

The Gear

Serving the 236 Members of the SWE-WI Section

Sep - 2023

SWE-WI Welcome to FY24

Kyela Specht, SWE-WI FY24 President

Welcome to another great year of the SWE-Wisconsin Section! FY24 has started out to be another fantastic year as we are celebrating 50 years of being a section! The Wisconsin Section was chartered on December 3rd, 1973 on the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee campus and what an accomplishment for all of the past, present, and future members to be a part of such a significant milestone.

I am honored and thrilled to be able to serve you as this fiscal year's president! I'm looking forward to working with the Executive Committee, Committee Members, and the section to put into action the goals set forward at our July Strategic Planning Meeting. We have a lot of great ideas, outreach and social events, and professional development opportunities and learnings planned for the year. I'm looking forward to seeing our members both in person and virtually through these gatherings! Make sure to keep an eye out for information regarding the Annual Conference in October in LA and the WE Locals and Spring Forward in the Spring 2024.

Our section is always looking to grow, both with members, ideas, and woman empowerment. I am always impressed with how our section continues to support our members, collegiates, youth and other engineering societies. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please reach out to me or any member of our EC Board.

As always, look out through SWE-WI's weekly e-blast, website and social media for all the up-to-date happenings for the Section, especially events celebrating 50 years!

Best,
Kyela Specht



Key Upcoming Events

- WE23 Conference – Los Angeles – 10/26-28
- 2024 WELocals – various cities – Feb-Mar 2024
- Save the date, Spring Forward 2024 – La Crosse – 4/13

Stay up to date on all SWE-WI events at our [Google Calendar \(link\)](#)



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Marquette SWE Regional Convention



MARQUETTE SWE REGIONAL CONVENTION

Event Theme: *Prioritizing Mental Health while Navigating a Career in STEM*

Join us to hear from a variety of professional speakers and panels about prioritizing mental health! The event includes breakfast, lunch, and a small-scale career fair! 20 SWE sections have been invited in total and the Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast! An RSVP link has been provided with this flyer for convenience!

 Alumni Memorial Union,
1442 West Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53233

 Saturday, September
23rd, 2023
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Interested in sponsoring the event or joining the career fair? Email Davina!

davina.lettau@marquette.edu

SWE-WI Newsletter Entries

Send us your stories! We want to see what our professional SWE-WI and affiliated collegiate SWE members are up to! We are looking for events that SWE has hosted, member milestones, interesting articles/books to share, and more! If you have something you want to see in the newsletter, please fill out the following Publicity Request Form and check 'The Gear Newsletter'.
SWE-WI Publicity Request Form: <https://forms.gle/CztqytXYQB2hK6JA>

Seeking Social Media Coordinator

SWE-WI Needs You!

Do you use social media daily? Are you looking to widen your social media skill set? Do you want to use social media to reach more SWE-WI members? If you answered yes to any of those questions, become SWE-WI's Social Media Coordinator!

We are looking for someone to manage our Facebook and LinkedIn page as well as creating other forms of social media to reach a wider variety of demographics. Contact Kyela at kyelaspecht@gmail.com or 708-743-9625 if you are interested or would like more information!



SWE-Wisconsin

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Switch into SWE-Wisconsin's Page to start managing it.

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Intro

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is a non-profit organization. SWE establishes engineering as a

Page · Nonprofit organization

swe-wi@swe.org

wisconsin.swe.org

Posts

Filters

SWE-Wisconsin Yesterday at 7:52 AM

SWE-Wisconsin September 5 at 11:00 AM

Spring Forward 2024 Volunteers Needed!!

Looking for volunteers to help plan the 2024 Spring Forward event in La Grange, WI. This

Connect with SWE-WI

SWE-WI Website – wisconsin.swe.org

SWE-WI Facebook – www.facebook.com/SWEWI

SWE-WI LinkedIn Group – www.linkedin.com/groups/782747/

SWE-WI Google Calendar – [Link to Google Calendar](#)

Virtual Mentor Discussions

Andrea Falasco

Join fellow SWE-WI members for virtual lunchtime mentor discussions on the 2nd Friday of every other month! The next discussion Friday, October 13th from 11:30am to 12:30pm. October's topic is discussing hybrid working; pros and cons, strategies, and research.

If you are interested, please email Andrea (awfalasco@gmail.com) to get the link for the meeting. Also include any questions or topics you want to discuss. We hope you can join!

