



January/February 2012

KC-SWE NEWSLETTER

The Society of Women Engineers - Kansas City Section, P.O. Box 860426, Shawnee, KS 66226

Email: swe.kc.mail@gmail.com - website: www.kcswe.com

2012 Region *i* Conference STEMpedes into Tulsa

by Hope Piuck and Karen Gilbertson

Meet professional engineers from Missouri, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma; from different industries, academia, and Government, and from all different disciplines. Meet, mentor, and interact with collegiate students from all over Region *i* as well. For the cost of a road trip, two nights at a hotel, a small registration fee, and a couple days of your time you can enjoy this "mini SWE conference" held March 2nd – 3rd in Tulsa, OK.

Drive a short 4 hours Friday afternoon to register at the conference from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. Be prepared to socialize and have fun at the STEMpede into Tulsa saloon themed casino night with SWEbucks from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Have a good nights' sleep at the Hilton Southern Hills and be prepared for a keynote breakfast from 8:00-9:30 am. There will be continuing education sessions, a career fair, SWE Region *i* business meetings until late afternoon. The registration fee covers all meals.

Then we will be shuttled to the Aquarium for a semi-formal banquet from 7:00 -9:00 pm. After shuttling back to the hotel there will be a Life Members & Speaker Reception from 10:00-11:30 pm OR Salsa night from 10 PM to whenever. If that isn't enough there are two optional technical tours Saturday for an additional \$10.00 fee: Baker Hughes tour starting at 7:30 am and FabLab from 1:30-5:30 pm.

While the official events are over Saturday night, there is usually a group of Professional engineers from all over the Region who gather to chat at breakfast we before we leave for home. Karen Gilbertson has offered to help arrange car pools or roommates to make this a more fun and more affordable experience. She may be reached at karen.gilbertson@dot.gov or (785) 271-2448 Ext. 209.

Don't miss this opportunity to expand your professional relationships with other women engineers in our region! And if want to ask our local conference veteran any additional questions, you can email Hope at hpiuck@smpcorp.com

Details\Deadlines:

Registration Costs are \$45 for Students, \$65 for professionals. All meals are INCLUDED in this price. Add-on events include a technical Tour (\$10-\$15) and the Tulsa Engineering Summit on Friday.

Registration deadline is FRIDAY, Feb 10th. In order to get a T-shirt and tote, you MUST have your registration in by this date. Late registrations will be taken until February 24th on a space available basis. Late registrants will NOT receive a T-shirt or tote.

Special room rate for SWE is \$82/night (www.hilton.com/TulsaSouthernHills) FRIDAY, FEB 17th the SWE block of hotel rooms will be released to the general public. While you can still request same rate if you reserve after that time, rooms may not be available

See conference website for more information and the complete schedule

orgs.utulsa.edu/swe/conference

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You Volunteers

KC-SWE greatly appreciates the time and talent of our members who participated with the following events. We could not do it without you. Thank you!

- ❖ Expanding Your Horizons - Kristin Ehlers, Kasie Holle, Jane Knoche and Krupal Patel
- ❖ Future Cities – Deepthi Abbireddy Susan Enneking and Karen Gilbertson

KC–SWE Executive Board Meeting Schedule

Meetings will continue to be held the third Tuesday of each month from 7–8 pm at Panera Bread, 15108 W 119th St, Olathe KS 66062 (between Hwy 35 and Black Bob, N side of 119th). All members are welcome to attend.

Nominations to KC–SWE Executive Board

We are in need of 3 paid section members to serve on the 2012-2013 Nominating Committee. Members of this committee meet in March to create and later present the slate of nominees to the current Executive Board. They are prohibited from running for office in this election as per our by-laws but they may serve in other committee positions throughout the year. If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee or running for an office outlined below, please email swe.kc.mail@gmail.com

PRESIDENT - Represent the section before the public and preside at meetings of the section and its executive council. Appoint the chairs of all committees, with the approval of the executive council, except the chair of the nominating committee. Approve the appointment of all committee members, except the members of the nominating committee. Authorize the disbursement of section funds within the budget approved by the executive council. Be an authorized signatory on all section accounts. Coordinate activities and execute the business and policies of the section between meetings. Review and approve the yearend section financial report. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of president or as may be assigned by the executive council or the governance documents.

