

SWE-OC News

Society of Women Engineers, Orange County Section
Supporting Collegiate Sections at CSUF, CSULB, UCI & UCR

August 2009

ASPIRE • ADVANCE • ACHIEVE

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SWE-OC's Annual Summer BBQ

Happy New SWE Year! We're kicking off FY10 in style – with lots of food and an outdoor movie. Hope to see you there!

WHEN: Saturday, August 8, 2009

TIME: 6 p.m.

WHERE: Shannon's house in Long Beach
Address will be sent with RSVP confirmation

COST: \$10 per person - covers cost of food and non-alcoholic beverages; feel free to bring festive drinks

Menu: Tri-Tip and Skewered Chicken, Pasta/Potato Salad, Fruit, Appetizers

RSVP: Jen at swe-oc-social@swe.org by **August 3**. Please indicate if you require a vegetarian option.

****RSVP is a financial commitment****

SWE-OC Newsletter
Editor:
Kim O'Rourke
Kim.orourke@cox.net



<http://www.swe-oc.org>

President's Column

Thanks to all who helped make our FY09 year a tremendous success! We were able to accomplish most of our goals and continue to keep SWE-OC a premier advocate for women in engineering.

I have no doubt that our section will continue to thrive and succeed, especially with the dedicated and passionate Officers and Committee Chairs. Thank you to all who agreed to serve this year. We are lucky to have such a strong foundation for our Section. There are still open positions including Professional Development, Science Fair, Diversity and Work/Life Balance Chair. Please consider volunteering for an open position. We have such a good core of officers; no one duty will be overwhelming.

The executive council met for the annual planning retreat on July 18, 2009 and established goals and objectives for this FY10 fiscal year. I'm looking forward to pursuing our goals which include membership retention, collegiate upgrades, and outreach. We will continue to provide professional development, networking, educational outreach opportunities and social events that appeal to your interests. The programs committee will be meeting on August 5 to plan the rest of the year's meetings and events.

I hope everyone is relaxing and enjoying the summer break. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Welcome Back BBQ on August 8.



Shelley Merriman
FY10 SWE-OC President
swe-oc-president@swe.org

Membership Renewal Reminder

If you have not done so already, it is time to start renewing your membership for FY10. You should have received a letter in the mail from SWE headquarters with renewal information, as well as an email from our Membership Chair.

Why should you renew now? Because you will receive uninterrupted member services for the upcoming year (July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010) including all member emails, on-line services, newsletters, web seminars, and the award-winning SWE Magazine. You will also be helping your SWE-OC get our dues rebates on time, enabling us to provide you with more benefits in our local area.

The fastest way to renew is to go to www.swe.org and click on "Renew Membership". You will need your User ID and password to login.

SWE-OC Leadership Positions Still Available for FY10

Event though the officer positions for FY10 have been filled, there are plenty of committee chair positions available. We've listed a few of the open positions below, but you can view the full list of committee chair positions at www.swe-oc.org (Go to About SWE and click on Committee Chairs in the drop down menu).

If you're not ready for the commitment of a committee chair position, but would like to volunteer in one of the committee chair areas, we are always looking for volunteers. We'll help you find the right fit.

Professional Development

- This person is responsible for working with the section officers to develop a Professional Development (PD) plan for the section. Responsibilities include working with the PD committee chairs to plan events for the section, identifying external PD opportunities to publicize to members, and developing SWE-OC materials or activities to bring PD to members.

Science Fair Chair

- This person is the primary contact with the Orange County Science Fair Committee. The chair organizes volunteers to be judges at the fair and organizes the selection of the SWE-OC special project prizes. The chair should be willing to volunteer at the Science Fair, typically in April.

Diversity

- This person is responsible for for writing newsletter articles about diversity and reviewing information from the national multicultural committee and making recommendations to the section for Diversity events/programs.

Work Life Balance

- This person organizes activities and/or writes articles about family issues. If desired, she can organize a lunch/dinner meeting to present family issues topics.

Contact Shelley Merriman at swe-oc-president@swe.org to volunteer or for more information about the open committee chair positions.

SWE-OC Community Service Project



Need an incentive to clean your closet??

