

Society of Women Engineers

March 2009 Issue

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Letter from the President:

Dear Members of MIT Society of Women Engineers,

I'm happy to announce that our new 2009 board members have been selected and off to a great start. Our MIT SWE board members, in collaboration with our executive board members, work together to organize an average of one to two events per week. Together, we strive to provide a stronger community on campus, community outreach and personal growth opportunities for our members.

Divided into four segments—Membership and Development, Outreach, Career Development, and Campus Relations—MIT SWE recognizes the variety and breadth of your needs and interests. Our events range from organizing the Fall Career Fair to outreach programs that involve students ranging from elementary school to high school students. We focus on individual development through career workshops, networking opportunities and mentorship opportunities. With our social events, we aim to promote community within our campus.

As a collegiate section of a National Professional Organization, MIT SWE remains a proud section of the regional section F. We continue to stay involved at the national level by participating and utilizing the opportunities and resources available via National SWE. Registration for our Regional Conference—which will be held at Smith College—is going on now, and we have already begun organizing for our National Conference—which will be held in Long Beach, California in the Fall. We hope to have one of our MIT SWE members serve as a leader on the National SWE Board this year.

Furthermore, our goals specific to the year aim to increase the quality and involvement of our outreach events; we hope to create a consistent mentorship program (WiSE) for high school girls to parallel our existent mentorship program for middle school girls (KEYs). With the creation of the position of Media Technology, we hope to further utilize media to document and digitalize our organization. We continue our goal to increase involvement at the national level with the creation of the position of

National SWE Public Relations officer. We also hope to kick-off our new SWE resume database, which has been created in response to demand from company recruiting efforts.

As another year has begun, I encourage you to get more involved by taking advantage of an opportunity that you have not previously looked into. Sign up for our mentorship program and meet an upperclassman. Apply for a SWE scholarship and be recognized. Become a National SWE Member and get more involved at a new level. Whatever area it may be, I encourage you to make an effort to do so in the chance that you may stumble upon a new passion, develop a talent, or even meet a role model.

Sincerely,
Tina Ro



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Upcoming Events:

- March 14 – KEYs session
- March 16 – GMB and Meet the Professionals
- March 19 – SWE Boston Career Fair
- April 4 – Beaver Dash
- April 4 – SWE Regional Conference
- April 11 – Junior Girl Scout Day

SWE Boston Event Highlights and March Meeting

E-Week Recap

SWE Boston participated again this year in Engineering Week which was held at the Lafayette Hotel. SWE Boston member Diane Trovato staffed the SWE Boston table, promoted SWE outreach efforts and answered any questions about SWE.

Highlights were:

- Keynote speaker Helen Greiner, co-founder of iRobot
- 2009 New England Engineering Achievement Award presentation to Amy Smith, founder of the MIT D-Lab program and inventor of numerous devices that improve lives of people in developing countries.
- Presentation of the Engineers Week Scholarship Award to a Massachusetts high school senior
- Presentation of awards to winners in middle and high school student competitions: Future City, MathCounts and the BSCES Model Bridge Competition.

SWE Boston March Meeting

Topic: Career Compatible MS in Engineering and Management

Location:

MIT Faculty Club
50 Memorial Drive
6th Floor, Building E52
Cambridge, MA 02139

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (dinner included)

Are you thinking about pursuing a MBA to acquire management and leadership skills, but concerned about falling being in your technical knowledge?

Come learn about MIT's System Design and Management (SDM) Program!



Executive Board Retreat – Providence, Rhode Island

This year's leadership retreat was held in Providence, Rhode Island! The board spent the weekend of February 14th getting to know each other better, bonding, and shopping! All the VP's and their chairs worked closely to plan and outline the goals and events for the upcoming year. The girls who attended had a wonderful time and relaxing weekend away from MIT.



WiSE: Mentoring high school girls

WiSE is a program aimed at providing high school girls with the prospects and resources to explore science and engineering. Participants in a WiSE session will attend lectures and panels held by MIT students and professors, visit MIT laboratories, and engage in discussions with peers sharing similar interests and passions.

Help bring this opportunity to young women interested in science and engineering! For more information, please visit:

<http://web.mit.edu/swe/www/wise.html>

Session Information:
Date: Saturday, April 4th
Time: 9:30am - 4pm

Contact:
Kimberly Li and Sumi Sinha, WiSE Coordinators
swewise@mit.edu



March GBM/Meet the Professionals Dinner

Who:
You!

What:

MIT SWE Meet the Professionals Dinner: Networking with students and company professionals over an informal dinner from Vinny Ts!

