Dear SWE-KC Members and Supporters,

Welcome to the new fiscal year, even though the first quarter is already over!

These past few months have flown by, and SWE-KC has been nonstop busy with a variety events, such as our Meet & Greets, WE KC 2019, and more. Thanks to the dedication and hard work our SWE-KC members, WE KC 2019, “The Power of a Moment,” was extremely successful - we hosted over 140 STEM professionals at KU Edwards for an evening of professional development talks, networking, and a phenomenal keynote delivered by SWE award winner Cindy Wallis-Lage. Our outreach efforts so far this year include an engineering presentation and workshop at Shawnee Mission Day Camp and a resume workshop at UMKC, but keep an eye out for some of our bigger outreach events coming up in the next few months. As always, SWE-KC continues to host Monthly Meet & Greets for our members to socialize and connect in a casual setting, including past few ones at Boulevard Beer Hall and Martin City Brewing at Mission Farms.

(continued on page 2)
This year, we have some incredible and extremely dedicated volunteers on the Executive Council (see page 3!), featuring both new and returning SWE-KC EC members. The EC and I are very excited for what we have planned for the rest of this year, including continuing onto the second year of our Mocktails & Mingle professional development series, IGED Jr 2019 and IGED 2020 (10th year!), and another exciting SWE Fellows-hosted event. Our overarching mission for this year is to continue supporting the existing SWE-KC programming and community as well as venture into new areas that can use a little more attention. Some of the new efforts we are tackling include strengthening our SWENext support and network, establishing stronger relationships with local area collegiate sections, and identifying ways we can better engage in advocacy for women in STEM. Check out our FY20 Strategic Goals on page 5, and keep an eye out for more info and events related to continuing and new efforts in the coming months!

And now for some groundbreaking news, we are excited to announce that the Kansas City section of SWE has won three SWE Mission awards! SWE-KC will be receiving the following awards at WE19 in Anaheim next month (November):
- Best Practice - Professional Development – Professional
- Best Practice - Partnerships with Collegiates, Professionals, Industry and Academia – Professional
- Silver – Professional

Congratulations to SWE-KC, and we could not have accomplished these successes without the help, dedication, and support of everyone in our little SWE-KC community – thank you all! Check out our sweet awards badges below.

Speaking of the SWE national conference, WE19, we hope to see many of you in Anaheim next month! Don’t forget to let us know if you will be attending WE19, and we hope you will find some time to join us for a photo op and/or a Meet & Greet. For those who cannot make it out to California, there will be opportunities to attend WE Local conferences in 2020, with the closest one being in Des Moines (April 17-18, 2020).

I hope all of you are as excited as we are for what’s coming up the rest of this year. The rest of the EC leadership team and I hope to see you at one or more of our upcoming events! Please contact us anytime through our main email swe.kc.mail@gmail.com if you have any ideas, suggestions, or comments. Our contact info is also located on the following page (page 3), in case you would like to get in contact anyone on the team directly. See you all soon!

Sincerely,

Jenny Lu
SWE-KC President
WE KC 2019 GROWING UP: CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREER

WE KC 2019
By Olivia Fletcher & Sunita Lavin

If you ever feel like you are the only female engineer in KC, come to the annual WE KC professional development event! For the second time, KU Edwards graciously hosted the event on Thursday, August 8 from 5pm-9pm. The goals of the event are two-fold: 1. To provide professional development for female engineers in Kansas City, and 2. To use the proceeds of the conference to send SWE-KC members to conferences for further professional development.

We had a record number of attendees at the 4th annual WE KC professional development event: 140! The evening began with an hour of time for networking and conversation with other women in STEM fields over dinner. Next, Sunita Lavin and Jenny Lu spoke about SWE, WE KC, thanked our sponsors, and gave out door prizes, including five copies of the book *Girls Who Code* (donated by Cerner) along with 2 SWE one-year memberships, one of which was sponsored by SWE Fellow Jane Knoche. Then we heard an inspiring talk from our keynote speaker, Cindy Wallis-Lage, President of Water, Black & Veatch, as she shared anecdotes and lessons learned during her lifetime so far in "The Power of a Moment," noting pivotal milestones in her career that may not have seemed significant at the time but turned out to be, and encouraging us to pay attention to the same in our own lives. We were so lucky to have Cindy presenting; she won SWE’s 2nd Highest international award last year: Suzanne Jenniches Upward Mobility Award. This award celebrates an individual’s rise to success and contribution to the decision-making process within their organization.

