

# SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2019

## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I cannot believe that we are halfway through the year already! Spring term held many memorable moments with 26 events from our seven committees, including our Mocktail Night: How to Happy Hour and LinkedIn Workshop. I particularly enjoyed attending Networking's Tie Dye Picnic in which members got to enjoy the spring weather and make tie dye t-shirts. I love seeing members helping each other out with little projects like these!

We were honored to find out that our 3rd Lives and Lessons of the Underrepresented in STEM was awarded Drexel's Outstanding Student Program of the Year. I am so proud of everyone who contributed to this event, and this motivates me to assist in planning an even more incredible Lives & Lessons this upcoming fall.

Our Public Relations Director Celine was also awarded as Drexel's Rising Leader of the Year, and Wellness Director Abigail was awarded as one of Drexel's Recreational Athletics' Student Leader of the Year.

At our second General Body Meeting (GBM) we recognized all of our graduating seniors, including several who gave a short speech on their experiences. It was inspiring to hear from these SWEeties about what they've learned, and I look forward to seeing all the incredible things they do after graduating. Seniors, we will miss having you around, and hope that you will come back to visit and share the great things you are working on.

Next up, it's Summer! Summer is my favorite term on campus as it is much more relaxed when it comes to classes, and besides, I can't be stressed when I get to see all the students (and dogs) hanging out at Drexel Park each day. Keep an eye out for all the upcoming events, including a professional development event with a founder of an engineering firm, and many volunteering opportunities.

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[swe.drexel@gmail.com](mailto:swe.drexel@gmail.com)



DrexelSWE



@swe.drexel



@drexelSWE

## GBM 1 & 2



Each term, Drexel SWE hosts two general body meetings to bring our membership together for a night for networking with other women in STEM, making new friends, and learning about upcoming events. For our first GBM on April 9, we kicked off our meeting with a D&I moment about the “traditional binary identity” for both women and men. We had a great conversation about executive presence and what we can do to support our colleagues in the workplace. At our second GBM on May 6, we hosted our SWEnior Sendoff and invited Senior Project Manager at KMJ Consulting Inc., Bridget Postlewaite to speak about her career path. A few select SWEniors gave moving speeches about their SWE experiences and gave advice to freshman in attendance. Bridget gave advice to the graduating seniors in attendance by noting a few tips and tricks for defining your career path and making the most out of your first job after graduation. We hope everyone, from freshman to seniors, enjoyed the GBMs and we wish our SWEniors the best of luck in their future endeavors.

## MS WALK VOLUNTEERING

Bright and early on the morning of May 4, we had 9 lovely volunteers help the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for the annual Walk MS. Volunteers set up food stations, decorated fundraising tables, and cheered on the walkers. With our help, the event was set up in record time and many walkers commented on how festive the route was. We look forward to future opportunities to serve our community.



## BYOBLANKET

For our last Membership event of the term, we watched *On the Basis of Sex*, which highlights the case that spearheaded Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s successful career as a lawyer. We had a fantastic time learning about one of the most instrumental people in the fight for gender equality all while enjoying an ice cream bar. We hope to host more movie nights in the terms to come!

## YOGA WITH SAVASANASAV!

We had an amazing yoga practice lead by the wonderful Savanna Leavitt! Many SWEeties and other Drexel students came out to take part in the event. Attendees had a range of experience in yoga, yet this class was approachable and challenging to all. It was a great way to recenter ourselves for the end of the term and take some time to check in with ourselves. Savanna has offered to teach classes for us in the future, so look out for more awesome yoga events!



## GROUP EXERCISE: SPIN

For our first wellness event of the term, we held a spin class in the Rec Center since there was such large interest last term. We had a new teacher this time, Katie, who was fabulous! We worked on a range of hills, springs, and surges. Katie taught new riders how to set up their bike and control the resistance. Those who had never done spin before this class expressed that they will look to go to classes in the future after having such a positive experience. This is one of the things we strive for on the wellness committee--getting people to try new things in the hopes that they may find something that clicks with them that they'd like to incorporate into their wellness journey! For those who had done spin before, they were happy to come along for the ride and get in a good workout. I hope to see some of these SWEeties again at other spin classes.

## Drexel SWE Wellness

- Promoting Mental and Physical Wellness for All -

HOME - PHYSICAL WELLNESS - MENTAL WELLNESS - NUTRITION - OPPORTUNITIES - PODCASTS/TED TALKS

## SWE WELLNESS BLOG

The blog is intended to be a resource center for our members on all components of wellness--physical, mental, and nutritional. We love highlighting the wellness accomplishments, practices, and ideas of our members as well as sharing opportunities with everyone. We welcome guest contributors (current members and SWE alumni)! This blog is a work in progress and we will be working on improving it!

Check it out at [swedrexelwellness.health.blog](https://swedrexelwellness.health.blog)

## RESUME REVIEW & NETWORKING WITH DCMA ENGINEER PRIYA BABU

SWE Members networked with DCMA Engineer Priya Babu over dinner and resume review. Ms. Babu gave members helpful advice as well as a timeline of her academic and professional journey to get where she is now. She provided insight on how to seek promotions in the workplace as well as network with higher executives for shadowing. After discussion and dinner, members were able to have a one-on-one resume review with Priya and connect!



## PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE WITH LOFT



The second annual LOFT event with SWE was as fun as ever! Members were given styles of picked out outfits and ways to mix and match the same articles for different events. Everyone was able to try on clothing as well as enjoy refreshments. Members were also given special discounts and one lucky member won a \$25 gift card for a raffle!

## LINKEDIN WORKSHOP

This collaborative event between Professional Development and Public Relations offered members the opportunity to learn more about how to operate LinkedIn and make the best of it in connecting with classmates, professors and other professionals while giving formatting feedback. Members provided their own personal feedback regarding experiences and little tips and tricks. Towards the end, SWE members were able to have their headshot taken as well as ask any specific questions for their own LinkedIn account.



