

# INGENUITY & GENIUS

FALL 2005

## THE INTRODUCTION BY: MIKALA STREETER

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Conferences. Career Fairs. Company Talks. Community Service. Through this newsletter, I aim to share the ideas and activities of the chapters in this great region, so that each chapter (and the region, collectively) can reach its fullest potential!

Each issue of the newsletter, including links to the full versions of the excerpts included, is available online.

Please use this site to learn more about what's going in the region.

If you want to contact me, my email address is [streeter@mit.edu](mailto:streeter@mit.edu). Feel free to offer suggestions and make comments. This is our newsletter!

## MESSAGE FROM REGIONAL STUDENT REP

BY: SHARMIN RAHMAN

When I first joined SWE, I was not sure if engineering was right for me. But when I saw all the girls having a common bond and being a part of something bigger, I wanted to be included in that.

So, during the 2004-2005 school year, I was on the publicity committee. Here, I worked on getting members to attend our events and meetings. I showed girls the advantages of being a SWE member and tried to

increase membership.

This year, I am on the Region F Executive Board as publicity chair. I want to expose engineering not only to college students, but also to high school students, where I will make girls understand that engineering is not a scary profession. I plan on doing this by having events with local high schools and planning activities to show what engineers really do.



Since I have been elected to the regional student representative position, I hope to build a better bridge of communication between the students and professionals. I believe strong communication will help build a stronger region.

## SWE REGION F CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars! The 2006 Region F Conference will be the weekend of April 1st and 2nd at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. The RPI Section is 30 years old and is the largest student section in Region F, and we would like to welcome everyone to join us at the conference. We know that this is early notice, but we want to have a great turnout this year.

Since RPI is not in the center of

the region, we want to help set up rideshares for students and professionals. Please let us know if you would be interested in helping coordinate ride shares. Although this is early notice, we anticipate making this conference as beneficial to the professionals and students as possible.

As we finalize speakers and workshop topics, we gladly request your feedback

and suggestions to cater this conference to the needs of the attendees. Your feedback will greatly help us cater the conference to you. Please contact the conference co-chairs if you have suggestions or need more information: Ashley Phillips, philla2@rpi.edu or Nicole Welch, welchn@rpi.edu. We are excited and look forward to seeing you all there.



## DIVERSITY WORKSHOP AT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The regional leadership has noticed an interesting trend in some of our chapters—that they're not as diverse as the schools they represent! Not diverse in engineering discipline or ethnicity. Have you noticed

this in your student chapter? If so, there will be a Diversity Workshop at this year's Regional Conference that will introduce some ideas on how to make your section stronger. If you have any ideas or suggestions that have

worked for your chapter, send them to Emily Synk at emily.synk@swe.org.

## SWE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Society of Women Engineers holds the premier event of the year for college students in engineering and science. Join us for 3 full days of relevant, high-energy, fast-paced learning opportunities that will motivate, challenge, and empower you as

you transition from school to career - all while you are having great fun! You will leave this conference with new tools and a fresh perspective as you start your great engineering future followed by the career of a lifetime! Sign up now and get

to join us in Anaheim, CA November 3-5, 2005. See [swe.org/2005](http://swe.org/2005) and click on "students" for information on the student-oriented programs, conference highlights, and registration.

"A scientist discovers that which exists. An engineer creates that which never was."  
- Theodore Von Karman

## REPRESENT REGION F AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Region F students attending the National Conference can participate in two great events – the SME Bowl and the Team Tech Competition! We won the SME Bowl a few years ago and want to reclaim our title! If you are interested, attend the Student Region Meeting

the afternoon of Thursday, 11/3, to sign up.

It's too late to sign up for this year's Team Tech Competition, but now is a great time to start thinking about the 2006 competition. Region F has not participated for several years, and we need to change that!

