



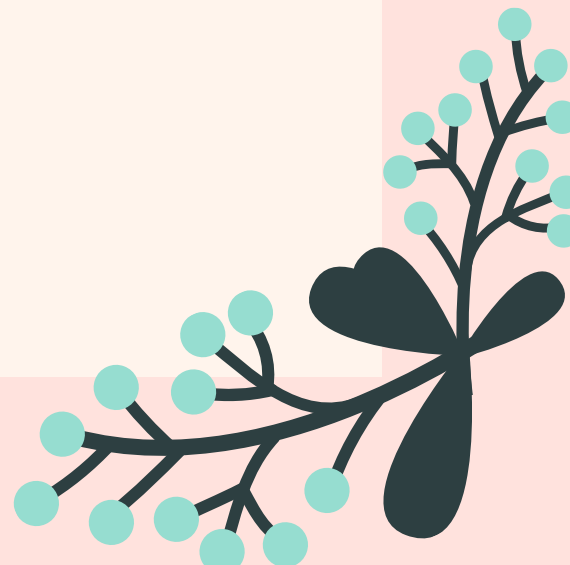
SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS

SPRING 2017



SWE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



table of contents

- 1 letter from president
- 2 membership
- 4 wellness
- 5 outreach
- 7 professional development
- 8 networking
- 9 miscellaneous
- 11 sponsors & officers

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 DrexelSWE

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It's crazy to think we are already halfway through 2017 already! Time really flies at Drexel and sometimes it is scary how fast it goes by. The Spring quarter was a busy one for Drexel SWE! For the first time ever we won "Organization of the Year" at the Drexel Student Life Awards which was an absolute shock and honor. We also were busy writing up our award submission for the National SWE Conference. For 4 years now we have won Outstanding Collegiate Section- Gold Level at National Conference. Only 4 schools in the country have accomplished this. Our goal is to make it a 5th year of winning Gold and keep the Drexel name on top in the world of women engineers! This award judges us on all of our efforts at Drexel, outside of Drexel, how we run our section, how much we grew and how successful our events are. National Conference planning also occurred as we had to get funding from the College of Engineering and the School of Bio-Med Engineering. The colleges generously fund our flights, hotel, and registration to go to the National SWE Conference (WE17) in Austin, Texas in October! Most of my time in the spring quarter was focussed on the "Lives and Lessons of the Underrepresented in STEM" panel event. The planning, preparation, and research done for that event was extensive but well worth it. The panelists we found couldn't have done a better job with sharing their stories of being a minority in their engineering field. Talking about tough issues in our world is the only way to bring awareness and open people's minds. We are so excited to do this event twice a year from now on with different panelists, more people, and more inspiration!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

GBM 1

SWE (no pun intended) kicked off our Spring Quarter with GBM 1 on April 9th! Over 40 attendees were present, and we presented exciting events that took place during the Spring Quarter, as well as bonded over tacos. We also hyped many of our members about our upcoming Lives and Lessons of the Underrepresented in STEM event, which most of our quarter focused upon. Also, after all of our Winter GBMs having guest speakers, we implemented a hilarious ice breaker, which was similar to Ellen Degeneres' game of Heads Up.

GBM 2

Our 2nd GBM was on May 3rd. As the Lives and Lessons of the Underrepresented in STEM event was on the horizon, our members present got even more excited about what was to be offered at that event as well as others that were coming up, such as a Self Defense Class and a Board Game Night (both successes!). We also networked with Drexel's new Peace Engineering Program, and that portion of the GBM engaged many of our members into such a unique avenue an aspiring engineer can take.



SWE members enjoying dinner and discussion at a GBM

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

BYO Blanket Movie Night

The movie, *Hidden Figures*, was loved by all of the members who attended. As a movie that centers around three African-American female mathematicians at NASA, *Hidden Figures* was a very inspiring break from studying for midterms. The event also featured plenty of snacks, including cookies, chips, popcorn, and ice cream! We are already looking forward to Summer Quarter's movie night, where we hope to feature a Studio Ghibli film, due to their popularity among our members!

Board Game Night

This quarter also featured a new event: Board Game Night! Our members got the chance to spend a night engaging in some friendly competition with each other, as they played board games and took a break from classes. From *Settlers of Catan* to *Harry Potter Trivial Pursuit*, there were plenty of games to choose from! We hope to continue having this event each quarter, and are already planning for the summer!

GBM 3

The third GBM was on June 1st. We celebrated the success of the Lives and Lessons of the Underrepresented in STEM at this GBM. We also celebrated our SWEniors' upcoming graduation, and they each earned a gift of a purple SWE chord, and a bottle opener. We also continued our successful SWEa Market from the Winter Quarter. One highlight from this GBM was the continuation of our kick off of our campaign HeForSWE. PR Director Nohra spoke about the incubation, and our call to engage our male STEM peers to become advocates for our members and all women in STEM. We hope to continue this campaign and gain momentum, due to its potential (so if you have any male peers that would be interested, contact us for more information!).

