Happy New Year, everyone! I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the holiday season and get a little R&R.

Last year was great year for SWE-KC. Many of our members accomplished great things personally with awards within KC, WE Local, and the Society. We hosted our 8th annual IGED, our 3rd annual IGED, our 3rd annual WE KC professional development event, many meet & greets, and other activities. Thank you to all who helped out in 2018 and to all who were able to attend.

Are you attending a WE Local conference? WE Local Denver and WE Local St. Louis are nearby. If you haven’t already done so, please let us know at swe-kc.org/meetups

As we enter the new year, we would like to see SWE-KC do many more great things, but to do this, we need your help! We need new leaders and fresh perspectives. Could you lead an event? Become a
SWE-KC member? Volunteer at an outreach event? Serve on the Executive Council?

Being involved in SWE-KC has been very rewarding for me. I’ve gained leadership skills, improved my confidence, and met and worked alongside some fabulous SWE-KC folks to create change in the community and the next generation. These things have helped me not only in life but also in my career. Taking roles within SWE often gives us the opportunity to try out new skills in a safe environment with other SWE folks. Many members of the SWE-KC community are available to answer questions and support as you embark on a new role.

Please consider how you can help as we announce callouts for officer, chairperson, and volunteer opportunities throughout the coming months.

We have a lot happening in the next few months. Please subscribe to our mailing list to keep up to date. You can find out how to do that and more at our website (swe-kc.org). Never hesitate to email the leadership team at swe.kc.mail@gmail.com to let us know how we can best serve you and the organization. Our goal for the year is to continue to plan and host events that are beneficial to the SWE-KC community! I look to seeing folks both old and new as the year rolls on.

Best wishes to you in the new year,

Ragan Gum
SWE-KC FY19 President
WE18
by Sunita Lavin

SWE’s international Annual Conference WE18 was held in Minneapolis from October 18-20. It was amazing to be around so many women in engineering and technology!

This was my first year on a Society committee, and I learned a TON about the Society from the committee dinner on Wednesday night. Each committee stood up in turn so you could start to recognize faces, and you could individually meet the chairs and chair-elects. In addition, each Director on the Board of Directors introduced themselves and the 1-3 Society committees that report up to them. I also got to meet the other 13 members of my committee in person, which really helped when we were working together on slating candidates. If you want to get more involved and learn more about the Society, I highly recommend volunteering during the Society call for committee volunteers. If you don’t hear back right away, be persistent!

I really enjoyed celebrating three amazing SWE-KC women at the WE18 Awards Reception. They received international SWE awards on Friday night!
- Distinguished New Engineer: Adriana Porter
- Spark Award: Kerrie Greenfelder
- Suzanne Jenniches Upward Mobility Award: Cindy Wallis-Lage

I’ve volunteered at the Saturday outreach event Invent It. Build It. (IIBI) for a few years, but this was my first time helping with the Parent Educator Program (PEP). Some of their girls were interested in engineering and others were exploring, but it was especially fun to see parents getting excited about the engineering possibilities available for their daughters!

We closed our time in Minneapolis at Celebrating SWE. The efforts of SWE-KC were well represented! SWE-KC was awarded Best Practices in Outreach and the SWE Silver Mission Award.
3RD ANNUAL IGED JR. HUGE SUCCESS!

By Kaitlyn Mores

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (IGED), Jr. is a day-long event held each fall that shows middle school girls what it is like to be an engineer. Girls in 6th - 8th grade from across the Kansas City metro are paired with a local female engineer who spends the day exemplifying what it means to be a successful woman in STEM. Each year, the event is planned and executed by a steering committee of about a dozen SWE-KC members and over 50 female engineers from the KC metro serve as engineering mentors.

In November, we celebrated our largest IGED Jr. event to date. The event met capacity at the Atterbury Student Success Center at the University of Missouri - Kansas City with 146 students, 60 mentors, and several volunteers. Students were thrilled to build catapults using an assortment of supplies, from note cards to pipe cleaners, to compete against other students for the most accurate and precise catapult. Over lunch, students heard from Honeywell FM&T Vice President of Engineering, Robin Stubenhofer, about her journey as a woman in STEM and what advice she has for today’s young girls interested in the field. Another highlight of the day was a new component to IGED Jr.: a high school panel. Six high-achieving high school students from local SWENext programs and STEM clubs answered questions for the middle school participants ranging from how to prepare for STEM classes in high school to resources available to help girls get exposure to engineering.