Check the SWE-WI [Google Calendar](#) or the weekly E-Blasts to stay up to date on future mentor discussions!

SWE-WI Advertisement Information

Are you a company looking to show your support of SWE-WI, advertise on our website or in our newsletter, or post a job opening? If so, we want to hear from you. If you are interested, please find additional details and fill out the contact form on our corporate involvement page of the SWE-WI website:

<https://wisconsin.swe.org/corporate-involvement.html>

FY24 Strategic Planning Meeting

FY24 EC Board & Chairs

SWE-WI FY24 Executive Council (EC) Board and Chairs had their Annual Summer Strategic Planning meeting for the upcoming year! Make sure to look out in the weekly eblast, website, Facebook, and LinkedIn for updates, events, outreach and so much more!!

Pictured below: Susan, Sam, Heidi, Kyela, Katie, Andrea, Maureen
Not Pictured (virtual attendees): Gina, Raquel

If you are interested in getting more involved with SWE-WI, check out the open volunteer roles on the [SWE-WI FY24 Org Chart](#), and/or reach out to any [EC member](#). SWE-WI thrives with a strong leadership pipeline, and there are roles of varying levels of commitment to fit any interested member!



SWENext Membership



SWENext is a way to become part of SWE as a student through the age of 18. Joining is free, any student 13 or older can become a SWENext on their own, for those younger than 13, a parent will need to be the primary contact. When registering for SWENext use event code: **Wisconsin**
Learn more about SWENext visit: <https://swe.org/k-12-outreach/swenext-2/>
For any SWENext questions, contact: outreach@swe.org

2023 SWE Award Recipients

SWE Mission Award Professional - Silver

SWE Wisconsin has been selected to receive the Society of Women Engineer Mission Award – Silver. The Mission Awards recognize SWE groups that embody SWE core values and demonstrate continuous improvement and growth as they work to achieve the Society’s strategic goals.



SWE Patent Award – Sam Biletdeaux

SWE Wisconsin members Sam Biletdeaux is a recipient of a SWE FY23 Patent Recognition Award. This award recognizes SWE members who have been awarded a patent within the previous three years from December 31st of the preceding year of the application. Sam has been granted 2 patents through her contributions at Milwaukee Tool.

Both of these achievements will be celebrated during WE23, the world’s largest conference for women in engineering and technology, in Los Angeles, CA, October 26-28, 2023. Congratulations to the whole SWE Wisconsin section!

Are you planning to attend WE23? Stay tuned for SWE-WI meetup opportunities. Keep an eye out on the weekly e-blast, Facebook page, and SWE-WI website for updates closer to the conference!

WE23 Conference in LA!

WE23, a three-day flagship event from October 26-28, 2023 in Los Angeles, CA, by the Society of Women Engineers, invites attendees to Live Without Limits while engaging in networking, gaining career insights, and connecting with industry leaders on innovation. Participants can attend interactive workshops on leadership, engineering subjects, cultivating relationships, and empowering women. Learn more: we23.swe.org

SWE-WI Outreach

Outreach Volunteer Notice

SWE has implemented a Youth Protection Policy. This year to be a volunteer at a SWE-WI sponsored event you must have completed the Youth Protection course and provide a SWE Certificate to the organizer.

Please consider taking the youth protection course early and sending SWE-WI a digital copy of your certificate. This course will need to be taken every three years. To access the course, or for more information please visit <https://swe.org/youthprotection/>

Outreach Involvement

If you have been involved in an outreach event and are a SWE member, send information about the event to Heidi Balestrieri at swewioutreach@swe.org so we can report the information in the SWE outreach tool.

Information needed for the report: event name, date, all SWE sections that were involved, description of event, breakdown of girls and boys who participated, age of students, number of adult guests, number of SWE member volunteers, number of other volunteers, any partner organizations involved, or any other information to share.

Girl Scout STEM Badges

Would you be interested in working with a Girl Scout Troop and introducing a girl to engineering? The Girl Scouts have introduced new engineering and STEM badges and troops are looking for engineers who would be willing to help them earn these badges. For information on how to be involved, project ideas, and how to find a troop contact swewioutreach@swe.org



SWE Wisconsin celebrates 50 years as a SWE Section this December! The section was originally chartered on December 3rd, 1973 on the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Campus.

Our section plans to have a 50th celebration in December, so stay tuned for more details!