Contact us!
UW-Madison Society of Women Engineers
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UW-Madison Society of Women Engineers

Spring and Summer 2018 - Newsletter

Thank you for supporting our chapter of the Society of Women Engineers! We greatly appreciate your contributions and involvement. Please continue reading to learn more about our organization and what has happened during the past semester.

Letter from the President

Greetings!

The UW-Madison Society of Women Engineers has had a fantastic spring semester. We are immensely proud of all that we have accomplished and excited to share our semester with you all. Thank you to our dedicated officer team, the involvement of members, and our generous donors! It has been an honor to serve as President of the section this year and see the achievements and growth of the section.

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 of this semester’s events include an expanded Day on Campus for prospective high school students to visit our SWE section and Madison as well as site tours at Sunnyvale and CE Healthcare...
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

Outreach

Vice President of Outreach & Diversity

This past winter and spring, our organization has continued expanding its outreach and diversity efforts on campus and throughout the community! Our outreach committees have been hard at work organizing and planning events for young women in the community, from Girl Scouts committee featuring the human body in fun, hands-on design challenges with troops, School Outreach connecting with two high schools and volunteering at Family Science Nights, and Mentoring Committee continuing to reach out to students at UW-Madison. The Spring semester also features signature events. Diversity Spring Welcome was planned by the National Society of Black Engineers and was an enriching and empowering networking and speaker event which is run in partnership with the Diversity Affairs Office. Also, the Mentoring Committee planned Day on Campus which is an opportunity for incoming high school students to meet SWE members and prepare for college. Finally, the Engineering Tomorrow’s Careers Camp Committee has been hard at work planning the annual summer camp, which is a great opportunity for high school students to explore engineering and meet female role models in STEM.

I cannot wait to continue building on and expanding these programs this summer and next year. This semester’s achievements wouldn’t have been possible without the help of such a passionate team of women dedicated to promoting opportunities for young women to pursue STEM careers.

-Melanie Rogers

Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts Banch deck this semester taught all about the human body and engineering through...
The Girl Scouts in this semester taught us all about the human body and engineering through activities about neurons, kidney filtration, and human exoskeletons. The girls followed a step-by-step demonstration on making their own neuron out of pipe cleaners. After their pipe cleaner neurons were constructed, they enjoyed ‘sending messages’ with their neurons by getting in a line and passing a message of something they wanted the volunteer to do at the end of the line (i.e. jumping jacks, five push-ups, or a cartwheel). The kidney filtration activity taught about the role kidneys play and the issues that can arise when the kidneys do not filter correctly. The girls designed a filtration system for ‘blood’ (water with rice and small pebbles) and then chose different size mesh filters to create the optimum ‘blood’ filter. They then tested their filters by pouring their ‘blood’ through the filters and seeing what got past their filtration device. The final activity was led by a Biomedical Engineering Senior Design team who taught about exoskeletons in relation to the supersuits of superheroes! They led the girls through the full design cycle where they made their own exoskeleton in groups for the superhero volunteer using materials that are found around the house (cardboard, newspaper, aluminum foil, sponges, etc.)

- Kalley Anderson and Elaine Jarosz

Engineering Tomorrow’s Careers (ETC) Camp

ETC Camp is run by two SWE officers with support from the ETC Committee, SWE National, College of Engineering Diversity Affairs Office, and Pre-College Council. 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 (mechanical, biomedical, industrial, civil, nuclear etc.), 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. The duration of the camp is one week, from an afternoon arrival on June 17th, to an afternoon departure on the following Friday. 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 finalizing the details for the camp, including the location for the dates we selected, the speakers and companies we want to present, updating the website.
and Facebook page, and finalizing the camp roster.

