

Meeting Notes Region G Professional Meeting October 2004

There were 18 professional members in attendance at the region meeting. Only 3 voting members per our region bylaws were in attendance so a quorum was not reached. There were no issues on the agenda or brought forth at the meeting requiring a vote.

- I have tried to summarize the discussions and topics from the region meeting as well as adding some topics that were not covered due to time constraints at the meeting. The entire PowerPoint presentation will be made available on the SWE Forum.
- We were fortunate to be visited by Vi Brown - SWE President FY05, who spent a few minutes talking about her goals and objectives for the Society for FY05 and then I briefly reviewed the Region goals and objectives.
- A summary of the Region Finances as of 6/30/04 was presented.
- Fund Development - Discussed sources of income for the region and discussed the need for fund development in order to meet the expenditures that we would like to fund such as travel funding, professional development programs, etc.
- Section Vitality Session on Succession Planning - Justina Mikals led a group discussion on succession planning. We formed a circle and each attendee was asked to introduce themselves and provide a brief history of where they work, the section they belong to, past and current involvement with SWE and what roles they see for themselves in SWE in the future. This was a very enlightening exercise as we all learned a little more about each other and it gave us all an opportunity to share our history with SWE and vocalize our thoughts on our future with SWE. Happily, I can report that no one indicated that they had intentions to walk away from SWE any time soon and in fact everyone expressed interest in doing more to fulfill their current commitments and possibly explore new opportunities at different levels. In a follow-up discussion with Justina, she points out that Succession Planning begins with "you". In order to plan ahead you need to ask "who can replace me?". Understanding where you want to go will help you in setting your goals. Looking at your skills will help you identify talent and potential candidates in your section or region. Making personal contacts and getting to know your membership are key to establishing your plan for succession within your region or

section. Justina can coordinate a day long session with your section to help you and your leadership develop a more comprehensive plan - give her or me a call and we will be happy to set up a meeting date.

We are in process of initiating a SWE Forum for our use in discussing the new Region Bylaws template and developing our region bylaws over the next few months. As soon as I have the Forum set-up I will notify you with instructions for accessing it. It is my goal to have a draft of our proposed bylaws for discussion at the Region Meeting at our Region Conference in February.