



The Windy City Wire

Society of Women Engineers Chicago Regional Section

www.societyofwomenengineers.org/chicago

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SWE National Conference Achievement Award Banquet

Written by Diane Peters

One of the many fun parts of the national conference is attending the annual Achievement Award Banquet. Besides having great food, SWE members get a chance to hear from some really outstanding people and honor them for their achievements – including, at times, people we know. These women and men are all described in the Conference Issue of SWE Magazine, as well as those honored at other events during the conference.

This is the event where the Distinguished New Engineer Award is given out each year. A maximum of five awards are given per year, and this year one of the awardees was Debbie Jones, one of our section members. For each of the five, her citation was read and she came forward to receive her plaque.

Other awards given out at this banquet are the Upward Mobility Award, Resnik Challenger Medal, Rodney D. Chipp Memorial Award, Entrepreneur Award, and Work/Life Balance Award. And, of course, the highlight of the evening is the Achievement Award, SWE’s highest honor. This year’s recipient is Mitra Dutta, Ph.D., of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her achievements are extremely impressive, but her speech didn’t focus on what she had done, but on how she got to where she is. She described the support she had received from colleagues, friends, and family, including parents who encouraged her and enabled her to receive a good education in a time and place where women typically didn’t receive the technical education needed to excel in engineering.

While we aren’t anywhere near parity in engineering – and aren’t likely to be for quite some time – it’s wonderful to see and hear from all of these outstanding people. The winners of the Rodney D. Chipp award are a reminder that many of our male colleagues and supervisors welcome us and want us to succeed; the Work/Life Balance recipient reminds us that while it’s difficult it is possible to have both a satisfying career and a family; and the other awards demonstrate the heights that women today can achieve in the corporate world, their own business, academia, or any other professional arena.



SWE October Bike Outing a Success!

Written by Karen Preston

The October Bike Outing in the beautiful Botanical Garden was a wonderful event for all who participated this year. The weather was awesome with true blue skies, crisp cool air and leaves bursting with vivid autumn colors. Some friendships started to form over lunch and the food was delicious. Inside the Botanical Gardens we tasted some unusual varieties of fresh picked apples. The daffodil and lily bulb sale led to purchases of some vibrant lilies for home gardens. The different sections of gardens has some very interesting plants and even includes some great recipes in their outdoor teaching kitchen at the Fruit and Vegetable section of the garden! The children always love to go the JR Railroad garden, which features some miniature plants in a setting of some D scale trains running on their tracks all over the place! A very inventive miniature garden exclusively built by the Botanical Garden’s engineers. Seeing a miniature John Hancock building is indeed entertaining! Hopefully next year SWE can plan to participate in this great event. So let’s plan on attending next year’s wonderful cycle event to meet some great people, as we stay healthy in our lives. We look forward to seeing more new faces next year!

president's letter

Mayling Wong, SWE-CRS President

I write this edition's column in light of just returning from the SWE National Conference, which took place in Birmingham, AL during October 9-12. This year, over 2,900 professional and student members made the trek down south, including 14 Chicago Regional Section professional members. One of my work colleagues, who was also a first-time attendee, commented that she had never seen so many women engineers before. Given that the conference has been described as a time to recharge, a time to feel inspired, and a time to reunite with friends, it is no wonder so many attend!

My journey began Thursday afternoon at Midway Airport, where I met 8 student members from the University of Illinois, Chicago Student Section at the gate. They seemed surprised and pleased that the CRS President approached them and introduced herself. The plane was delayed about a half hour, but we had a great time getting to know each other. One of the topics that came up was searching for jobs, whether a summer internship or a permanent position after graduation. One student mentioned her concern for the technical part of job interviews. I encouraged them to make use of the near proximity of the CRS programs and meeting professionals at different programs. I also offered contacts within the professional members so that company representatives could visit the student section on campus to talk about different companies. Of course, the UIC Student Section is already quite active by having many company visits already and preparing for their Corporate Mentor Program. Hearing about all of the activities that the student section has already accomplished and are planning, I was impressed with how energetic they are!

When I arrived at the conference, the Networking Night was in full swing - Mardi Gras style. People were preparing for the parade with floats, dance routines, and dressing up with beads and fancy umbrellas. What a fun way to get to know fellow engineers! Later in the evening, the CRS met to discuss the upcoming vote on the new by-laws. Now, one would think that talking about SWE business at 10:30 in the evening after a full day at the conference would be a quiet affair. If so, then one has not attended a CRS business meeting after a Mardi Gras-like parade!