Attendees then had the opportunity to participate in one of three breakout sessions, including talks on "True Grit: Achieving Career Success through Failure," "Work Life Integration," or one of various themed networking groups for 45 minutes, breaking for lemonade and cookies before attending another of three more breakout sessions ("Engineering a Future by Empowering Others," "Women Who Negotiate Win," or "The Power of a Pause") followed by meeting briefly for closing remarks and wrapping up around 9pm.

As always, we learned and laughed and grew together, and it was a joy both to see so many familiar faces and so many who were new to SWE, the KU campus, or the WE KC event. We want to thank the amazing seven-person committee who worked diligently to secure top-notch speakers, sponsors, catering, and more! Thank you to Kristin Fritchman, Ragan Gum, Denise Karimi, Katie Lin, Jenny Lu, Emma Schweiss and Sunita Lavin. Check out the WE KC 2019 photos here: http://swe-kc.swe.org/wekc.html.

CONGRATS TO THE WE KC COMMITTEE FOR ORGANIZING SUCH A SUCCESSFUL EVENT!
MEET & GREETS

SWE-KC FY20 STRATEGIC GOALS

1. INCREASE SWE MEMBERSHIP BY 6% AND ACHIEVE RETENTION NUMBER OF 70%.

2. HOST 2 JOINT EVENTS WITH OTHER LOCAL PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

3. HOST A SWENEXT EVENT FOR LOCAL AREA SWENEXT GROUPS AND SWENEXT PARTICIPANTS.

4. IMPLEMENT AN IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR VARIOUS SWE-KC SUBGROUPS AND CONTACTS.

5. RECOGNIZE 5 SWE MEMBERS AND 1 NON-MEMBER SUPPORTER.

6. AVERAGE 18 ATTENDEES ACROSS SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS, EXCLUDING CORNERSTONE LARGE EVENTS (E.G. WE KC, SWETALKS).

7. IMPACT 550 K-12 STUDENTS AND 10 COLLEGIATE STUDENTS THROUGH VARIOUS STEM AND OUTREACH EVENTS

MEET & GREET @ BOULEVARD BEER HALL!

JULY | BOULEVARD BREWING

by Stacy Friling

On Thursday, July 18th from 5pm-7pm, SWE KC hosted a meet and greet at Boulevard Brewing Beer Hall/Rec Center. About 8 SWE KC members had the opportunity to network with each other over an ice cold beer. Engineers in attendance were from various different companies, including Honeywell, Cerner, FM Global, Analytical Mechanics Associates, and Olsson. A great time was had by all. We look forward to seeing you at the next meet and greet. Come on out and meet some awesome women engineers.

SEPTEMBER | PICNIC AT ANTIOCH PARK

by Aswathi Pradeep

The Fall SWE-KC picnic was a great time! New and familiar faces alike met together at Antioch Park to enjoy lots of (and really, a lot) food and conversation. Many SWE professionals brought along their families which made the event even more enjoyable. It was a great way to kick off the FY2020 year!
NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNITION
HELP US RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND SUCCESSES OF SWE-KC MEMBERS!
LET US KNOW HERE: SWE-KC.ORG/RECOGNITIONS

LEND A HAND!
Want to get more involved with SWE-KC? Let us know here:
http://swe-kc.swe.org/lend_a_hand.html

SWE SOCIETY EVENTS
WE19
NOVEMBER 7-9, ANAHEIM, CA
WE LOCAL DES MOINES
APRIL 17-18, DES MOINES, IA

UPCOMING EVENTS
INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING DAY JR (IGED JR)
NOVEMBER 15
HARVESTERS EVENT WITH ASCE
NOVEMBER 17
MOCKTAILS & MINGLE
NOVEMBER 20
ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE
DECEMBER
EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS
JANUARY 24
IGED
FEBRUARY 21
SWE-KC @ FIRST ROBOTICS RECEPTION
FEBRUARY/MARCH
SWE TALKS - FELLOWS' EVENT
APRIL

KEEP UP WITH US ON THE WEB!
FOLLOW US: @SWEINKC
EMAIL: SWE.KC.MAIL@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: SWE-KC.ORG