-Jenna Pavela and Lily Samuels

Community Service

Community Service had a wonderful semester! We served high school students by volunteering at the annual Capital Science and Engineering Fair. Hosted every spring, this fair showcases research projects that high school students had been working on over the past year. These intelligent students did an excellent job on their projects and SWE volunteers were amazed by the talent displayed. Community Service also hosted the annual COE Spring Blood Drive. Our amazing volunteers paired up with the Red Cross to guide blood donors through the donation process. The drive total was just over 20 donations, which impacted up to 60 patients in need of blood! Finally, we served local hospitals by creating homemade cards that were sent out to hospitalized kids to bring them some joy and happiness this spring!

-Raven Brenneke

Section Vitality

Vice President of Internal Relations
This past semester we had 22 members attend the WE Local Milwaukee conference. This conference offers countless opportunities to our members including professional development, job opportunities, networking, awards, workshops, outreach and a chance to connect with fellow SWE members! One of our members was even first place for her research poster. Last semester at national conference, we saw an opportunity for fundraising that we hadn’t been taking advantage of: selling SWE merchandise at SWE Boutique. Therefore, at regional conference we set up a table and were successful in selling merchandise. We plan to continue to do so at conferences to come. Another first at this conference was we had 14 of the 22 members at the conference volunteer for the SWENext DesignLab outreach event! Overall it was a great time had by all, and we hope for even greater attendance at next year’s conferences in Minneapolis, Minnesota and St. Louis, Missouri.

-Kinzie Kujawa

Mentoring

The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s SWE section, in collaboration with UW-Madison’s College of Engineering, hosted the annual Day on Campus event on March 17th, 2018. During this event, admitted women engineering students are invited to attend to learn more about SWE and UW-Madison. Students had the option to stay overnight with a SWE member, the night before the Day on Campus event. This year, we had twenty-four students stay overnight. We ate at our campus dining hall, explored State Street, and watched a movie at a SWE member’s house. The overnight is a great opportunity for students to learn more about SWE and the campus by talking in smaller groups.

The following day, we had over 60 students attend with guests for our Day on Campus. During the day, we held panels for both the guests and students. One panel focused on the resources here on campus and the other panel had SWE members share their experiences. We also held a scavenger hunt for the students. The winning team was able to win some SWE-Swag! The students were also given tours of some of our lab spaces at UW-Madison. This event is a great opportunity for students to learn about SWE before beginning their freshman year on campus and being able to make connections with current SWE members. We are happy with the success of the event this year, and cannot wait to see what is in store for next year!

-Valya Brady and Ellie Pecore
Special Events

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, a Buffalo Wild Wings Social, and a painting class.

-Lynn Braun and Desiree Fluoro

New Member Committee

This past semester the our SWE section participated in Engineering EXPO, a 2 day STEM open house event hosted on the College of Engineering campus. SWE participated as one of the student exhibits, bringing interactive events, such as programming calculator cars and playing with “Oobleck”, to 2500 students and families from the Madison area. The volunteers worked in shifts from 9 am to 2 pm engaging those who attended the different activities while also explaining how the different activities related to different fields of engineering. Thank you to all of the volunteers who made this event possible and helped SWE win second place for Student Exhibits!

Additionally, the New Member Committee, consisting of students who are new and interested in joining our SWE section, had some fantastic events. Our monthly meetings ranged from getting pizza at a local pizza parlor where we talked about healthy study habits to meeting for brunch and talking about how new members can become more active in SWE. We look forward to meeting our incoming freshmen next semester!

-Ellie Nuckolls
**Professional Development**

This was the first year we had a specific professional development position and I’m excited to share our accomplishments thus far and its immense potential for the future of SWE. Our first event was a kickoff meeting, in which we brainstormed a list of ideas for what members want to get out of this brand new position. Before the career fair was in full swing, myself and our VP External, Sage Bladow, put together a career fair prep event that included resume reviews, interview tips, information on undergrad research, grad school, and more! The success of this event led to other events throughout the semester to support our members through their professional, academic and personal development.