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Self Defense

One of our newest events, we held a mental and physical wellness themed event in collaboration with the Drexel Martial Arts Club. This event was open to the general student community as the information presented is relevant to everyone. Everyone had a great time and learned a lot about staying aware as residents in the city of Philadelphia. Since it had such a phenomenal response, we will be bringing this event back in the fall so more SWEeties can attend!.

Spring Intramurals

This term we had an amazing group of SWEeties compete in beach volleyball intramurals. As one of our big physical events, this team committed multiple weeks to games and even making playoffs! Great work this season, looking forward to the annual ice cream kickball social this summer!

Zumba

SWE Zumba was held outdoors on the Fitness Plaza outside the DAC at the end of May. It was an incredible event, taught by our very own Wellness Chair, Isadora! It was the first of a series we hope to continue with having different group classes each term. Everyone had a great time, especially since many of the attendees hadn't had much experience. Isadora's energy was so contagious, even some non-SWE members stopped by to join in for a song. As one of our physical wellness events, we hope to continue the success of this event and bring more new exercise forms to our members!



Enjoying Zumba on the Fitness Plaza

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Become a Volunteer

On April 4th, we had our biannual Become a Volunteer event! This workshop introduces attendees to the Pennsylvania background check process and helps them complete the three required background checks needed to volunteer with minors. Look forward to the next workshop in Fall term!

Science After Hours

On April 21st, Drexel SWE volunteered at the Franklin Institute's Science After Hours: Prom! This special Science After Hours event kicked off the week of the Philadelphia Science Festival. With a full house, our volunteers taught guests about optical illusions and solved the mystery of the true color of "the dress".



Exploring the physics of carnival games with Bottle Towers

On May 23rd, we volunteered at the Franklin Institute's Science After Hours: Boardwalk! At the event, we explored the physics of carnival games by popping balloons with darts and knocking over bottle towers. Look forward to more exciting Science After Hours volunteering opportunities in July and August!

Philly Science Carnival

On April 29th, to finish off the Philadelphia Science Festival with a grand finale, Drexel SWE volunteered with the Philadelphia SWE Section at the annual Philly Science Carnival! With over 55,000 visitors at Penn's Landing, we taught participants of all ages about electrical resistance and made great connections with other STEM organizations.



Teaching participants about electric resistance at the Carnival

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

COE STEM Events

In May, Drexel's College of Engineering hosted two events geared toward preparing middle school students for pursuing STEM careers: the STEM Conference for Teen Girls and Captivate! The 2nd Annual STEM Conference for Teen Girls on May 5th allowed about 150 girls from Camden and the surrounding areas to get a head start on preparing for their college education. Captivate! on May 12th was a middle school college fair that allowed students to participate in hands-on demonstrations of all types of STEM fields.

TechGirlz Workshop

On May 13th, Drexel SWE collaborated with Drexel's Women in Computing Society to hold a TechGirlz workshop! This workshop taught about 16 students how to build their own website using HTML and CSS. After this workshop, the participants expressed interest in an app building workshop, so look forward to our next collaboration in Summer Term

STEM Career Day

On May 22nd, we had a table at the Academy of Natural Science's STEM Career Day sponsored by Pfizer! There, we introduced our organization to about 350 middle school students from around the Philly area and taught them about making their own simple circuits.



SWE table at the STEM Career Day



16 girls building their own website at the TechGirlz workshop

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

SWEet Summit

On April 8th, Drexel SWE hosted the first Region E SWEet Summit of FY17. The objective of the SWEet Collegiate Leadership Summit is to allow collegiate sections to get together for professional development and to focus on things that are outside of the Society and regional conferences. Drexel, University of Pennsylvania, Lafayette College, and the College of Staten Island came together to network, share best practices, and engage in team building exercises lead by Leadership Coach Cassie Zook. Amanda Weissman, Region E Lt Governor, also gave a presentation on the state of SWE, which was very comprehensive and informative.

Lean In Circle

Our second event on April 12th was a collaborative event with the Steinbright Career Development Center (SCDC) at Drexel, which was a Lean In Circle. The topic for the Lean in Circle was The Power of Introverts. We started by watching a Ted talk by Susan Cain on The Power of Introverts. It was very eye opening and interesting to learn about how both introverts and extroverts have strong character in different ways.

Following the Ted Talk, attendees of the Lean in Circle “leaned” in and discussed the qualities and differences of introverts/extroverts. We then shared personal experiences and how being an introverts can translate to different parts of one’s life, whether it be personal, academic, or professional.

Public Speaking Orai

The third event we hosted was on May 23rd, called “Effective Negotiating”. We welcomed guest speaker Christina Barker who held a workshop about Effective Negotiation. Christina Barker is currently a Senior Engineer at PECO Energy and NSBE Philadelphia Professional Development Chair. Her presentation focused on the topic of negotiation, with an emphasis on providing practical strategies relevant to academic professionals who find that they need to negotiate a career opportunity. Following the presentation, we proceeded to participate in multiple negotiating activities which were very fun and interactive!

NETWORKING COMMITTEE

Alumni Mentorship Meet & Greet

The first event we hosted was April 13th, at this event we hosted the undergraduate students and their alumni mentors at the sky view lounge in McAllister. At this event the alumni were able to meet the other alumni and undergraduate mentees. The event was wildly a success with 17 attendees, we provided each pair with talking points but they really didn't need them. The ladies talked in groups with other alumni and undergraduates about their experiences struggles and journeys.

Glass Decorating

The second event we hosted this term was May 9th. At this event we had an attendance of 15 members arrive to decorate glasses with their friends or matched mentor. The girls talked about what was stressing them out at this point in the term and all laughed about the designs on their glasses. This was an excellent de-stress event for the girls around their midterms and from the feedback given from the girls we will definitely be hosting more events like this next term.

Courtyard Hangout

The third event we hosted was May 17th, at this event we hosted a simple hangout night at the Summit courtyard. The weather was perfect for this event, we had plenty of chips, salsa and pretzel bites for the girls to munch on while they chatted. We had about 12 girls show up and at this event we had a very large number of freshman which was excellent to help the girls network and encourage them to become a chair member of the group.



SWE Mentors and Mentees hanging out at the Summit Courtyard

LIVES AND LESSONS OF THE UNDERREPRESENTED IN STEM

Drexel's first Lives & Lessons of the underrepresented in STEM event, hosted by SWE and COE with the help of NSBE and LSAMP, was a wonderful success! Six diverse panelists of all different genders, races, religions, nationalities, ages, disciplines, and backgrounds shared their personal stories of suffering and triumph. They gave advice on how to thrive in academia and industry and how to recognize and remedy unconscious biases. Women and minorities learned the importance of mentorship and staying focused on what inspires instead of what hinders. Attendees learned that it's essential to motivate one another to speak up about the challenges they face and to never give up on STEM. When this dialogue is created, people learn so much about each other and themselves, and the collective pursuit of equality grows stronger. Attendees were so thankful for the Lives & Lessons event and expressed how it helped the way they view their own situation as well as the challenges of others. The panelists were thrilled to have participated and hope this effort is continued moving forward. With great food, conversation, information, and inspiration, over 70 students, alumni, faculty members, and professionals left feeling more empathetic and more motivated to advocate for change and equality on Drexel's campus and beyond.



Six diverse panelists speak as underrepresented STEM



Proud planning team: Lexi Kapusta, Stephanie Delaney, and Jacque Tawney

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Bridget Postlewaite



“I like working in a field that affects people every day. Transportation engineering has an enormous public impact, and being involved in projects that positively shape our community is extremely rewarding.”

A project manager at KMJ Consulting, Inc., Bridget has ten years of experience in transportation engineering. She has worked on numerous projects of varying size and type, including the Roosevelt Boulevard “Route for Change” Program and the 30th Street Station District Master Plan project. Bridget has experience with traffic signal systems analysis and before and after travel time studies on several major corridors in the region. She has overseen and conducted signal plan design and curb ramp design at an intersection as well as a corridor level. In addition, she has experience in the planning aspects of intelligent transportation systems (ITS).

Personable and dependable, Bridget exudes a quiet confidence and is known for her analytical thinking and ability to hone in on the details.

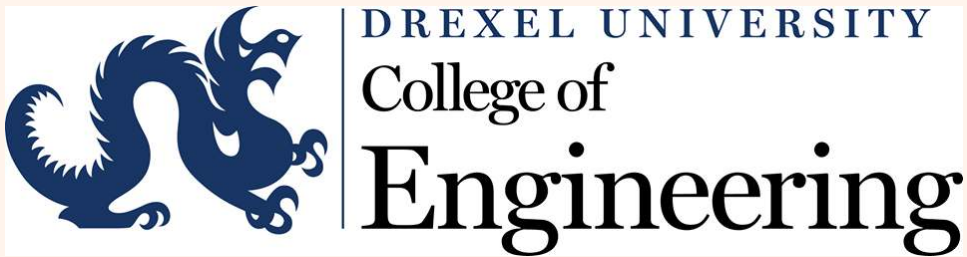
“I have always been a very detail-oriented person. Capturing and analyzing data, and working collaboratively in a team to determine the best way to achieve project success, is what I like best about my work.”

Bridget earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia in 2007, and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and WTS – Advancing Women in Transportation.

When she’s not at work Bridget enjoys spending time with her husband, two daughters and dog, as well as playing recreational field hockey.

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Drexel University Society of Women Engineers would like to thank the following organizations for their support over the last academic term!



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