A Word from Our President

by Pamela Gutierrez

Howdy SWE members,

It was my pleasure to have served as your SWE section’s 2011-2012 president! Every single event SWE hosted, big or small, meant so much to me because they were all put together in the intention of serving women engineers. I hope you all realize that all 23 officers are here to serve you and the community throughout your college experience. I remember freshman year like it was yesterday; I was a woman debating whether engineering was right for me and worth pulling all-nighters! Now, that I am about to graduate in May I thank SWE for helping me realize how engineering is not only fun but also extremely important to every single human being. I am ready to step into the “real world” and start impacting people’s lives through my work as a civil engineer. I hope every single member in SWE finds a way to utilize as many resources SWE has to offer because SWE not only changed my life but also many other former Aggies. I am proud to soon be called a former Aggie but I am more proud of having been the former president of the 5th largest SWE Section in the world!

Thanks and Gig’em!

Outreach

by Monica Longoria

Outreach provides an opportunity for members of SWE to take a few hours of their busy schedules to make a difference in the community. The morning of Saturday, March 24th, about 45 women and men were able to wake up for another 8am morning to go participate in Big Event and use their physical ability and teamwork to go help a few households in need. From raking, pulling leaves, to painting, the students worked for hours to take care of chores that some had been waiting all year to get done. These individuals were very thankful and some tears were even shed over the gratefulness of these students. We have another chance to make a difference as Relay for Life rolls around. This is an exciting experience, in which many events go on while students walk to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Our team goal this year is to raise $1,000. Another future event we will continue is our working on Engineering is SWEet Girl Scout Day, which will take place in early fall. This will challenge the girls with engineering projects in a fun environment, as well as expose them to the exciting aspects in various types of engineering. We look forward to our upcoming event and making a difference once again.
F.L.A.M.E.

by Kimberly Caleon

The F.L.A.M.E. professional mentorship program continues to set our students on fire for their futures! F.L.A.M.E., which stands for Females Leading Aggies as Mentors in Engineering, helps students forge relationships with industry professionals and graduate students through structured e-mail discussions, group teleconferences, and luncheons in Houston and College Station.

The program aims to bridge the gap between life as an engineering student and life as a young professional. There are so many wonderful opportunities available to new Aggie engineers, but weighing possibilities and making life decisions can be a daunting task. F.L.A.M.E. helps students make those decisions through valuable knowledge and advice from women who have once been in their shoes. Job hunting tips, lifestyle choices, and challenges women face as engineers are just a few of the topics often discussed between students and their mentors. Sometimes those discussions even lead to internship opportunities for our students.

This semester, F.L.A.M.E. participants enjoyed lunch and a fun “Speed Dating” activity at the Embassy Suites Hotel - Energy Corridor in Houston. Students and mentors were able to gain more personal perspectives as they learned of their group members’ hobbies, interests, and life experiences. The semester will conclude with a second networking luncheon at Abuelos in College Station on Saturday, May 5. As a graduating senior, I am sad to leave my role as F.L.A.M.E. chair, but I look forward to seeing the program continue to move forward in the spirit of continual growth and aspiration for excellence.

SWE 12

by Candace Hernandez

SWE12 is a brand new program that has been initiated to reach out to students that attend underprivileged high schools. As these students do not always receive information about higher education options or the attention that they need from big universities SWE12 helps in informing them through constant communication. SWE12 issues monthly newsletters highlighting the different fields of engineering and what can be expected at both the collegiate and professional levels. SWE12 also provides helpful insights to engineering through Facebook where communication 24/7 is available and updates are posted weekly. In the upcoming year SWE12 would like to start visiting high schools in the Bryan/College Station area to give back to our surrounding community and to work with students at a more personal level.

WHY SHOULD YOU BE A SUMMER CAMP COUNSELOR?

Every summer, SWE hosts a week-long summer camp for middle school girls, featuring the many opportunities available in the fields of science and engineering. Through hands-on demonstrations, tours of laboratory facilities, team-building activities, and design competitions, the girls will discover that engineering is an exciting and rewarding field. We need both part-time and full-time counselors to help make this week long camp a true success! If you have free time this summer, please consider volunteering to help impact the lives of girls interested in pursuing engineering!

How to Apply

Visit swe.tamu.org for the officer application. The application deadline is April 5th, 2012.