The Team Tech Competition was introduced in 1992 by the Boeing Company to emphasize the key role of teamwork and interface with industry. Contact your Region F Collegiate Rep Sharmin Rahman for more details about the competition.



## PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: WOMEN VS MEN IN ENGINEERING

\*THIS IS AN EXCERPT  
BY:KAITLIN DUCK SHERWOOD

Being a woman in engineering industry is different from being a man in engineering industry. Not better, not worse, but different. I'm going to try to talk about the things that are going to annoy you and help you when you get out to The Real World.

### Phrase Everything As A Win-Win

Do not walk into your boss' office, throw a hissy fit, and say that you need new furniture NOW! Negative style points. Whenever possible, explain your ideas in terms of how

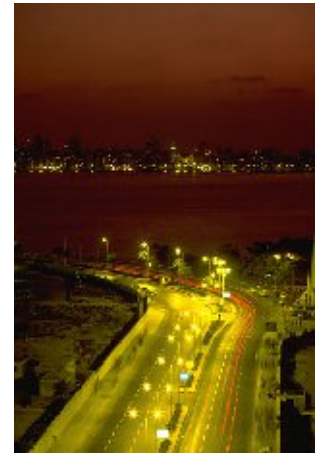
they would benefit the other person, not how they would benefit you. Women tend to be more sympathetic, so tend to expect sympathy more readily. Forget it. You have to make them understand why they want to do what you want them to do.

### Expressing Certainty

Also on the subject of pretentiousness, I have a friend who observes that if a man thinks the answer is three, he'll say,

"The answer is three." If a woman knows the answer is three, she will say, "I think the answer is three." Women tend to be more tentative. This is not necessarily bad - you may end up with higher credibility than the man who keeps insisting that the answer is three when it is really is seventeen... but you might look wishy-washy.

View the full article at:  
<http://www.webfoot.com/advice/women.in.eng.html>



Optimist: "The glass is half full."

Pessimist: "The glass is half empty."

Engineer: "That glass is twice as large as it needs to be."

## PROFESSIONAL ADVICE: POSTER PRESENTATIONS

\*THIS IS AN EXCERPT FROM: THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

A poster is simply a static, visual medium (usually of the paper and board variety) that you use to communicate ideas and messages.

Here are some 'rules-of-tham'<sup>™</sup> to guide you:

- 1) Plan, Plan, and Plan;
- 2) Keep the material simple;
- 3) Use colors sparingly and with taste;
- 4) Do not use more than 2 font types;
- 5) Titles and headings should appear larger than other text, but not too large;
- 6) Do not use all upper case type in your posters;
- 7) Do not use a different font type to highlight important points;
- 8) Equations;
- 9) A picture is worth a thousand words ... (but only if it is drawn properly and used appropriately);
- 10) Check your spelling;
- 11) Maintain a consistent style;
- 12) Arrangement of poster components should appear smooth;
- 13) Review, review, and review

View the full article at:  
<http://lorien.ncl.ac.uk/ming/Dept/Tips/presentation/posters.htm>



Check out the newsletter online @  
[http://www.swe.org/regionf/newsletter\\_current.shtml](http://www.swe.org/regionf/newsletter_current.shtml)



SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS—REGION F

THIS NEWSLETTER SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF REGION F:

- F001 - BOSTON (S. NH AND N. RI TOO)
- F002 - CONNECTICUT
- F003 - HARTFORD (INCLUDES CENTRAL MA)
- F004 - MAINE
- F005 - NORTH COUNTRY (NORTHERN VT AND UPPER VALLEY OF NH)
- F006 - NEW ENGLAND SHORELINE (SOUTHEASTERN CT AND PART OF RI)
- F007 - MID-HUDSON (POUGHKEEPSIE, NY)
- F008 - NEW YORK STATE CAPITAL DISTRICT



THIS IS OUR NEWSLETTER! SEND ME YOUR IDEAS, ARTICLES, COMMENTS!  
LET ME KNOW WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND!