GradSWE at Illinois
Graduate Society of Women Engineers
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Celebrating 10 Years of Community

2021-2022
Corporate Funding Brochure
Who is GradSWE at Illinois?

GradSWE Illinois (Graduate Society of Women Engineers at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) is a community of graduate women within the Society of Women Engineers at Illinois. GradSWE Illinois advocates for women in graduate education (M.S., M.Eng., and Ph.D.) so that they can confidently excel at the frontier of scientific advancement.

What is our Mission?

Our mission is to promote diversity in graduate education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to enable innovative and creative solutions to the future technical challenges of society. A diverse and balanced workforce of individuals with graduate degrees is necessary to tackle society's biggest challenges with innovation and creativity. GradSWE Illinois strives to make this workforce a reality.

GradSWE provides events catering to the needs of graduate students.
GradSWE Illinois

At a glance

400+ total members
3% postdoctoral researchers; 74% PhD students; 23% MS students

Chemistry
Mechanical Science and Engineering
Computer Science
Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
Electrical & Computer Engineering
Physics
Aerospace Engineering
Civil and Environmental Engineering
Bioengineering
Other

Largest
Graduate Engineering Organization at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

16 GradSWE Committee Members
4 Sub-committees
9 National Awards
9 Top 10 SWE Research Poster Winners
4 SWE Outstanding Collegiate Members
Event Descriptions

As a result of the global pandemic, all GradSWE Illinois events took place virtually during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Professional and Personal Development Lunch Series

Our lunch series is the most widely attended GradSWE event. The goal is to enrich the graduate learning experience with speakers touching on diverse and relevant topics for professional and personal development. We had 15 lunches in 2020-2021. Topics included “Acing the Interview”, “Women Empowerment”, “Negotiation”, etc.

STEM Outreach Programs

GradSWE Illinois provides outreach opportunities for engagement with the local Urbana-Champaign community. In 2020-2021, we partnered with The Urbana Free Library to create the “Jump into Science!” virtual STEM program for girls in the Champaign-Urbana community. GradSWE Illinois also created a 5-minute Q&A video about engineering for Yankee Ridge Elementary School’s Junior Scientist Day.

Allies in STEM Program

Allies in STEM is a newly founded program. The organizational goals aim to connect various underrepresented organizations in STEM that are on campus (GradSWE, NSBE, SHPE, MAES, ABPSI, AISES, etc.). During the spring 2021 semester, Allies in STEM hosted an interactive series consisting of 6 sessions to educate graduate students on topics related to allyship.

Social and Community Building Events

Although we were meeting virtually during the 2020-2021 academic year, we continued monthly social events to provide an opportunity for networking and socializing with members of GradSWE.

GradSWE & SWE Mentorship Program

New to our organization, the GradSWE & SWE Mentorship Program was created in 2020-2021 to connect undergraduate SWE members interested in graduate school with a GradSWE mentor with similar research interests. This program consisted of monthly mentor/mentee meetings, social events, and professional development workshops. A total of 20 GradSWE and SWE members participated.

National SWE Conference

GradSWE Illinois participates in the National Women in Engineering Conference, the world’s largest conference for women in engineering each year. This year, GradSWE at Illinois is financially sponsoring 12 GradSWE members to attend we21 in Indianapolis.
What is weSTEM Conference?
A one-day conference designed for graduate women in STEM to connect with current STEM leaders. Invited speakers will share experience and insight from their diverse career paths following a graduate degree in STEM.

We invite companies to connect graduate women with professionals who have a graduate degree.

Who attends weSTEM?

- speakers
- sponsors
- 150 Attendees
- UIUC students
- Non-UIUC students

Mark Your Calendar!
February 11-12, 2021
Annual Conference

WESTEM 2022
Women Empowered in STEM

“weSTEM was an inspirational, relaxing atmosphere in which networking and interacting with other attendees as well as speakers was easy and natural.”

What do we do at weSTEM?

Friday, February 11th:
• Welcome Reception with attendees, speakers, & sponsors

Saturday, February 12th:
• Keynote speakers
• Breakout table discussions about challenges and opportunities in STEM career paths
• Panel discussions
• Speaker talks
• Networking
• Sponsor recruitment booths

Check out our conference website for more information!
Support GradSWE Illinois

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has multiple top-ranking graduate STEM programs in the United States. As the largest graduate engineering organization on campus, GradSWE Illinois contains top graduate talents at the University of Illinois. **By committing to support GradSWE Illinois, you are helping us prepare students to enter the workforce and ensuring the success of women in science and technical fields.**

Thank you to our 2020-2021 Corporate and Departmental Sponsors

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**Budget Expected 2021-2022**

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<tr>
<th>Line Item</th>
<th>Expected Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>we21 Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Development Lunches</td>
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<td>Committee</td>
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<td>Social Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allies in STEM Program</td>
<td>Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>GradSWE &amp; SWE Mentorship Program</td>
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<td>weSTEM 2022 Conference</td>
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# 2021-2022 Sponsorship Packages

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</table>
Thank you for supporting GradSWE at Illinois

Contact our Funding Co-Directors Nathira Jezeefa Kamaludeen and Dhruma Shah.

Email: gradswe-funding@illinois.edu

Website: https://www.societyofwomenengineers.illinois.edu/about-gradswe