Camp Dates: Sunday, July 22nd - Friday, July 27th

If you have any questions, contact Haydee Euceda, Cynthia Ochoa, or Brookelynn Russey at summercamp@swetamu.org
Regional Conference in Lubbock, TX

Regional Conference by Natasha Inamdar

SWE-TAMU attended the FY12 Region C Conference in Lubbock, TX from January 27-29, 2012. Sixteen members were sponsored to attend this wonderful conference hosted by the Texas Tech Society of Women Engineers. The journey to the conference started with a 9 hour bus drive from College Station to Lubbock. This conference was well organized, and it allowed for different SWE sections to interact and learn more about our amazing Region C! Over the weekend there were numerous seminars to enrich members’ minds, a career fair to provide networking/employment opportunities, and a wonderful banquet where awards were given away. SWE-TAMU was fortunate to take home many awards. This included Outstanding Existing Program for F.L.A.M.E. and Outstanding New Innovative Program for SWE12. Furthermore, Pamela Gutierrez, the SWE-TAMU president, won the Emerging Leader Award for Region C. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes collegiate student leaders who are pursuing an engineering degree and are actively involved in SWE. This description is the epitome of who Pamela is and her dedication to SWE. We had a wonderful time at the FY12 Regional Conference and can’t wait to see where it will be and what it will bring next year!

Annual Conference

When: November 8, 2012 - November 10, 2012
Where: Houston, Texas
Keep an eye out for applications, and make sure to apply to attend the conference next fall!
The High School Conference is a yearly conference held in February that invites sophomore, junior and senior high school students from Texas and Louisiana to come to Texas A&M to learn more about engineering as well as the university. This year, about 85 students came and experienced different Aggieland traditions like Sbisa and a Yell Practice but they also had to build a miniature oil rig during the design competition, meet with advisors from different engineering departments, toured 10 different labs and sat in on classes. For the first time, all the student participants had the opportunity to spend night in a campus dorm so that they could get a good idea what it is like to be a student at Texas A&M. Overall, this conference was a great success because 90% of the participants stated that they were interested in pursuing an engineering degree as well as studying at Texas A&M University.

Big Sis Lil Sis (BSLS) is a mentoring program within SWE that groups upper and lower-classmen by major. There are two socials a month, and bi-weekly emails are sent out with questions about engineering classes and college life with a few just-for-fun questions thrown in. As a Lil Sis, younger SWE members get to learn valuable advice from older members that have already gone through the same classes and other college milestones. Being a Big Sis gives an opportunity to share experiences and practice being a mentor for the future. The first social this semester was a pizza and movie night. We watched Mulan! The next BSLS social will be playing laser tag at Grand Station Entertainment on Saturday, April 14. There will be free pizza!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

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<td>BS/LS Laser Tag</td>
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JOIN THE SWE TAMU FACEBOOK PAGE!

Who: You!

Why: Joining the SWE Facebook Page is an extremely easy way to stay up to date about upcoming SWE events and to meet fellow SWEsters

How: Check it out! Search for the Society of Women Engineers Texas A&M Group on Facebook!
Graduate Program

by Rachel Unruh

The graduate program of SWE has been very involved this semester! We have had two luncheons with guest speakers Traci Toone from the TAMU Student Health Services department and Chris McBee from IMG Financial in Houston. Traci was the guest speaker at our February luncheon, which was the week before midterm week, and spoke about stress and time management during graduate school, a topic very well-received by all attendees at the luncheon. Chris recently visited a couple of weeks ago at our March luncheon and gave advice on successful wealth management for young professionals. He continues to be a great resource to help engineering students become economically savvy before graduation. Additionally, SWE has partnered with AWICS to host an ice cream social which served as a great networking opportunity among SWE and AWICS members as well as between students and professors. We look forward to partnering more with AWICS and other women engineering groups and computer science student organizations next semester!

Socials

by Ishita Mandhan

Your socials co-chairs this past year were Rebekah Taylor and Ishita Mandhan and we have loved organizing fun socials so we can all spend some time with our SWE buddies! This past semester we had two social events and both of them were a lot of fun. On March 2nd we had the Tie Dye Social where we had a pretty large turnout. We had people dye colorful patterns on t-shirts, shorts and even socks! This past week we had our second social of the semester where we all decorated flip flops using cut up bandana strips. They sound weird but trust me they turn out very cute! On Friday April 22nd, SWE will be having its spring banquet at the Briarcrest Country Club and all of you should try to come! We will be Selling tickets at the coming general meetings and online as well. If you have any questions or ideas for future socials, please feel free to email us at socials@swetamu.org

Check out the Region C Blog!
Regionc.wordpress.com
Why? It’s a great way to keep up with the happenings of Region C. Especially if you are looking to apply for Regional Positions in the future.
Keep an eye out for Regional officer applications, and make sure to apply!
ABOUT SWE
The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is a national not-for-profit educational and service organization. SWE at Texas A&M University is an organization dedicated to helping women achieve success in engineering academically, personally, and professionally. Through company sponsorship, SWE is able to provide many beneficial services to our members and our community.