IGED and IGED Jr. are SWE-KC’s largest events, and they could not be possible without the support from our sponsors. If you are an employee of Bayer, BHC Rhodes, Burns & McDonnell, Catalent, Cerner, CRB, Garmin, HDR, HNTB, Honeywell FM&T, JE Dunn, Kiewit, Olson Associates, or Power Engineers, please accept a big THANK YOU from myself and the rest of the IGED & IGED Jr. planning committees. Our event could also in no way be possible without all of our fabulous mentors - whether this was your first year or your eighth, thank you for inspiring our young girls to pursue a career in STEM.

If this year’s IGED Jr. event was any indication, Kansas City will be blossoming with young female engineers in nine to twelve years. The planning committee and I are so excited to see how IGED & IGED Jr. continue to grow!
MEET & GREETS

OCTOBER | PAINT NITE
by Michelle Maurer

On October 23, seven SWE members met at Painted Clover in Shawnee, for a night of relaxation and creativity. With the help of an animated instructor and personal libations, we each created “spooky art”. The evening ended with seven versions of three black cats sitting on a picket fence keeping watch over a moonlit cemetery. The artwork enhanced the Halloween ambiance in each of our homes during the fall and reminded us of the fun night we had together with our local SWE friends.

NOVEMBER | HARVESTERS WITH ASCE
by Katie Lin

In early November, several SWE-KC and ASCE members spent the morning volunteering at Harvesters. Our group was split into two teams. The first team sorted and organized personal care items. The second team packaged crates of apples, carrots, and onions. I helped on the second team and after sorting through a few squishy onions, bruised apples, and strange-looking carrots, our team managed to fill almost 2 pallets of crates! After a couple hours of hard work, we all met up for lunch at Waldo Pizza.

I was really excited for this event, since it was the first SWE event I’ve been able to attend in awhile. I enjoyed not only helping the community, but also having time to re-connect with SWE friends and meet new people as well. All in all, it was a great day of community service, networking, and delicious pizza!
SWE-KC PAST EVENTS (CONTINUED)

NOVEMBER | PRIVATE BOULEVARD BREWERY TOUR

by Adriana Porter

In November, SWE-KC hosted a private tour and tasting event at the Boulevard Brewing Company. This unique experience gave about 15 SWE-KC members and friends the opportunity to see the brewery behind-the-scenes, asking any questions we wanted, and stopping to take group pictures along the way. We sampled some delicious beer along the way and then celebrated with a round together to end the day. It was a great time to catch up with familiar faces and connect with new members. Thank you Aswathi for organizing this fun event!

DECEMBER | ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE

by Julie Stuckey

The SWE December get together had it all: cookies, tea, games and white elephant gift exchange and best of all time to connect with other women! A fun and festive evening! Thanks to Aswathi Pradeep for coordinating.
UPCOMING EVENTS

*NEW* MOCKTAILS & MINGLE
SWE-KC is excited to kick off our new event called Mocktails & Mingle, a professional development series focused on mentorship through sharing experiences within our membership.

The first event is on **Tuesday, February 26, 2019**, from 6-8pm, hosted by BHC Rhodes.

WE LOCAL CONFERENCES

**WE LOCAL ST LOUIS** | MARCH 1-2, 2019
**WE LOCAL DENVER** | MARCH 15-16, 2019

Visit WELocal.SWE.ORG for more information and to learn about other WE LOCAL CONFERENCES.

Let us know if you’re attending one! SWE-KC.ORG/MEETUPS

SWE-TALKS: WHY GIRLS MATTER

**AN EVENING WITH JOY WHEELER, CEO OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF NE KANSAS AND NW MISSOURI**
HOSTED BY SWE-KC FELLOWS

**THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019**
SOCIAL HOUR 5:30 – 6:30 PM
PROGRAM 6:30 PM
COST: FREE

Registration and details at: SWE-KC.ORG/SWE-TALKS

SECTION SPONSORSHIP:
jobs.rockwellcollins.com

KEEP UP WITH US ON THE WEB!

FOLLOW US: @SWEINKC
EMAIL: SWE.KC.MAIL@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: SWE-KC.ORG