



Society of Women Engineers

Region G

Fall 2003

AUTUMN/WINTER CALENDAR

Date	Event
September	First rebate check sent to student sections
Sep	Start formation of Team Tech (www.swe.org/SWE/StudentServices/SAC/TeamTech_short.htm)
1-Sep	Fall Section Quarterly report due
15-Sep	Freshman scholarship winners notified
15-Sep	Team Tech finalists from prior year notified
October	SWE National Conference www.societyofwomenengineers.org/convention/
Oct 9-11	Team Tech and TPC finals (from prior year)
1-Dec	Team Tech initial proposal package due
1-Dec	Drop date for renewing members who didn't pay dues
1-Dec	December Graduates to Upgrade their Membership
1-Jan	Winter Section Quarterly Report due
February	Rebate checks issued
1-Feb	Sophomore, Junior, & Senior Scholarship applications due (www.swe.org/StudentServices/Scholarship/brochure.htm)
15-Feb	Team Tech progress report with design documents and advisor interim evaluation report due
31-Mar	Deadline for receipt of membership applications to be included in Membership Upgrade Award
2-4 April	Region G Conference at Carnegie Mellon

Calendar Courtesy of Rachel Lewis

University of Akron Keeps on Giving!



University of Akron Student Section Spring 2003

The University of Akron SWE student section has many community service activities planned through this year. These include Boo at the Zoo, the Festival of Lights, and collecting cell phones. Boo at the Zoo is held at the Akron Zoo every year. It is a chance to give kids a fun and safe environment while trick-or-treating. One of our responsibilities is to help decorate the Zoo a couple weeks before the "Boo" (the trick-or-treating) starts. We also go to the "Boo" to help pass out candy. When we arrive we are given costumes to wear, assigned a location, and then have fun with the kids.

Another event we will participate in is the Festival of Lights. This is a fundraiser for the Children's Hospital where organizations donate decorated Christmas trees. These trees are auctioned off and the proceeds are donated to the Children's Hospital. Last year our tree was decorated with children's books and stars with the theme "Star light, Star bright." The year before the theme was "Inventing Tomorrow" with K-Nex decorations. We have not yet decided on a theme this year, but it's sure to be great!

Collecting cell phones for the Akron Battered Women's Shelter is also important to us this year. Any old cell phones that are still in working order can be donated to the Shelter so the women can use them for emergencies. This is ongoing and we are working with the Women in Engineering Program at The University of Akron on this project.

Holly N. Pero – SWE Secretary
The University of Akron

**Comments? Questions? Articles?
Contact Your Editor Bethany at
[SWERegionG@hotmail.com!](mailto:SWERegionG@hotmail.com)**

Case Girls Learn to Build a Great Future!

During Engineers Week in February 2003, Case SWE sponsored the annual *Society of Women Engineers Luncheon* on the Case Western Reserve University Campus. The speaker this year was Ms. Karen Sweeney, Vice President and General Manager of the Cleveland Business Unit of Turner Construction Company. The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Turner Corporation, the nations leading general builder. The first women ever to head a Turner office, with 22 years' construction experience, she told success secrets as one who has been there done that. She noted that it was her male boss that gave her the opportunity and she picked it up and ran with it.

The integrity with which Ms. Sweeney spoke about past, present and future created a reality our guests found interesting and informative. In past years, great importance was often attached to breaking the glass ceiling. Today the emphasis is on working mothers, balancing home and lifelong employment and eliminating inequities. Ms. Sweeney continues business-scholastic relations with SWE Case Western Reserve University. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any questions, comments or concerns.

Jane Cervenak - SWE Communication Chair
Case Western Reserve University (jec26@cwru.edu)

Ice Creaming & Career Dreaming at CMU!

The first week of school we held our annual Ice Cream Social. As the first SWE activity of the year, the goal is to recruit freshman for membership and provide a laid back environment to socialize with others who have similar interests, majors, etc. It was extremely successful, with over 100 attendees - so many we ran out of ice cream!!

On September 18th we are hosting the Technical Opportunities Conference. The TOC is the largest on campus job fair held at CMU, and this year approximately 95-100 companies will be in attendance. Many juniors and seniors receive summer internship or full-time job offers respectively as a direct result of the TOC.

Upcoming events this semester for our chapter include a General Body meeting with IBM, a holiday party with the professionals, and other community service and social activities.

Laura Spurduto – President
Carnegie Mellon University



Getting the awesome astronaut pens during the 2003 Region G Conference at OSU made everyone smile!

