

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2019

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Summer at Drexel is an entirely different experience from most universities. Rather than having a summer break at home, many students continue working in classes, co-op, or summer research programs like STAR. This summer, Drexel SWE continued to host events for our members, while using the relaxed atmosphere to plan for the upcoming fall term, and continue to bond as an officer board.

This summer our members participated in many events from outreach for high schoolers at Transition to College with Confidence, our annual Ice Cream Picnic collab with Wellness and Membership, to volunteering at the Dornsife Center to help clean up their gardens. Members also were able to spend time outside bonding with each other at our Mentorship Mini Golf and Wellness’s Engineering Hike at Wissahickon.

We also partnered with the DELTA program again to host the Diversity BBQ to welcome some incoming engineering freshmen to Drexel and introduce them to SWE, SASE, NSBE, SHPE, AOE, and oSTEM.

This fall, I look forward to meeting more of the incoming freshman class and all the wonderful new members that will bring. Be sure to check us out at the fall involvement fair or the new member info session if you are interested in getting more involved. We also have many other opportunities through all of our committees, including our 4th Lives and Lessons of the Underrepresented in STEM, an info session with ExxonMobil, and events where you can learn about dealing with burnout and appropriate etiquette surrounding individuals with disabilities..

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GBM 1 & 2



At our first GBM of the Summer, Drexel SWE celebrated LGBTSTEM Day with a D&I moment about how we can support our LGBTQ+ fellows in engineering and technical sciences. We shared interesting statistics about the status of LGBTQ+ individuals in STEM and what current companies are doing to support this community. We also had a guest presentation from the Center for Scholar Development to discuss the Fullbright Fellowship and other fellowship opportunities. At our second GBM, we had an incredible turnout of dedicated members who weathered a torrential downpour. Even though the intense rain, we had a great time playing Who Did It?, where members anonymously wrote down a story about themselves and others had to guess whose story it was. We hope all of our GBMs can provide social opportunities to get to know other SWEeties in a more casual manner. We are looking forward to hosting our annual Welcome Back Dinner, which is our biggest GBM of the year!

ICE CREAM PICNIC

We all enjoyed the wide variety of ice cream and non-dairy treats at this outdoor event on Race Lawn! We brought together SWE members, HeforSWE members, friends, and people passing by. Next year, we aim to have various lawn games for people to enjoy.



GARDEN VOLUNTEERING

On August 17, Drexel SWE sent 9 volunteers to Drexel's Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships to help out the Drexel Urban Growers in their biweekly garden cleanup. Volunteers helped to clean out the flower beds, plant new seeds, and harvest produce for the Center's biweekly free fresh produce pickup for members of the community. Volunteers even got to take home some of the extra produce harvested. We are excited to continue supporting the Dornsife Center and the Philadelphia community!



ENGINEERING HIKE

We thoroughly enjoyed our morning hike through the Wissahickon. We were led by two wonderful volunteers from the Friends of the Wissahickon (one of which works at Drexel!) While taking in the beautiful summer weather and the nature we were engulfed in, we were able to learn about the historical significance of the park, the geological features, and the natural and manmade structures that have evolved and developed over time. The Friends of the Wissahickon run free hikes often and we will be sure to utilize them in the future.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ALL THINGS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Partnering with Steinbright Career Development Center, SWE hosted a workshop for members to ask about any and everything regarding professional development. Co-op advisors answered questions regarding co-op, resumes, career building endeavors and many other topics. Attendees were able to share their professional experiences while asking for and giving advice.

SOLVAY NETWORKING AND INFOSESSION

Bincy Babu and Justin Cowder from Solvay joined SWE in hosting an Infosession, networking and workshop event for members. Bincy and Justin talked a bit about Solvay and what the company does as well as provided recruitment information for Solvay's programs for Mechanical and Chemical Engineering majors. There was also a problem solving component as a workshop where attendees were given a scenario with a problem and documents to help trace the cause of the problem to provide solutions.

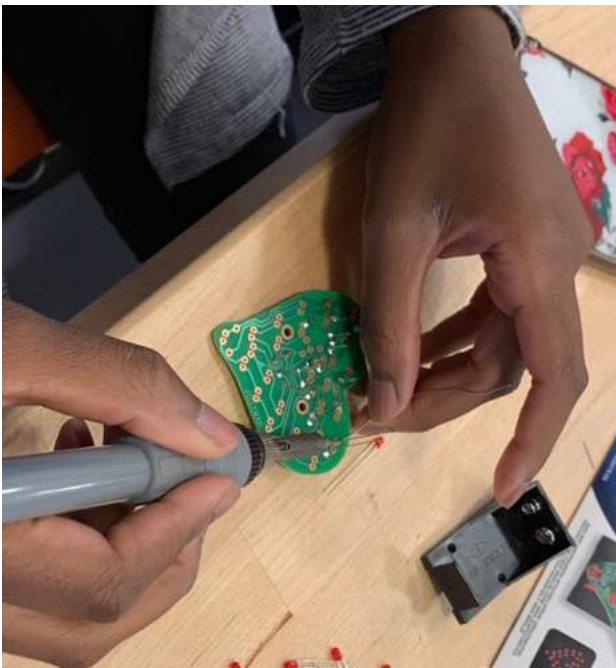
TECHGIRLZ: ROLLERCOASTER

This summer term the outreach team partnered with Techgirlz for our rollercoasters event in the Innovation Studio. By working together to design, build, and construct a rollercoaster with insulation pipe and masking tape using their surroundings and a marble to test out their design. Through testing out their rollercoaster designs the girls were able to learn crucial team building skills needed for engineering, physics, and had a lot of fun in the process! This allowed them to create the rollercoaster of their imagination!



SOLDERING 101

Our final event of the summer was our Soldering 101 Workshop. For this event, we partnered with Drexel Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). Through soldering light-flashing heart circuit boards, girls were able to learn the techniques behind soldering, helping to prepare them for classes involving circuitry. Overall, the event was very successful and all the girls there learned very fast and had a lot of fun - and hope to solder more!



EUREKA! SUMMER CAMP

At this event, our outreach team, in partnership with Girls Inc., hosted a short rollercoaster demonstration where the girls involved with the summer camp got to learn about engineering and physics. The girls learned the importance of modeling designs by exploring several online simulations and then got to test those designs by building their own roller coasters! Overall, the girls and volunteers enjoyed the event and learned a bit more about how to model basic physics into a design.

TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

Kicking off the summer, we partnered with the Philadelphia Professional Section of SWE to host an event for high school girls to come learn how to best prepare for college. We had a great turn out for this event in terms of students and parents. During the event, the girls had a presentation about preparing for college and a demonstration on DNA extraction. The parents had two presentations from volunteers focused on how to help their daughters prepare for college, and how to be supportive of women in STEM. The event ended with everyone gather with a collegiate student panel. Everyone had a great time and left feeling more prepared to pursue STEM in college.



MENTORSHIP MINIGOLF

To celebrate a fantastic year of the mentorship program, the networking committee hosted an outing to Franklin Square to play minigolf. The minigolf course theme took attendees through the mini replicas of Philly landmarks such as the Friendship Arch, Boathouse Row and many more. Though the day was extremely hot, attendees were able to enjoy the company of new friends and celebrate every hole-in-one success.



FINALS WEEK PREP & PAINT



As the summer term came to a close, we wanted to relax and enjoy once more before the wave of finals hit. As a result, The networking committee hosted a Prep & Paint night where members could let out some steam before their exams and finger paint. It was great to see attendees de-stressing before finals through some creativity!

SCIENCE AFTER HOURS: PRIDE!

At the beginning of Summer term, the Diversity and Inclusion committee gathered a group of volunteers to host a stand for the Franklin Institute Museum's Science After Hours event. The Franklin Institute holds frequent Science After Hours events which are exclusively for adults who are 21+. The event was LGBTQ+ pride, and SWE conducted "colorful eruptions" for guests to experiment with. We had lots of fun playing with baking soda, food dye, and vinegar to create rainbow eruptions!

DELTA DIVERSITY BBQ

Teamed up with the Drexel DELTA (Drexel Engineering Leadership Transformation Academy) program, SWE held a barbecue with incoming Drexel freshman to celebrate diversity in STEM. We had an evening bonding with new freshman, eating plenty of food, and playing volleyball with the DELTA summer freshman.

HEFORSWE

HEFORSWE TEAM CHALLENGE

Towards the end of the summer term, an exciting networking event occurred with SWE members and several HeForSWE ambassadors, known as the HeForSWE team challenge. Members teamed up and participated in some friendly competition, focusing on fun engineering challenges, which included cup stacking with just a rubber band and string, tallest straw towers, and sturdiest marshmallow structures.

ADVISORY MEETING

The summer term was kicked off with the quarterly HeForSWE advisory meeting, specifically focusing on LGBTQ+ inclusivity in STEM. As the month of June is considered LGBTQ+ Pride Month, it was especially eye-opening to learn more facts and statistics about the LGBTQ+ community in STEM. Furthermore, by discussing anonymous questions submitted, we had a better understanding in how we can support the community, and the challenges they may face.

MAKE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR THE HEFORSWE NEWSLETTER!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS:



EVENT COLLABORATORS

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

DREXEL UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

- Drexel Mechanical Engineering & Mechanics Department
 - Drexel College of Engineering
 - Drexel Office of the Provost
 - Drexel Biomed
- Drexel University CAP (Commission for Activities & Programs) Funding

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Sihah Joonhigh	HeForSWE Chair
Rhea Jain	Networking Chair

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. Societal membership is required to run and to vote.