Join SWE-OC in helping Working Wardrobes provide at risk women, men and teens professional clothing. The desired items are:

- Casual and professional men's, women's & teen clothing
- Must be clean and pressed
- Must be on hangers - no bags or boxes
- No broken zippers, missing buttons, tears or stains
- Purses and shoes in good condition
- Men & women's accessories (scarves, belts, earrings, necklaces, shoes, & ties) are always greatly needed
- New packages of panty hose and men's boxers
- Unopened personal care products and travel size personal care products
-

If you would like to contribute or want additional information, please contact Jeannette Lindemann at jelindem@hotmail.com or 949-400-8537. For additional information regarding Working Wardrobes please visit <http://www.workingwardrobes.org/index.html>

"I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow. I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights. I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life. I've learned that making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life." I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance. I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back. I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision. I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one. I've learned that very day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug or just a friendly pat on the back. I've learned that I still have a lot to learn. I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou

National and Region B News

ABJ Meeting- Whidbey Island, WA August 14-16, 2009

This year's theme: Escape to ABJ: for yearly ABJ training.

Where: Whidbey Island For those flying in, Seatac Airport is the closest airport.
When: Aug 14-16th
Cost: \$175 (and includes 2 nights hotel, food, event, etc) *this is an all inclusive pricing, upgrades are available.
RSVP: Danette.Hilton@SWE.org

The topic this year will be the new Senate, yearly training as well as many other key issues.

Region B Volunteer Opportunities

Leadership Coach for Region B Needed

This Task Force was to provide proactive intervention to at-risk sections. This Task Force helped to stop the decline in membership and decreased program participation of our ailing and failing sections. With the initial emphasis on at-risk sections, trained members provided intervention. The task force then evolved to develop additional training modules that support leadership development and management skills at the section level. Training modules were developed on topics that are essential to maintaining a vital section, such as recruiting members, section finances, fund development, strategic planning, communications, and holding effective meetings. Task force members are trained on these modules then take this training out to the section and conduct training at Region Conferences.

If you are interested in becoming a Leadership Coach for Region B, please contact Joy Bell at joyabell_az@yahoo.com.

New Region Committee- Volunteers Needed

The Region is still looking for volunteers for The Policies & Procedures Committee, and the Finance Committee. The Policies Committee will be working to update the Region Policies with the upcoming Senator changes. The Finance Committee will be researching better ways to invest and protect the Region money. This is a great opportunities to get your members involved, please pass this on to your membership.

Anyone interested in participated on any of the committees can send an email to Jennifer Harris at jennifer.harris@swe.org. If you are also interested in being the committee chair, please note in your email.

SWE National Conference



Society of Women Engineers National Conference
Women Advancing the World of Technology
October 15-17, 2009
Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA
<http://we09.swe.org/>

Volunteer Information

We need friendly people who want to meet other people, experience teamwork in action, and help drive the success of our conference!

Earn registration credit!

- Professionals can earn 50% basic registration credit with 5 or more hours worked.
- Collegiates and full-time graduate students can earn 100% registration credit with 5 or more hours worked
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If you are interested in volunteering, contact the WE09 Volunteer Coordinator – Kim O'Rourke at kim.orourke@cox.net

WE09 volunteer leader will contact you with confirmation and details. Positions are awarded by first-come, first served method

Note that volunteer positions are limited and you MUST pre-register for the conference with a code assigned in order to receive credit.**

The online survey includes the list of volunteer positions available. For detailed information about volunteer positions available, volunteer responsibilities and expectations visit <http://www.swe-oc.org/PROFESSIONALDEVELOPMENT/NATIONALCONFERENCE/tabid/125/Default.aspx> or contact the WE09 Volunteer Coordinator – Kim O'Rourke at kim.orourke@cox.net

Professional Development Conference Wrap Up

SWE-OC FY10 Planning Retreat Wrap Up

By Shelley Merriman, FY10 President

This year's planning retreat was held on July 18, 2009 in San Clemente. It was a lot of fun and extremely productive. Officers and Committee Chairs got to know each other better and developed an aggressive plan for the upcoming year. The executive committee set the FY10 goals with a new tracking tool that will be tracked throughout FY10. These goals laid out a plan to increase our concentration on our Membership Programs and Outreach Programs.

Thank you to Kim O'Rourke (and her dad) for opening his house for the meeting.