Region G 2003 Conference at OSU

The Region G Conference was held at The Ohio State University this past year, Feb 28-March 2. We had about 52 student members and 34 professional members in attendance with 14 non-members as well. We started off the conference with a Friday Night Social where various games were played. Saturday we had various workshops from Resume Writing to Developing Leaders and Motivating Members.

There was a “Lunch With Industry” where companies set up displays and took resumes. It was a great change from the usual “career fair.” Our lunch speaker was “Luke the Juggler” who showed different juggling moves and had an inspirational speech of hope and possibilities. He spoke of the everyday issues that can bind us down.



That evening everyone attended our Banquet, with guest speaker Karen Hendricks. Governor Bob Taft appointed her to the board of trustees in 1999. She is the former chair of the board, chief executive officer, and president of the Baldwin Piano & Organ Company. Prior to joining Baldwin, she was executive vice president and general manager of the Skin Care Division at The Dial Corporation in Phoenix, Arizona. Ms. Hendricks spent almost 21 years at the Procter & Gamble Company, beginning in product development after graduating from The Ohio State University in chemical engineering. Prizes that had been donated by student sections in Region G were raffled off. After the banquet everyone was invited to the Social that was held at Buckeye Hall of Fame Café.

The conference came to a close on Sunday with breakfast and workshops such as The Key Ways for Making a Positive & Powerful First Impression, The Professional Presence: What Does Your Attire Say About You, The Key Ways for Communicating in the 21st century, How Men and Women Communicate, and Balancing Career & Family. Overall everyone enjoyed the Conference and OSU SWE was glad to be hosting it. It was a great experience as well as success.



Making news friends has always been an important part of attending regional conferences... and it shows!

WVU Has a Little of Everything!

At West Virginia University, we have an annual Girl Scout Day where we invite all the area girl scouts ages six to twelve to participate in a day full of learning,



making new friends, and making huge messes! Each year the event grows in popularity and the attendance keeps rising. We found that holding the event in the spring instead of the fall allowed the girls to do experiments outside and earn a totally new variety of badges. Everybody really liked the change in scenery. As we plan for this year's Girl Scout Day we anticipate having 200 girls and their families attend. They all get a t-shirt, lunch, and three badges each... not too bad for a single day's work on their part.

Each spring we also hold a formal dinner and dance at a local banquet hall/dance club. Last year's event held over 100 attendees, ranging from freshmen to professors. After sitting for an excellent buffet meal, the dance music started and we danced the night away. We love this event, as it gives us a great opportunity to bring back memories of the Prom and dances we had in the past. Just because we're engineering students doesn't mean we don't like to get all dolled up and spend a fantastic night on the town!

At the suggestion of one of our new members, we are also going to hold a SWE Self-Defense night. We will be attending our own special self-defense seminar taught by one of our area's top instructors in this field. We are all excited to learn how to defend ourselves in the event of an emergency, not to mention we get to take out frustrations on a big "dummy."

Bethany Wilson- President
West Virginia University



At the fall '03 engineering organization fair Amie, Susan, Nicole, Emily, Bethany, Natalie, & Tammy take a camera break... memories for the scrapbook!

Building Bridges in Grove City

In 2001, the Grove City College chapter of SWE began a service project that reached out to the local community and bridged a generational gap. The engineering students held a computer tutorial in the campus' technical center that featured one-on-one instruction of basic computer skills to members of the community. Topics covered included Internet and email usage, as well introductory Microsoft Word and Excel skills. Our younger generation has been able to answer questions such as "What do I do when my computer freezes?" for years, but advice such as this was warmly welcome to those who attended the tutorial. The computer tutorials have continued to present date, with an average of 50 women and community members participating in two sessions a semester.

Carolyn Blake – President
Grove City College



Mechanical engineering student Lisa Bodi assists a community member during one of the section's annual computer tutorials.

Toledo - full of hard work and preparation!

The University of Toledo is keeping very busy this semester. We have a great freshmen class that has already proven that they are committed to SWE and its mission. Not only are we working hard on increasing membership, planning activities, and producing effective speakers at our meetings; but also we are planning for the 2005 Region G Conference to be held in Toledo.

We are very excited about this great opportunity we have been handed, but there is much work to be done. Pre-planning has been the main goal. Over the summer, several members kept busy laying the groundwork for the conference. It is going to be a lot of work, but The University of Toledo is looking forward to showing the rest of Region G what a great city Toledo is!

Julie Sanner – President
University of Toledo



Louisville "Speeding" To a Great Future!

Here of the University of Louisville, Speed Scientific School we've been very busy the past three years. The interest in SWE just wasn't very strong, so we have been trying to revive the interest in SWE and make ourselves known around campus. We have been fairly successful too!



For the past three years our SWE section has participated in Repair Affair where over 100 women and men set out to help paint the exteriors and interiors of houses and make small household repairs for under privileged

neighborhoods. We work from 7:30 AM until the mid afternoon helping brighten the homeowner's day by fixing up their home. Repair Affair is a non-profit organization that helps the needy, through several people/company's generousities.

We also try to get involved with the local schools in order to increase young girls to pursue engineering, math and science professions. One way in which we did this was through a program called Dream Girls where we held several sessions to familiarize 4th and 5th grade girls about the engineering disciplines offered at the University of Louisville, Speed Scientific School.

This year we are planning a Girl Scouts Day to help out a local Brownie troop with their math and science badges. Another philanthropy event we participate in is the Salvation Army's Angel Tree where we have sponsored one child for the past three years. Along with that event we have also gone Christmas Caroling and made small gifts for the residents of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

To increase membership we have participated in our campus's Society Picnic and Welcome Weekend for incoming freshman where we gained several new members. To get involved with the industry we have toured the Newport Aquarium and Glassworks and this September we will be taking a bus tour of the proposed Light Rail system for Louisville. Another thing we have done is held a panel discussion every year where women engineers come in to talk about their companies and jobs and then open the floor for questions from the students. This event has been one of the best events we have had! To increase our funds we hold bakes or Krispy Kreme sales. We have also done some fun activities like gone rock climbing and out to dinner/movie together. Overall, our SWE chapter has had a very busy semester but we've also had a lot of fun too!

Kristi Hall – President
University of Louisville

OSU SWE holds "Junkyard Battles"

The student section of SWE at the Ohio State University recently developed a new outreach initiative aimed at encouraging high school age girls to explore engineering. The program, Junkyard Battles (JYB), is similar to the popular television programs, Junkyard Wars and Operation Junkyard, produced by TLC and Discovery Kids, respectively. Funding for the first JYB in November 2002 came from a SWE Program Development Grant.

The day-long event brings girls from area high schools to Ohio State, where they spend most of the day in teams striving to create a working mechanical device out of a heap of junk. The key aims of the program are to encourage interest in technical fields and foster interaction between the high school girls and both student and professional female engineers. In the first JYB of November 2002, students created water-balloon-tossing catapults and trebuchets. They learned about the physics of trajectories while working in teams and having a ton of fun. OSU SWE plans to host another JYB in October 2003.

OSU SWE is also participating in an event on campus called Community Commitment. This event is an opportunity for students to volunteer and do community service in our area. More than 1,200 fellow Ohio State and Columbus community members participate in this nationally-acclaimed service project. COTA & CABS buses transport the volunteers to more than 80 locations around the community. After working in the community, participants will return for free t-shirts, lunch, and a post-event service fair at the Ohio Union.

Kendra Schmies- President
Ohio State University



Dream Girls Program Investigating Human Proportions: Your height= Your arm span?



Rock climbing girls of Louisville: Kristi, Jessica, Mandy, Kelly, and Maureen

From our New Region Director

Let me introduce myself, my name is Helen Patricia, I am your new Region Director for 2003-2005. I am looking forward to my next two years and have started by looking back at the last year or so.

One of the interesting activities that has taken place in the last year is the "Why SWE" campaign. When I attended the Region G Conference in Columbus in February and the "Why SWE" question was posed, I thought the answer was obvious. I joined SWE because I saw this organization offered a unique opportunity for me to take an active role in promoting engineering careers to young men and women through the many outreach programs that our section participated in. I also looked forward to the interaction with other women engineers and have now come to value the many friendships that I have developed over the years.