The next morning, I attended the Succession Planning Training, given by the Section Vitality Committee. Here we learned about the importance of encouraging future leaders in our circles of influence and how to lead them to leadership

(Continued on page 4)

SWE-CRS Executive Council

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Career Guidance — Anne Lucietto

E-mail Network — Available

Family Issues — Karen Preston-Wosniak

Finance Chair — Available

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Job Opportunities — Iris Adanuncio

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SWE-CRS Executive Advisory Board Meeting

Are you interested in seeing your company recruit and retain women engineers and build a diversified work force?

Would you like to see your company participate in the SWE National Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in October 2004?

Does your company know there are local professional and student SWE sections in the nearby proximity?

Would you like to help your company get involved in outreaching to K-12 students and bringing them into Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) fields?

If your answer is **YES** to any of the above questions, please come and join the **SWE-CRS** upcoming **November 18th Executive Advisory Board (EAB) meeting** with our industry partners. You will learn more about the potential opportunities that help your company get connected and involved with SWE at the sectional, regional, and/or national levels. Bring your boss as well as representatives from your HR department too!

When: Tuesday, November 18, 2003 at 4-6 pm

Where: Lucent Technology, 1960 Lucent Lane, Naperville, IL

Please RSVP to Marika Alexakis by Friday, November 14th via email (swechicago@yahoo.com) or phone 312-409-1978 (voice mail).

Chicago Tribune "Freedom Center" Tour

DATE: Wednesday, November 12, 2003

TIME: 6:00 pm networking – 6:30 pm tour

COST: FREE, however, registration is required. Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: by November 10 through the section website (www.swe.org/chicago) or to the SWE-CRS voicemail at 312-409-1978

Don't miss this opportunity to tour Chicago's premier newspaper production and distribution facility located in downtown Chicago. The Chicago Tribune daily newspaper reaches close to a million readers each day and boasts some of the most modern newspaper printing, inserting, collating, packaging and distribution equipment in the world.

This tour will allow participants an opportunity to see ten non-heatset, web offset printing presses, each capable of producing 60,000 copies per hour. See a recently-completed, state-of-the-art newspaper insert collating facility utilizing high speed collators, automated newspaper bundle palletizers and a fully-automated pallet storage and retrieval system. The facility also has a roll paper warehouse and overhead vacuum crane capable of moving over 16 tons of paper in a single lift.

Directions: Freedom Center is located about a mile northwest of the Chicago Loop area, adjacent to the intersection of Chicago Avenue and Halstead Street. From the Kennedy and Edens expressways (I-90 & I-94), exit Ohio Street East to the first traffic light at Orleans Street. Take Orleans Street north for 2-3 blocks to Chicago Avenue. Travel West on Chicago Avenue to 777 W. Chicago Avenue and enter through the security guard gate. Free parking will be available.

SWE National Award Nominations

It's time to start thinking about nominating people for national SWE awards. The deadline is January 31, 2004, but we like to start early because it takes time to put together a good nomination package. Please take a look at the awards (<http://www.societyofwomenengineers.org/Awards/extawards.aspx>) and think about people you know who are qualified. If you have any names of potential nominees or any questions about the awards please contact Sarah Corbin at sarah_corbin@baxter.com.

president's letter (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

positions in SWE. The best part of the training seminar was swapping stories with other attendees. Different sections have different issues, whether a student or professional section, a large or small section. Yet there were common themes, such as how many of us became SWE leaders simply because someone asked us to take on a leadership position. I left the seminar with a nice roadmap for bringing in new leaders and a smile on my face from some funny stories. Since my company had a booth at the Career Fair, I helped out there for most of the day. A couple of hours were spent fundraising at the CRS booth in the SWE Boutique, where we were selling logo items once again this year. Items such as wood boxes containing potpourri, ribbon, and candles were new, and the familiar socks and soaps continued to be a hit. This year, due to my work schedule, I was only able to attend the conference for one day. By the end of my short stay, I wished I could have arrived earlier. I felt I missed out on listening to keynote speakers, attending the professional development seminars and SWE business meetings. However, there is next year's conference! A year from now, SWE members will be heading to nearby Milwaukee.

On the Chicago scene, things are busy and quickly becoming busier. A tour of the Chicago Tribune printing plant is coming up, as well as a seminar on Transferable Skills. Volunteer opportunities abound with upcoming Girl Scout Badge Workshops and Career Fairs at local schools. A good way to keep abreast of what is happening is to go to the CRS website: www.swe.org/chicago and clicking on "Events Calendar" under the Events menu. Another way is to join our email list. Instructions are online by going to the "Section Information" page, then clicking on "Add/Update Email List." I hope you will benefit from the upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

REMINDER – Family Fun Event for December

If you haven't sent your check in for the December puppet show, now is the time to reserve. We have ten more available seats to fill before we can reserve the theatre!

