



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SECTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2016

In October we held some very successful large events including: a general meeting hosted by Xcel Energy, Technically Speaking- an outreach event for high school girls, and a large networking event with 9 companies on campus hosted by our Corporate Relations Team. At the end of October, 20 members of our SWE U of M leadership team attended the WE16 Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was quite a busy month!

WE16 Conference Recap

From October 26 – October 30, 20 SWE ladies from the leadership team visited Philadelphia for the WE16, SWE’s annual conference. During the conference, they attended sessions on professional development, leadership, technology, and how to improve and grow collegiate SWE sections. There was a huge career fair, and several of our representatives had job interviews while at the conference. On the last night, attendees went to the awards ceremony, Celebrate SWE, celebrating the accomplishments of all SWE members. Thanks to all of you for your contribution in the following awards received at conference!

1. Schlumberger Award for Most Volunteering Events

Remember all those events you organized and attended during September and October, and those blue Schlumberger shirts we wore? That’s right, it paid off! Our section was awarded \$5000 for participating in the Schlumberger Stilettoes to Steel Toes competition for volunteering events. Congratulations, and thanks to VP Kelsey for making this possible!

“The S2S Social Impact Challenge, sponsored by Schlumberger, is a distinct challenge where SWE sections members and partners give back to their communities by volunteering time to community organizations and turn ideas into positive real-world impact. It provides a great opportunity for members to win money and support their SWE section while bringing social responsibility and empowering our communities to drive change – for good. S2S Challenge is about people, and the things we do together to positively impact our communities and the environment. It is about the volunteer work we do in our local communities, and our efforts to make a difference.”

2. Silver Award for Outstanding Collegiate Section

Awards presented to Collegiate Sections with the most outstanding overall program for the year. These awards were first established in 1975 to recognize outstanding Collegiate Sections. The awards are given based on the Collegiate Section’s ability to meet SWE’s Strategic Goals, and are assessed based on the section’s self evaluation, report, and activity documentation. The purpose of this award is to encourage growth and improvement in all of the collegiate sections.



WE16 Conference: Celebrate SWE Night



Outstanding Collegiate Member:

Elia Zanella

SWE UMN President

At Celebrate SWE, a select few prominent collegiate members were recognized for their efforts within their section and beyond. We are proud to say that our president has received the Outstanding Collegiate Member award! Elia is pictured on the left, receiving her award from the current SWE president, Jessica Rannow. Congratulations, Elia!

“For being a leader inside and outside the classroom, for coordinating and driving success in SWE outreach events, and for inspiring other young women to pursue STEM careers.”

The Society of Women Engineers is the world’s largest advocate and catalyst for change for women in engineering and technology. We help members reach their full potential as engineers and leaders through networking, professional development and the shaping of public policy. And, we inspire young girls to become engineers and support them with scholarships.

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Region H First Place – SME Bowl

The Subject Matter Expert (SME) Bowl was first held in 1993 at the SWE conference in Chicago, and has since been held annually. SME Bowl is a competition between the regions that challenges collegiate members in the areas of science, math, physics, engineering, and technology, as well as their knowledge of SWE history and policies. This year, Exxon Mobil Corporation sponsored the competition and three of our members competed for the Region H team. These members included Morgan Conley, Samantha Volkmeier, and Hannah Warner. They went undefeated in the competition to take home the 1st place prize of \$1200 for Region H!



Reflections from the WE16 Conference:

"I took a moment the night of the Celebrate SWE dinner to step back and allow myself to take in everything and everyone surrounding me. It was a beautiful moment to realize that I was in a room full of amazing women and I felt this overwhelming sense of joy. I didn't win an award or even step on the stage, but just being there felt like an accomplishment."

- Jessica Young, Corporate Relations & Sponsorship Director
Senior, Materials Science & Engineering

"Society conference is an incredible opportunity to bond as a SWE section and learn from other collegiate and professional members. I always love learning about new outreach events. This year my favorite take away from conference was how to help advance public policy to encourage younger women in STEM studies."

- Kelsey Harper, Vice President
Junior, Mechanical Engineering and Management

"I learned that we must have the most awesome group of SWE hearts out there, from the Team Tech competition doing absolutely amazing, to so many people having successful discussions at the career fair or hospitality suites, this group of girls is pretty cool and I can't wait to watch them change the world."

- Sarah Prescott, Website & Social Media Director
Junior, Computer Science and Product Design

Technically Speaking Volunteers

Technically Speaking Event Recap:

150 high school girls and their parents attended Technically Speaking, hosted by the SWE Outreach team on campus this October. The day started with an introduction from our outreach team and two keynote speakers. The keynote speakers were Tricia Walker (SWE Region H Governor and a Supplier Quality Engineering Manager at Medtronic) and Vivian Ferry (professor and researcher in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Material Science at the University of Minnesota). The rest of the day was divided between a student Q&A panel made up of current engineering students, a parent Q&A panel with CSE Admissions, lunch, and an experiment from the chemistry department. At the end of the day, SWE volunteers gave campus tours of the CSE facilities. It was exciting to see how enthused the girls were about STEM and the University, and it gives them a great opportunity to learn more about how to get involved in groups like SWE when they arrive at the university.

"It's always exciting to see young women interested in science and technology, and Technically Speaking was a great day to feel that energy. We hope that this event had a lasting impact on the students who attended, and will help solidify the notion that STEM is a field that everyone can excel in."

- Outreach Directors, Hana Boudlali and Christine Walz

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