I was very fortunate to have been in attendance at the Installation reception held in Newport News, Virginia in August in honor of our FY04 President Alma Martinez Fallon. In her acceptance speech Alma highlighted interesting information about the society and the engineering profession. She stated, "SWE is 53 years old, and from humble beginnings, we have grown to a society of over **17 thousand members**. --- SWE has 90 professional sections and 300 student sections across the United States. --- In 1950, the year SWE was founded, one percent of engineers was women. Today women engineers comprise about ten percent of the engineering work force. We want to encourage these numbers to continue to grow, which is why SWE will continue to partner with universities, industry and other engineering societies to ensure that the number of women engineers continue to increase." She went on to explain why this is so important. "I believe that the well being of our country and continued improvement of our quality of life, are dependent on our edge in technology. To maintain this edge, **we as leaders**, owe it to ourselves to find the **best** and **brightest** men, and **women**, to contribute to the engineering and technology professions. As president, I am leading the Society to actively participate in the forums that define attitudes, policies and legislation impacting the recruitment, retention and advancement of women in engineering. We will also encourage future engineers by creating an array of educational programs aimed at young girls as well as young women in college. These goals will be accomplished through collaboration with other engineering societies, and SWE's corporate partnership council."

In support of this objective she has outlined the following objectives for FY04:

- Enhancement of the Society's Web Site
- Strengthening Operation Infrastructure
- Enhancing Membership Initiatives
- Fund Development
- Annual Business Operating Plan Process
- Support of Society Organizational Changes
- Advocacy Strategies Development

As your Region Director, I have tried to establish goals for our region that not only will help achieve the objectives set by Alma, but would also be achievable

by our professional and student sections. My objectives were presented as follows:

Website Enhancement:

- Obtain training on website management
 - Provide training to interested section members

Membership Initiatives:

- Work with Region Vitality Coach to expand section vitality enhancement efforts by meeting with sections and providing training
- Streamline the reporting process.
- Continue "Why SWE" activity from FY03
- Meet or exceed Region Directors' challenge for FY04
 - Support upgrade challenge – increase student upgrades to 60% of the possible student upgrades.
 - Get 100% section participation in completion of Section Vitality Scoresheet

Society Organizational Changes:

- Support adoption of proposed bylaws through COR training and communication to sections.

Why do I think these objectives are important? Because by strengthening our organization we will continue to strengthen in our goal to be a key source of knowledge and service to young men and women, educators, and the community in the creation and advancement of information about women in engineering.

We should continue to ask ourselves "Why SWE". I think there are as many answers as we have members. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the National Conference in Birmingham in October and over the next two years.

Words From the Editor

To my fellow Region G members:

Let me first tell you what an honor it is to be publishing the Region G newspaper. When I volunteered to compile a newspaper for our region at OSU during the 2002 Regional Conference I had no idea what a time consuming challenge it was going to be!

I have been a member of SWE for three years, my first year holding office as Secretary and last year as our section president. Again this year I was unanimously voted to be our section president – which I am very proud of. It has been a job that has definitely kept me busy...

Now, as your editor, I will strive to publish a paper that will fill you with regional knowledge and help each of your sections become successful through the experiences and advice of other student branches. Thank you to each of the sections that have offered their articles and pictures to be included in my first issue of the Region G newspaper.

Please send any articles, pictures, and comments to SWERegionG@hotmail.com.

Again, thank you.

Bethany A. Wilson
Region G Newspaper Editor & WVU SWE President

Dayton “Howl-o-ween” and flying kites!

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) at the University of Dayton is planning on being involved in several community service events this semester. Each fall, a festival called Pumpkinfest is held at a nearby park in the Dayton area. A group from SWE goes and volunteers at the festival, helping out all day with various games, arts, and crafts for the children. Our club has been doing this event for several years and continues to do so as it has proven to be a chance to help out the community, get involved, and have a great time in the process!

The Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, located in Dayton, Ohio, is a place where children and people of all ages can go and learn about science. They hold several events throughout the year including a festival for Halloween, an exhibition on kites and aviation, a celebration of National Chemistry Week, and a Robotics competition. People can see the large role science plays in our world while having fun! SWE is planning on helping out with the Halloween festival, called Howl-o-ween, by selling tickets at the door, distributing programs, and cleaning up food. We also are planning on helping out with the Robotics Competition in December, an event where teams of students compete in a high-tech robot showdown. We feel our volunteering is a good way to show our support for the museum and all that it has done for the community.

Finally, at the end of the semester around Christmas, the University of Dayton holds a huge celebration called “Christmas on Campus (COC)” where young children from surrounding Dayton area schools come to campus. These children, adopted for the day by UD students, enjoy a variety of entertainment, including ice-sculptures, musicians, games, arts and crafts, and a visit with Santa Clause. Every year, SWE participates in COC by running a Tic-Tac-Toe beanbag toss game. It is a way for us to show our club participation on campus while being able to meet a lot of new people. All in all, we are very excited about our volunteering opportunities this semester!