Reps from **Microsoft, Novartis, Draper Lab, and Lucky Martin!**

When:

March 16th, 2009
6 to 8 PM

Where:

Stratton Student Center on MIT Campus

4th Floor Room 407
84 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139



SWE Resume Database!

<http://swe.scripts.mit.edu/>

Sign up and upload your resume today! Be viewed by companies such as **Apple** and **Schlumberger!**

It's free and easy!

Become a National SWE Member!

MIT SWE will reimburse you \$10 for registration! Gain access to support systems, SWE Career Center for internships and full time employment search, SWE Magazine, SWE National and Regional Conferences!

Visit: www.swe.org/join

Forward you email receipt to:

swe-vp-membership@mit.edu for reimbursement!

Spotlight on: Sangeeta Bhatia

Sangeeta N. Bhatia, MD, PhD is a Professor of Health Science Technology and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT. Dr. Bhatia's research in the Laboratory for Multiscale Regenerative Technologies is focused on the applications of micro- and nanotechnology to tissue repair and regeneration. Specifically, she studies the interactions between hepatocytes (liver cells) and their microenvironment and develops microfabrication tools to improve cellular therapies for liver disease (Hepatic Tissue Engineering). The goal is to maximize hepatocyte function, facilitate design of effective cellular therapies for liver disease, and improve fundamental understanding of liver physiology and pathophysiology. She is also interested in using arrays of living cells as high-throughput platforms to study fundamental aspects of stem cell biology (Cell-Based BioMEMS) using a diverse repertoire of tools including chemical, topological, fluidic, electrical, and optical manipulation of living cells on chip platforms. Finally, LMRT is involved in a multidisciplinary effort to develop nanomaterials as tools for biological studies and as multifunctional agents for cancer therapies. Interests center around nanoparticles and nanoporous materials that can be designed to perform complex tasks such as: home to a tumor, sense changes in cells and tissues, enhance imaging, and trigger the release of a therapeutic payload. Having had several stints in the biotechnology industry, Dr. Bhatia holds a number of patents for both clinical and biotechnological applications of engineering principles. She is the author of *Microfabrication in Tissue Engineering and Bioartificial Organs* and co-author of the undergraduate textbook *Tissue Engineering*.



Dr. Sangeeta Bhatia
MIT SWE Advisor

SWE Regional Conference – New Frontiers

Still looking for a summer internship?
Want a great chance to network?
Go to the SWE regional conference!

This year's regional conference is on **Saturday, April 4** at Smith College. It is a great opportunity to network, search for a summer internship, and attend various professional workshops and seminars (<http://www.swe.org/RegionF/regconf09/RegFagenda2.htm> for details). Food is served as well. PLUS, SWE will reimburse you for your registration as well as provide transportation.

1. Register online <http://www.swe.org/RegionF/regconf09/home.htm>
2. Email ddrago@mit.edu with a copy of your registration receipt by **midnight, Wednesday, March 18** so that you will be reimbursed

****SWE national members will be reimbursed \$25 (full cost), while non-national members will be reimbursed \$40 (attendee still needs to pay \$10 in order to cover part of national membership fee - so you get to become a member as well as attend the conference). You **must attend** the conference in order to be reimbursed.**

Outreach Activities (E-Week)

Engineering Week (February 16-21) at Boston Children's Museum is a week-long celebration of engineering disciplines ranging from civil to chemical engineering. Volunteers from MITSWE led hands-on science experiments every day of the week to interest the kids at the museum in the engineering field of the day. These events culminated in the finale on Saturday, where we held an all-day event from 10 AM to 5 PM, with four different stations positioned throughout the museum. Almost every kid who walked by stopped to investigate, and even the parents joined in on the fun!

Our activities for the week:

Monday: Bunny Copters

Tuesday: Oil Tanker Spill Clean-up

Wednesday: Play-dough Domes

Thursday: Making Slime

Friday: Snap Circuits

Saturday: Foil Boats, Corn Starch, Iron Cereal, Vinegar/Baking Soda



Upcoming Events

1. **Exploring Majors Study Break: March 29, 2009**
2. **Beaverdash Design Competition: April 4, 2009**
 - Be a mentor for a local high school day long engineering design competition!
 - Email mitswe.eventoutreach@gmail.com to volunteer or for more information!
3. **WiSE: April 4, 2009**
4. **Junior Girl Scout Brownie Day: April 11, 2009**
 - Be a mentor to girl scouts working on fun engineering activities!
 - Free food!
 - Email Amanda Fried (asfried@mit.edu) and Sarah Simon (ssimon@mit.edu)

Big/Little Program

Interested in finding an upperclassman mentor through MIT SWE? Join the Big/Lil program organized by the social chairs, Monica Hu and Crystal Mao!