During a resume workshop, new members who had never made a resume before were able to leave the event with a nearly complete resume, or at the very least a solid skeleton for what an engineering resume could look like. Through Greater University Tutoring Services (GUTS), I collaborated to put together a Grad School Panel, consisting of a current masters student, and another PhD student at UW, both of whom were able to answer great questions about their experiences and decisions going into higher education beyond their engineering undergrad. Another panel event to round out the semester was with some SWE Alumni who are currently in industry around the Madison and Milwaukee area. They were incredibly enthusiastic to see the progress SWE has made, and hope to continue having alumni events with us going into next year!

I’m very excited to pass off this officer position to Chrissy Kujawa for the 2018-19 school year, and look forward to seeing the progress of this position as it continues to gain momentum!

-Cristina Uribe

**External Vitality**

**Vice President of External Relations**

Our SWE section was fortunate to work with many companies throughout the Spring semester! We had a variety of company sponsored events including Evening with Industry during the Spring Career Fair, three monthly section meetings, joint industry events with other engineering student organizations, and a site tour with NSBE at Cummins Emission Solutions in Stoughton, WI. Our chapter is also very excited for GE Healthcare to be sponsoring our 2018 Boeing Tech Team project... stay tuned for more progress on that at Nationals in Minneapolis next Fall!

Thank you to all of the companies that sponsored us this semester, we greatly appreciate your support! Our members are very excited for WE18 to be so close to home next year and can’t wait to make new company connections.

Any companies that are interested in becoming more involved with UW-Madison SWE and/or sponsoring scholarships for members to attend WE18 should email our VP External - Elect, Emily Vesper, directly at uwssweexternal@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), a career fair and formal dinner that provides UW Madison Engineering students and company representatives with the opportunity to network and discuss career opportunities. Evening with Industry 2018 was a huge success with 26 companies, over 60 companies representatives, and over 100 students (54% non-SWE members) in attendance! This year, the event was held on February 6th at the Lowell Center in Madison, WI and included a career fair, formal dinner, and scholarship presentations from the UW Madison SWE section, GE Healthcare, and the Robyn Ryan Memorial fund. We finished the night off with a raffle drawing with donations provided by GRAEF, Greenheck, H.B. Fuller, Modine, Sandia National Laboratories, and Watlow. Thank you to all the students and company representatives who attended, to all the SWE members for helping throughout the planning process, and to the College of Engineering Faculty for helping advertise the event. Please send an email to ewiswemadison@gmail.com to be added to the EWI contact list, and stay tuned for details regarding EWI 2019!

-Emily Vasper

Boeing Tech Team
The Boeing Tech Team had a fantastic spring semester. This year we partnered with GE Healthcare to design and fabricate a more efficient test lung for testing anesthesia machines and critical care ventilators at the Madison, WI location. The semester began with a month of research to help all of the team members get more familiar with anesthesia machines and test lungs. Once the research phase was completed, the team brainstormed 4 main designs which then went through a design matrix to decide which design would produce the most efficient test lung. The main concerns taken into account were the cost, durability, and maintenance of the prototype. The next couple of months were dedicated to researching components to purchase as well as designing the prototype in SolidWorks to be 3D printed at the Makerspace on campus. The team also held several social events this semester, including a game night and movie night as well as attending Free Art Friday on campus where members learned how to throw clay on a pottery wheel. Currently, the team is working hard on testing the prototype on site in time to complete the final documentation. We look forward to presenting our team’s work in Minneapolis, MN this October! Thank you for all of your support and a special thank you to the Wisconsin Engineering Student Council for graciously donating $500 to help support our project.

-Meghan Collins

Thank you to the following companies that have supported us as a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Member or been a Friend of SWE this semester! We are so fortunate to have such close relationships with many businesses and companies, who choose to donate knowledge, time, and funds to our organization. These donations to our organization are the main reason why we are so heavily involved on campus and in the community.

Gold Sponsors
Officer Team

Please don't hesitate to contact any of our officers with questions regarding their position or events!

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