Katie Haubner – Service Chair
University of Dayton



SWE members get involved in the University of Dayton’s annual Christmas on Campus by volunteering to work the tic-tac-toe booth

WVU Tech Keeping Up the Good Work!

This is the second year that SWE has had a student chapter at WVU Tech in several years. One of the goals this year is to build up membership by trying to do social activities, community service projects, and fundraisers.

West Virginia University Institute of Technology is located in the heart of the West Virginia Mountains, thirty miles east of the state capitol at Charleston. This prime location offers plenty of recreational activities to its students, from white water rafting to skiing to hiking in one of the numerous state and national parks. There are also plenty of activities for students on campus as well.



The institution was established by the West Virginia legislature in 1895 as the Montgomery Preparatory School to provide academic instruction to college-bound students. In 1917 the name changed to West Virginia Trade School to try to develop a worthwhile role and support vocational education. In 1921 the school’s mission changed to that of a junior college, as did the name, to New River State School. Ten years later, the school became a full four-year institution and was again renamed New River State College. A decade later, the school underwent yet another name change to become West Virginia Institute of Technology as it began offering instruction in industrial, technical, and commercial subjects. It was the state’s only technical college at the time. In 1996 the school became a regional campus of WVU and rename WVU Institute of Technology (WVUIT). The school was and still is one of the only two engineering colleges in the state—the other being at WVU.

Today, WVU Tech is made up of three colleges—the Business, Humanities, and Science College offering degrees such as Accounting, Business Management, Chemistry, Biology, History, and a wide range of other pursuits; the Community and Technical College, with programs such as Engineering Technology, Culinary Arts, Dental Hygiene, and Respiratory Therapy; and the Leonard C. Nelson College of Engineering, offering degrees in Computer Science and Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, and Mechanical Tech also offers a 2+2 program with WVU in Aerospace Engineering and a Masters Program in Control Systems. The college has approximately 2,600 students enrolled for the 2003-2004 school year. 500 of those are engineering students and of that number, 63 are female.

With its beautiful location, outstanding staff, and competitive academic programs, WVU Tech is an excellent place to pursue an engineering degree—a degree that will prove its worth to its holders time and again throughout the course of their careers.

Bridget Meadows
West Virginia University Institute of Technology

Useful Information from our Regional Student Coordinator!

Getting Organized

Welcome back to another year! Are you ready for the year? Have you had an officer training session? Have you set goals for the year? Here are some things to remember when beginning your year. First, make sure your officers are clear as to what their roles and responsibilities are. A good way to do this is to hold an officer retreat. Once your officers are trained and ready to go, your section should be setting goals and planning activities for the year. Once you have set your goals you should align them with SWE's Strategic Priorities (also known as Key Issues):

Strategic Priorities:

1. **Education and Outreach:**
The technical professions will benefit, and the quality of life will be enhanced by more women of all backgrounds pursuing the profession of engineering.
2. **Inclusive Organization:**
SWE will be an inclusive organization focused on issues of interest to women of all backgrounds in engineering and technical careers.
3. **Knowledge Source:**
SWE will be a worldwide leader and preferred partner in the creation and advancement of information about women in technical careers.
4. **Professional Leadership:**
Women will be acknowledged as demonstrating the skills required to be effective leaders in a global marketplace.
5. **Value and Benefit:**
SWE programs and services across the organization will provide value and benefit and meet the diverse and changing needs of Society members and stakeholders.

Once you have set your goals and aligned them with SWE's Strategic Priorities you can start to effectively plan your activities. Use the activity documentation sheets provided in your Student Section Manual to track these activities. If your section does this consistently throughout the year it will be real easy to fill out the Quarterly Reports and the OSS/ONSS reports. You should regroup throughout the year to re-evaluate your goals and ensure you are achieving them.

Teaming up of Sections

This year we have started a new program where I have teamed up schools that are close in proximity. Our hope is that the Student Sections will open up communication with each other, and that you are able to utilize the resources and knowledge of other sections to help you throughout the year. This is a great opportunity for networking with other schools and to improve your Section. It is my hope that we begin to develop stronger relationships within our Region between our Sections and all of our members. I will be asking you periodically to share with us what your team has been doing and how you think it is going. We hope to soon expand this program to include the Professional Sections on the teams.

Rachel Lewis
Regional Student Coordinator (RSC)
Region G

Remember!
The 2004 Region G Conference
is April 2-4 at Carnegie Mellon!