VICE PRESIDENT - Assume the duties of the president if the president is temporarily unable to serve. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance documents.

SECRETARY - Maintain the records of the section. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of secretary or as maybe assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance documents.

TREASURER - Be responsible for the collection, distribution, and safekeeping of section funds. Prepare, maintain, and report as directed on the financial position of the section in relation to the approved budget. Submit a financial report to the Society in accordance with established procedures. Provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of treasurer or as maybe assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance documents.

SECTION REPRESENTATIVE - Perform those duties expected of them as described in the region governance documents. Perform other duties normally associated with the office of section representative or as may be assigned by the president, the executive council, or the governance documents.

Expanding Your Horizons

by *Kasie Holle*

“Cause we get to build stuff,” answered one of the participants when asked why they chose the SWE Balloon Airplane workshop at this year’s Expanding Your Horizons event. Kansas City SWE was one of the groups offering a hands-on workshop during the annual event held last month on Friday evening, January 20th. Expanding Your Horizons is an event coordinated by Science Pioneers with the Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri. It’s an evening conference that allows 6th - 8th grade girls the opportunity to interact with women role models in STEM careers.

Outreach Committee members Kristin Ehlers, Krupal Patel and Kasie Holle along with COR Representative Jane Knoche led two workshops where they explained



Newton’s Laws of Motion to 43 girls. Teams of 2-3 girls spent the remaining workshop building, testing and racing the airplanes they had built and designed using a balloon, a straw, construction paper and tape.

In single elimination heats three teams competed to overcome the drag of their creations with the thrust of the balloon until a winner was announced and prizes awarded. The participants, the volunteers, and a few watching parents seemed to have a lot of fun “building stuff.”

If you would like to volunteer to help the Outreach Committee with future community events, please contact Kristin Ehlers (kehlere@kcp.com). The committee meets at 6PM the first Monday of every month at the Panera on 10606 Shawnee Mission Parkway



“The State of Women in Engineering” Webinar View and Discuss

by *Stephanie DeCaro*

On January 21st KC-SWE held its first ever webinar view and discuss. We have all received the emails from SWE HQ about webinars but many of us acknowledge (despite our good intentions), we never get around to viewing the presentations. So our VP Amanda had a fantastic idea that we pick a time and do it together! Our first viewing choice was an issue near and dear to us all. “The State of Women in Engineering” was created to educate SWE members about the importance of this issue, providing statistics about the under-representation of women in engineering, information about why we need more women in engineering and probe the changes needed to bring more women into the field. Join us for our next webinar view and discuss 9:30 AM March 24th at the Blue Valley Library.



Great Plains Region Future City Competition

by Susan Enneking

Several SWE members helped with this year's judging for the regional Future City Competition held on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at Kansas University. This year's competition was sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers and hosted by The Kansas University School of Engineering.

The competition provided opportunities for volunteers to serve as model judges and presentation judges. Several KC-SWE members were involved in judging and our KC-SWE section sponsored a \$200 monetary award.

This year's entries were focused on clean energy. Students used all recycled materials and each model had to have at least two moving parts. The students worked with the guidance of a teacher and an engineer mentor. Models were built using SimCity modeling software and translated into 3d models for the competition.



FUTURE EVENTS

MEET & GREET on the 2nd Wednesday each month

March 14th @ Tomfooleries on the Plaza from 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Webinar View and Discuss, 9:30AM Saturday, March 24th 2012

Blue Valley Library, 9000 W 151st St, Overland Park, KS



Bring the family to a marble making demonstration

3PM Saturday, April 28th 2012 @ Moon Marble Company

600 E Front Street, Bonner Springs, KS

\$6/child includes marbles lesson and take home game

Speed Mentoring II, May 2012