SWE-OC Officers and
Committee Chairs at
the FY10 Planning
Retreat



REMEMBER TO REGISTER:
Society of Women Engineers National Conference
Women Advancing the World of Technology
October 15-17, 2009
Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA
<http://we09.swe.org/>

FY10 Officers and Committee Chairs

Position	Name	Email
President	Shelley Merriman	swe-oc-president@swe.org
Vice President	Jeannette Lindemann	swe-oc-vicepresident@swe.org
Treasurer	Shannon Pollock	swe-oc-treasurer@swe.org
Corresponding Secretary	Sandra Poteat Thompson	swe-oc-secretary@swe.org
Recording Secretary	Vicki Gaston	swe-oc-secretary@swe.org
Section Representative	Paola Chavira	swe-oc-representative@swe.org
Section Representative	Kim O'Rourke	swe-oc-representative@swe.org
Alternate Section Representative	Yao Lu	swe-oc-representative@swe.org
Publicity	Shannon Pollock	swe-oc-treasurer@swe.org
Webpage	Jen Wong	ocwebmaster@swe.org
Phone Tree	OPEN	
Newsletter	Kim O'Rourke	kim.orourke@cox.net
List Serve	Jen Wong	ocwebmaster@swe.org
Directory	OPEN	
Bylaws	Kim O'Rourke	kim.orourke@cox.net
Nominating	Sonalee Myneni	stambat@hotmail.com
Historian	Shannon Pollock	swe-oc-treasurer@swe.org
Awards	Charlotte Wagner	charcw@aol.com
Corporate Sponsorship	Dalia Guizar	
Fundraising	Vicki Gaston Tran Nguyen	swe-oc-secretary@swe.org
Membership	Jennifer Wong Shannon Pollock Paola Chavira	swe-oc-membership@swe.org
Member Recognition	Tran Nguyen	
Networking Lunch	Suzanne Azpitarte	
Member Involvement	Jen Wong	
Work/Life Balance	OPEN	
External Organizations	Yao Lu	
Programs	Vicki Gaston	
PD Conference	OPEN	
Professional Development (general)	OPEN	
Social	Jen Wong	swe-oc-social@swe.org
Outreach	Kathleen Curley	kathleen.curley@fluor.com
Scholarships	Autumn Smith	asmith477@yahoo.com
Girl Scouts	Amy Lee Nicolette Yovanof	nicolette.p.yovanof@gmail.com
Science Fair	OPEN	
Certificate of Merit	Kathleen Curley	kathleen.curley@fluor.com
Speaker's Bureau	Jeannette Lindemann	
Collegiate Section Liaison	Autumn Smith	asmith477@yahoo.com
UCI Counselor	Marinela Gombosov	marinela.stack@parker.com
UCR Counselor	Catherine Vo	c-vo@pacbell.net
CSUF Counselor	Tammy Qutami	tqutami@parker.com
CSULB Counselor	Autumn Smith	asmith477@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

Meeting	Date	Time	Location	Contact
Annual Summer BBQ	Aug 8 th	6pm	Shannon Pollock's home Long Beach	Jennifer Wong
ABJ Meeting	Aug 14 th -16 th	NA	Whidbey Island, WA	Paola Chavira/Kim O'Rourke
SWE-OC Executive Council Meeting	Aug 31 st	6:30pm	Panera Bread at The District, Tustin	Shelley Merriman
SWE09 Annual Conference	Oct 15 th -17 th	NA	Long Beach Convention Center Long Beach CA	Shannon Pollock
Region B Conference	Jan 30-31, 2010	NA	Phoenix AZ	Paola Chavira/Kim O'Rourke
Region B FY10 meeting #4	May 23, 2010	Tbd	Conference call	Paola Chavira/Kim O'Rourke

SWE OBJECTIVES AND MISSION STATEMENT

SWE is a non-profit educational service organization dedicated to making known the need for women engineers and encouraging young women to consider an engineering education. The organization's four objectives are as relevant today as they were more than 50 years ago:

- To inform young women, their parents, counselors, and the public in general of the qualifications and achievements of women engineers and the opportunities open to them.
- To assist women engineers in readying themselves for a return to active work after temporary retirement.
- To serve as a center of information on women in engineering.
- To encourage women engineers to attain high levels of educational and professional achievement.

The mission statement, adopted in 1985, states: The Society of Women Engineers stimulates women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders, expands the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in the quality of life, and demonstrates the value of diversity.