You are invited to a really awesome event for *any* budding mechanical engineers out there in the great Midwest! The, "Opera in Focus," will have an integrated performance of, "Hansel and Gretel," for SWE on December 6th 2003 starting at 11:30AM. A firm commitment for this event in December is necessary! Bill Fosser is the Creator and Producer of this very impressive and unusual puppet show for young children. Mr. Fosser was the set designer for movies such as, "Sting," and "Ordinary People." He has a troop of four individuals that work such performances as, "Hansel and Gretel," "Madame Butterfly," and

TechTalk

Optimizing Design ... Innovation Without Risk

Event: UIC EAA TechTalk - Optimizing Design...Innovation Without Risk

Dear UIC College of Engineering Alumni and Friends

Save the Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2003 for the Fall Engineering *TechTalk*

Join fellow UIC Engineering graduates for *Optimizing Design...Innovation Without Risk*, an intriguing evening of conversation with design innovator Walter Herbst of Herbst LaZar Bell Inc., sponsored by the UIC Engineering Alumni Association.

TechTalk 2003-2004 continues a discussion about the process of creation and innovative thought. Herbst LaZar Bell Inc. is the world's largest privately-held product design and development firm (www.hlb.com), and Walter Herbst holds over 50 patents for award winning products, leading the way in design excellence.

Mr. Herbst has just confirmed his availability for the Fall Engineering *TechTalk*, to be held in a Chicago Loop restaurant with networking and dinner.

You may make an advance reservation by contacting the Engineering Alumni Association at ea@uic.edu. Since this event is limited to 55 reservations, please let us know of your interest in reserving a space as soon as possible. The details (location, cost, parking, etc.) will be provided shortly. Payment for your reservation will need to be received in the College of Engineering by November 13.

If you've never been to a TechTalk, make this your first!

"Fiddler on the Roof." In addition to the performance, Mr. Fosser always allows the children to view his awesome stage and stringless puppets that run on a rack and pinion system. We will commence our lunch at 11:30AM in the Banquet Hall and then afterwards enjoy his show. If you would like to attend the, "Opera in Focus," performance, please contact Karen Preston at k.prestonwoz@interlync.com or (847) 452-2989 for more information. Ticket prices (including lunch) are \$20.00 for adults, \$19 for seniors and \$16.00 for children. The event once again is on December 6th at 3000 Central Rd. in Rolling Meadows, IL. RSVP and ticket payment is essential before October 31st! If you haven't send in your check NOW is the time to reserve.

Women for Hire Career Expo

Connect with leading employers at the Women For Hire career expo in Chicago!
(Please share this updated reminder with your friends, colleagues, students and members.)

Women For Hire Career Expo
Thursday, November 6, 2003
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Navy Pier
Lakeview Terrace

Free Admission for Jobseekers * Resume and Business Attire Required

No Pre-registration * Free Resume Critiquing

Register today for a special morning seminar for early admittance.
Complete details are available at www.womenforhire.com.

Partial list of diverse participants includes: ADP, AIU Online, American Express Financial Services, Archer Daniels Midland, Boston Market, CDW, Chicago Police Department, Chili's Grill & Bar, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Deloitte & Touche, Federal Aviation Administration, FedEx Ground, International Truck & Engine Corp., Merchandise Mart Properties, MetLife, Minolta, NASD, Olivet Nazarene University, Prudential Financial, RadioShack, Rent-A-Center, SEC, State Farm Insurance, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Trading Technologies, US Secret Service, US State Dept, Wal-Mart Stores, Washington Mutual and many more! (Check website for most recent participant list which is updated weekly.)

Register Today for an Early Morning Seminar

Get a head start on your success by joining Tory Johnson, CEO of Women For Hire, for a special networking session prior to the start of the Women For Hire career fair. In addition to meeting other professional women, Johnson will share informative, practical and inspiring advice during this special event. At the conclusion of the session, seminar attendees will have direct early admittance to the career fair.

Advance registration is required for the morning seminar and space is strictly limited.
Visit www.womenforhire.com for details.

Women For Hire on Video

From the creators of the #1 career fair for women comes "Women For Hire's Practical Path to Career Success." CEO Tory Johnson guides thousands of women every year to secure great jobs. Now she brings her straight-arrow job-search advice and energizing inspiration to you.

Learn insiders' secrets to self-promotion, networking, and negotiation in this make-it-happen-now video guide. Women For Hire reveals what every job-hunting woman must know. For just \$14.95 this 50-minute presentation, which is available on VHS and DVD, is a smart investment in your success.

To purchase a copy today, visit: <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaaid=54241>

Good luck and we hope to see you there!

