



SWE Newsletter



Volume 4, Issue 3

January/February 2005

Calendar of Events

- Jan. 26~ Social
- Feb 2~ Women/ Tech Panel
- Feb. 16~ Team Building
- Feb. 20-26~ National Engineering Week
- Feb. 26~ Girl Scouts
- **Mar. 2~ Elections**
- **Mar. 23~Majors Showcase**
- **Apr. 6~Deans' Panel**

SWE Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month in BCC graduate student lounge at 7:30pm

Inside this issue:

Welcome Back: President's Message	1
Study Skills: Review Your Notes	1
Chairs Corner	2
Past and Future Event Highlights	2/3
Productive Procrastination: Fun with Pi	3
Getting to Know the SWE E-Board	3
Contact Information	4

President's Message

Welcome Back!!!

Hi Everyone! Welcome back for the Spring 2005 semester! SWE is participating in a lot of great events this semester. We will be having workshops on topics including **teambuilding**, an engineering major's showcase, and a dean's panel. We're also having **SWE Night**, an outreach program for senior girls in high school, and would love more volunteers to host girls or help set up for the event. The **Region E Conference** this year is at Rochester Institute of Technology and is going to be a lot of fun. If you are interested in meeting SWE members from other sections and having a great time, please look into going! We look forward to having a fun and busy semester!

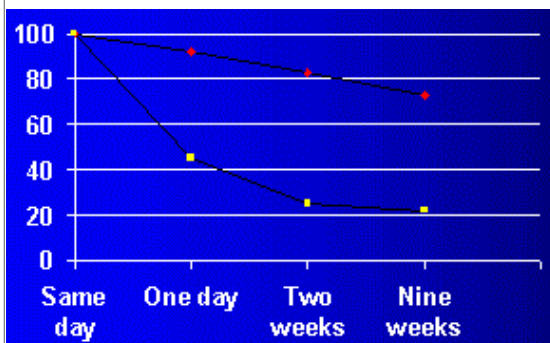
Our meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in the BCC Graduate Student Lounge! We hope to see you there!!!

-Mary Hiras '05

Study Skills: Review Your Notes

Reviewing notes after class each day, or at least before you go to bed, will help recall, as the graph shows. At the end of nine weeks, those who reviewed their notes within a day recalled about 75% of the information. Those who did not review their notes were unable to recall even 50% of the information after one day and only a little more than 20% of the information after nine weeks. Considering that the semester is about fifteen weeks long, not reviewing your notes can do a lot of damage.

We learn through repetition. When you review you notes, you may want to add additional information you recall from class or add questions in the margins to help you study the material later. You may also find that you don't understand some of the things you wrote so you may want to ask the professor or a friend in the class to get clarification.



— Amount you are likely to recall if you do review.
— Amount you are likely to recall if you do not review

Source: "Study Skills Self-Help Information". Virginia Tech

The Chair's Half Page of Thoughts



My freshman year of college is about 3/4 over, but it seems like only yesterday that I was being spiritedly bombarded by Red Shirts and discovered that an entire building filled with freshman engineers was not *always* the nerdy and studious place I thought it would be (Barr is awesome by the way). The first few weeks of school, I was somewhat overwhelmed by the fact that no matter how many people I met, there was always a steady stream of unfamiliar faces and in every direction I was faced with a seemingly unending choices: pizza, salad, fajitas, and/or Chinese food at the dining hall, going to this culture night or that information session, walking or taking the A, B, L, LX, G, GG, EE, H, or F bus, and of course

whether or not to study for calculus, physics, intro to computers, and/or the rest of my classes. If there's one thing I have learned, it is that getting involved in school is pivotal in creating a niche for oneself. Having decided early on to join SWE, I went to the first meeting, had my ice cream, expressed interest and before I knew it, I was Newsletter Chair. This was all pretty exciting, if not for the chance to publish my own newsletter, but also because I started feeling like I had a place amongst the organized chaos that is Rutgers. One more benefit, was that I was obligated to attend all of the SWE meetings every week. I don't at all mean that going to SWE is a burden, but that I can't fall into the temptation of my other hall mates to excuse themselves from meetings with the under-

standable excuse of having too much work to do. Since joining SWE, I have learned how to write a resume and what to wear to an interview, discussed sexism in school and why there aren't more females in engineering fields, seen amazing leadership, found a mentor, and thought that maybe I should consider Biochemical Engineering to be my major, or maybe Packaging...or Materials..., and have done all this in conjunction with doing work. At it's core, SWE has given me an idea of what I am working for and why, and introduced me to a large support network. Whether it be SWE or some other organization, I highly recommend finding something that can give you a break from the academic flow of college and unravel your total potential.

-Amy Tsui '08

March 23: Major's Showcase

***Are you involved in an exciting project in your engineering major?
Are you doing research and exploring new frontiers?***



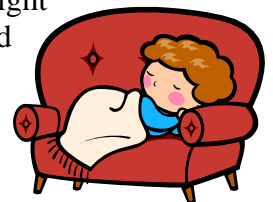
SWE is having a showcase of upperclassmen research from a range of engineering disciplines. You can participate in this showcase on March 23rd from 7:30 to 9pm. By presenting your work with a poster or model you will be able to inspire and give advice to underclassmen. Not only that, it is a great opportunity to get your accomplishments recognized and to practice presenting your work as you may do in industry or academia after graduation.

Please contact either Amy (atsui@eden.rutgers.edu) or Natasha (natashpa@eden.rutgers.edu) if you are interested.

April 8-9: SWE Night

Do you think more girls should be in engineering?

The night before the Rutgers Open House, SWE will be holding its third annual "SWE Night" where high school senior girls admitted into the School of Engineering will come and find out what Rutgers Engineering is all about! If you live on campus and would like to host one or more girls for the night, please contact Aditi (apaliwal@eden.rutgers.edu).



Feb. 16: Team Building Workshop

A great learning experience that the Society of Women Engineers was able to take part in was the *Team Building and Communication Skills Workshop* facilitated by Jim Mandela, a Rutgers University psychologist. Before the workshop began we were asked to think about how much we actually knew each other and how strong our connection to the other members of SWE were. Most of the non-E-board members did not feel as much of a connection as the rest of the members. He started off by trying to pick out some members with unique characteristics such as argumentative, organized or perceptive and they were given tasks based off of their respective trait. We were then asked to stand in a line according to age. It was strange at first, but Jim intended for us to partner up to meet new people outside of our age group. This gave every member a new person to meet. We wondered what would come next and then Jim asked us to think about a dream we aspire to accomplish. We told our aspirations to our partners and they then introduced us to everyone else. These ideas ranged from job related goals to philosophy, family, ways of life and relationships.



Other activities followed that enabled SWE members to bond and be able to learn something about one another. We were able to have open conversations with each other about teams, relationships, and how to understand each other. This workshop was a great way to connect the members of SWE and get to know each other better. We also learned how different situations and relationships can be linked and the fact that sometimes people must only be analyzed a little for us to understand them.

We are often unaware of another's situation and only a small amount of effort would permit for relationships to be enhanced. The Team Building workshop was not only great to bring SWE closer, but also to learn more about understanding others. This is a very important skill for our futures as young women on our way to becoming engineers, doctors, architects, lawyers, etc. As a final point, it should be mentioned that sometimes we all only need a little push to understand and get to know one another better. There should always be an effort to understand others if we, as women, want to one day have others display the same effort onto us.



-Jana Gajdosova '08

Productive Procrastination: Fun With π

3.1415926535 8979323846 2643383279 5028841971 6939937510
5820974944 5923078164 0628620899 8628034825 3421170679
8214808651 3282306647 0938446095 5058223172 5359408128
4811174502 8410270193 8521105559 6446229489 5493038196
4428810975 6659334461 2847564823 3786783165 2712019091
4564856692 3460348610 4543266482 1339360726 0249141273
(Source: <http://www.joyofpi.com/pi.html>)

Also:



Read Life of Pi by Yann Martel (nothing to do with the number)
Watch Pi by Darren Aronofsky, Starring Sean Gullette
Find out if you are in π at <http://www.facade.com/legacy/amiinpi/>
Join Tau Beta Pi (www.tbp.org)

Getting to Know the Executive Board

Meet the new inductees to the SWE Executive Board for this spring semester!

BRANDIS WILLIAMS

*EGC Co-Representative
Freshman*

Computer Engineering

Favorite Class: Physics/Calc, (When I understand them)

Favorite Professor: Dr. S. Brahmia, Evelyn Hanna

Summer '04: EOFSI 2004

Why join SWE?: Organization full of SMART Females!!

Advice for Freshman: I am a Freshman, but...College is no joke, you need some organizations to help you relax a little! This is a great one!

Future Plans: To be a Computer Engineer at Lockheed Martin, not the New Jersey location though!!

Other Comments: Wish me luck this semester with course work and my new position as EGC Rep!

DANA WEXLER

Appointed E-board Member

Industrial Engineering

Why join SWE?: Finding people just like you in a form which is not tacky.

Advice for Freshman: Don't worry - you know what you're doing.

JANA GAJDOSOVA

*EGC Co-representative
Freshman*

Applied Sciences Engineering

Favorite Class: Art History and Physics

Favorite Professor: Dr. Brahmia

Summer '04: EOF

Best Part of SWE: I just went to the first meeting and I loved what I heard. I really liked all the opportunity that it offered and I also wanted to be a part of something.

Future Plans: I plan on going to graduate school for architecture.



SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS *
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY SECTION

Society of Women Engineers
Rutgers, The State University of NJ
Engineering Building B-110, Busch Campus
98 Brett Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854



Gear Up With SWE!

We're on the web!
coewww.rutgers.edu/swe

Contact Information

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