The purpose of the Big-Little Program is to pair upperclassmen SWE members with underclassmen so that the underclassmen have someone to turn to for advice, and more simply, to have a familiar face around campus. Last year, the Big-Little pairings went to Build-a-Bear, dinner, and other events.

If you're interested in being either a Big or a Little, email Monica (mmhu@mit.edu) and Crystal (cmao@mit.edu).

SWE Board Members 2009

Congratulations to the new SWE Board!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Tina Ro

VP Membership: Diandra Drago

VP Campus Relations: Karen Li

VP Corporate Relations: Karen Zhou

VP Outreach: Maryelise Cieslewicz

Treasurer: Amy Leung

Secretary: Stephanie Wang

MEMBERSHIP AND INFORMATION

Membership Development: Elli Pula and Emily Shao

Publicity: Sara Chen and Pooja Yabannavar

Newsletter: Ying Yang

Historian: Helen Liang and Tiffany Chu

Media Technology: Wendi Li and Anisha Jethwani

National SWE Public Relations: Katherine Kuan

Alumni: Amy Du

CORPORATE RELATIONS

Career Fair Banquet: Christine Chen and Edna Ezzell

Career Developmental: Sandra Chen and Kuan Cheng

OUTREACH

Event Outreach: Ellen McIsaac and Joy Jiao

Girl Scout Outreach: Amanda Fried and Sarah Simon

KEYS: Alice Yu and Candice Murray

WiSE: Sumi Sinha and Kimberly Li

CAMPUS RELATIONS

Campus Social: Eileen Yang and Nan Wang

Internal Social: Crystal Mao and Monica Hu

Scholarship: Linda Fong

Advocacy: Mary Hong and Janice Mathew

Department Liaisons: Fan Wei and Phitchaya

Phothilimthana

Officer of the Month: Diandra Drago



Hi everyone! My name is Diandra, and I am this year's VP of Membership and Information for the MIT section of the Society of Women Engineers. I am a sophomore in course 6-2 (EECS), trying to minor in 2 (Mechanical Engineering), so I don't really have a grasp on 'spare time,' but in the rare cases that I have some, I enjoy snowboarding, ice hockey, and of course, DDR (my personal favorite). In addition to SWE, I am a member of SaveTFP and Sigma Kappa Sorority, and currently serving on the Spring Weekend Committee.

I joined SWE as a wide-eyed freshman, looking for something that would be beneficial to my future in terms of career opportunities and friendship. I became part of the planning board as office manager, which although did not involve any 'planning,' was no easy task, as our office was quite the disaster and needed many renovations. In the course of my adventures over 2 semesters in SWE, I developed wonderful relationships with other members, who I admire and emulate. Encouraged to get even more involved, I ran for the SWE executive board this winter, and here I am a few months later.

My personal goals for the duration of my term are to forge a more united SWE community, where members really do feel like a part of something bigger. I hope to achieve this by increasing participation overall through incentives such as our member rewards system, which is currently being developed, by enhancing SWE alumni and undergraduate relationships, and by getting the word out about SWE and the many opportunities along with it to undergraduates through our publicity chairs, our newsletter, and our brand new SWE apparel, arriving soon!

MIT SWE
Building W20, Room 447
84 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

swe-exec@mit.edu

<http://web.mit.edu/swe/www/>

Become a member today! You DON'T have to be an engineering major, a science major, or even a woman! Wow! Seriously, anyone can join SWE, and in the process meet some fun and interesting people. We hold many professional, social, and community activities throughout the year.

As a member, you are part of a community of peers with access to the tools, training and role models you need to realize your aspirations as an engineer and a leader. Your section will immediately become a valuable resource for academic, professional and fun activities.

Enjoy access to a huge network of SWE professional members and mentors, faculty/student socials, recruiter/student socials, plant tours, workshops, speakers, community activities, scholarship eligibility, and much more! PLUS! If you decide to join National SWE, MIT SWE will give you 50% off membership!

Life is SWEet!!

Email Diandra Drago, VP of Membership, for more information:
ddrago@mit.edu

Our Mission

SWE Mission: Adopted in 1986

To stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders, expand the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in improving the quality of life, and demonstrate the value of diversity.

MIT SWE Mission: Adopted in 2006

To educate members about career choices in engineering and promote community between professionals, students, and alumni. To inspire younger generations and encourage their pursuit of engineering. To promote diversity in engineering and advocate the needs of women engineers at MIT. To build community at MIT SWE, bridge a relationship with local and national chapters, and record as well as disseminate the culture, history, and events of MIT SWE.



**Society of
Women Engineers**

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