American Business Women's Association (ABWA) Networking & Dinner Meetings

Tuesday, November 25, 2003

Event Name: ABWA November Networking/Dinner Meeting

Featuring: Mimi Keane

“Who Are You Talking To? - The Powerful Role of Personality Type in Personal and Professional Interaction - Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator (MBTI(r))”

Tuesday, December 9, 2003

Event Name: ABWA December Networking/Dinner Meeting & Holiday Party

Featuring: Jackie Sloane

“The Art of Being Heard: Create More of What You Want By Speaking to the Concerns of Others”

Sponsor: American Business Women's Association (ABWA), Chicagoland Express Network

Location: Columbia Yacht Club,
111 N. Lakeshore Dr. (Randolph/Lakeshore)
Chicago, IL 60601
(866) 281-2143 (note our new toll-free number)

Located at the base of Randolph Street on the shore of Lake Michigan, the Columbia Yacht Club is also located adjacent to Chicago's new DuSable Harbor (Detailed directions for driving and parking available at: <http://www.abwa-chicago.org/meetingsevents.htm#directions>. NOTE: Cars can not park in the Club's lot from May through September - they will be towed!)

Time: Networking will start promptly at 5:45 PM and meeting will end around 7:30 PM.

Cost: Members - \$25; Guests - \$ 35 (including dinner, speaker and networking); cash or check payable to ABWA Chicagoland Express Network. RSVP after Friday prior to meeting (Monday, Tuesday - including showing up at door), Members: \$30, Guests: \$40. Please note "No-Shows" will be charged; we are charged us for all “yes” RSVP's. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Phone Number: (866) 281-2143 Web Site: www.abwa-chicago.org

Join SWE CRS Job Opportunities Yahoo Group



To join our group, [swechicago_jobs](http://www.swechicago_jobs), please follow these steps:

1. Go to [Yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)
2. Click on groups.
3. Go to “Join a Group”;
Type in the group's name and click search.
4. On the new page, double click on [swechicago_jobs](http://www.swechicago_jobs).
5. Next page click on: “Join the group” tab.
6. Follow the registration procedure if you do not already have a Yahoo ID.

New Renewal Requirements for P.E. License

Written by Diane Peters

Those of you who have a Professional Engineer license in the state of Illinois may be aware that some changes are taking place – the state of Illinois is now joining those states that require the completion of professional development hours (PDHs) for renewal. If you've got a license, or plan to get your P.E. license, you may want to take a look at the new rules.

A full copy of the rules is available on the web at www.ildpr.com, but the state also has been sending out a fact sheet with license renewals. In addition to specifying the number of hours required (30 over a 2-year renewal period), it gives a description of some of the professional development activities that can satisfy the state requirements. Unlike some states, Illinois isn't requiring that the Professional Development activities carry continuing education units (CEU's).

There are a wide range of activities that satisfy the requirements. Some of these include college or university courses in professional engineering, related sciences, or engineering ethics. With one semester credit hour equal to 15 PDHs, a two-credit hour class would totally satisfy the requirement. Other qualifying activities include attending technical or professional meetings, such as speakers sponsored by professional societies at monthly programs, authoring papers, receiving patents, teaching classes, or actively participating on a committee or holding an office in a professional or technical society. For each committee membership or office, a person can receive two PDHs, though there is a maximum limit of 8 PDHs that can be counted for committee membership and offices held.

If you're licensed, or want to be, check out the full text of the requirements – you'll want to be familiar with what does and doesn't count so you can put together a professional development plan that will satisfy the license requirements, serve your own personal goals, and maximize the value you get from the things you're already doing. And, if you want to satisfy part of the requirements through service on a SWE-CRS committee, just let the section leadership know – more volunteers are always welcome!



November Planning Meeting

Date: Saturday, November 8, 2003
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 am
Place: Mayling Wong's house in Naperville
RSVP: Required by Thursday, November 6th. RSVP directly to Mayling via e-mail (Mayling.Wong@swe.org) to receive directions.

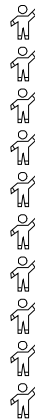
During the planning meeting, we'll discuss the Chicago Regional Section's financial status, upcoming events, committee activities, etc.. All officers, representatives and committee chairs are encouraged to attend, and all members are welcome.

New Members Join SWE CRS

Please welcome the following members to the section, who have either newly joined, upgraded from student membership, or moved into the section.

Elisabeth Correa
Jiayi Geng
Susan Heilmann
Eva Kolesnikoff

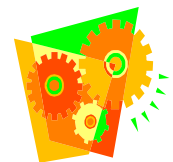
Kathleen Kurtz
Katie McHugh
Elaine McKinney
Rachel Morey
Laura Wasser



All members are encouraged to submit articles or announcements that may be of interest to our membership. The next article deadline is

November 26th

Send articles to:
Kamelio@ctlgroup.com
SWE CRS Newsletter Editor





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