## GIRL SCOUTS: INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING

This past April SWE Outreach started off the term with our Girl Scouts: Design It, Build IT, Test IT event! For this event SWE Outreach partnered with Girl Scouts to host an event focused on designing their own roller coaster! Before creating their own roller coasters the girls used a roller coaster computer simulation to help them understand the engineering of a roller coaster and how potential and kinetic energy affects how fast or slow a roller coaster will travel and also instances where it could get stuck. Once they have mastered the roller coaster simulation they were able to create it in real life by using pipe insulation, masking tape, and marbles! By using their surroundings and any surface available to them they were able to design their roller coaster through trial and error until it was perfected.



## PHILLY SCIENCE CARNIVAL

For the 2019 Franklin Institute “Philadelphia Science Festival” at their final event, the Science Carnival, Drexel SWE partnered with Drexel Graduate Women in Science and Engineering to host a table. Our table taught kids about various types of polymers and materials through a hands-on demonstration where students could create their own gax, a polymer similar to slime, and create their own Non-Newtonian Fluid. This allowed the Carnival guests to become engaged on how different materials are formed and what different materials could be used for based on their properties. Overall this event was a huge success, as hundreds of young Philly kids got to experience what makes polymers differ!



## STEM CONFERENCE FOR GIRLS

SWE participated in the STEM Conference for Girls. For this event, local middle and high school female students came to Drexel to learn more about engineering through hands-on demonstrations, workshops, and breakout sessions. SWE hosted two demonstrations, one for electrical engineering and one for civil engineering. For the electrical demonstration, students used Makey-Makey's to create their own electrical circuits that replace a computer's keyboard. For the civil demonstration, students were challenged to create the tallest tower they can using limited resources and only spaghetti and marshmallows. Overall, students thoroughly enjoyed the demos and learned a lot about conductive materials and strong structures through a fun day of engineering!



## TIE DYE PICNIC

To welcome Spring and some warm weather, the Networking committee hosted a Tie Dye Picnic with our undergrad mentors and mentees! It was a beautiful day even though the wind was crazy! We had a great time eating outside and trying out all different tie dye designs. This event was a great way to relax and destress during the term and get our creativity flowing. We had a lot of members who had never tie dyed shirts before so it was great to see them enjoying a new activity.



## MOCKTAIL NIGHT: HOW TO HAPPY HOUR

This event was co-hosted by the Membership and Networking committees. Members were able to enjoy a variety of mocktails and take home recipe cards to re-create their favorites. Two professional mentors shared their experiences, tips and tricks for navigating happy hours such as how to talk to someone you have never met before. The open discussion between the mentors and members to ask for advice for situations that they have experienced in the past as well as future anticipated situations.

## TRIP TO PHILADELPHIA ART MUSEUM

The Networking committee hosted a Trip to the Philadelphia Art Museum as a way for member to de-stress before the start of finals week. It was a beautiful day and attendees were able to walk over from campus and climb the famous steps to the museum's entrance. The special exhibit featured Impressionist artwork that helped members relax as they could imagine themselves inside the works of Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, and Paul Cézanne to name a few.



## DIVERSITY POTLUCK

The Diversity and Inclusion committee organized a culturally-diverse potluck. Members of different diversity engineering clubs attended this event and brought in food from different cuisines to celebrate the cultural diversity within those engineering organizations. It was also a beneficial opportunity to meet the different members, create connections and discuss future collaborations. The food was great and the conversations were even better!

## STD AWARENESS MONTH TABLING

April was STD awareness month. Towards the last week of April, the Diversity and Inclusion committee put together a tabling event in Lebow business. We handed out pamphlets with STD statistics as well as helpful hotlines and locations for STD testing locations in Philadelphia for the benefit of students of all backgrounds. To be inclusive, we also handed out various types of condoms (female and male) to promote sexual safety.







## ADVISORY MEETING

During the HeForSWE advisory meeting, the theme for the Spring term was privilege recognition. During this event, the HeForSWE committee recreated a privilege exercise that included five stations evaluating different aspects of identity such as gender, sexuality, and physical ability. Participants added a bead to their individual bracelets if they could answer “basically yes” to the different privilege questions for each identity station. The focus of this exercise was to appreciate and recognize the privileges each person has rather than focus on the disadvantages.

**MAKE SURE TO  
SIGN UP FOR  
THE HEFORSWE  
NEWSLETTER!**



**MERCEDES CHARTIER**  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

**HAILEY IHLOW**  
CIVIL ENGINEERING

**ASHLEY KARAKAL**  
ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING

**GABRIELLE MADDEN**  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

**JANE MAURER**  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

**NOHRA MURAD**  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**MANISHA RAJAGHATTA**  
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**AMBER SARACENI**  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**AMY SHAPIRO**  
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MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

**ALYSSA SUAREZ**  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**ANGELA TOMITA**  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**VICTORIA UTRIA**  
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**PURVA VAIDYA**  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**ISADORA VIANA-DUARTE**  
CIVIL ENGINEERING

**ISABEL WINGERT**  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**SERENA YOMBE**  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Drexel University Society of Women Engineers would like to thank the following organizations:

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- University of Pennsylvania
- NASA
- Merck
- Comcast
- Langan
- Boeing
- 3M
- GE

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  - Drexel College of Engineering
  - Drexel Office of the Provost
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**Directors serve for 4 quarter terms, beginning in the Winter.**

**Chairs serve for 2 quarter terms, beginning in the Winter or in the Summer.**

**Officer board applications are announced through our weekly member emails and social media posts. National membership is required to run and to vote.**