outreach & Diversity
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Boeing Tech Team
Lisa Krzyzanowski

Community Service
Raven Brenneke

ETC Camp Co-Chair
Jenna Pavela

ETC Camp Co-Chair
Lily Samuels

Evening with Industry
Emily Vesper

Fundraising
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Meghan Collins

Girl Scouts Co-Chair
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Emilie Wille

Mentoring Co-Chair
Ellie Pecore

Mentoring Co-Chair
Valya Brady

New Member Committee Chair
Allison McDougal

Professional Development
Cristina Uribe

School Outreach
Megan Olmscheid

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