

Cornell SWEvents: Events Coming Up!!!
Week of April 12, 2009
Society of Women Engineers

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****SURVEY****

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****Survey!****

-There are hundreds of women engineers on this listserve, but we've only received 9 responses to this survey. PLEASE fill out this survey ladies, it's only 8 questions! We need feedback! So, please read the repost below, and take the survey! ☺

We were wondering what everyone thought about the new system of emails and their general layout. We have split the information into SWEvents and SWEmail (which contains the rest of the campus/work opportunities that are independent of SWE).

If you could take the following survey, it would help us to know how to improve the weekly emails. There are only 8 questions, so it will not take long at all.

[http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=cEdnSkJzTnc1aEdLZ1IySjZZQzFH
R2c6MA](http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=cEdnSkJzTnc1aEdLZ1IySjZZQzFH
R2c6MA)

Thanks for all of your help!

1. Prospective Candidates Weekend, April 17-18

Freshmen girls, WE NEED YOU!

Remember last year when you were trying to decide where you wanted to go to college? If you were able to visit Cornell this time last year, you probably know how helpful that was in your decision making process. Now that you are a Cornell student, you have the opportunity to help an admitted female engineer make this same decision by hosting her overnight during Prospective Candidates' Weekend from April 17-18.

PCW is a special event organized by SWE, Engineering Admissions, and Diversity Programs in Engineering (DPE). It is when we invite women admitted to the College of Engineering to explore campus, learn about life as a Cornell engineer, and figure out if Cornell is the right fit for them. For all this to happen, we need hosts...and lots of them! All hosts will receive a PCW tote bag. We will also enter you in a drawing to win an iPod nano!!!

We desperately need enthusiastic hosts for this event! To register to host, please complete the host registration form at <http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/diversity/office-diversity-programs/DPE-Host-and-Volunteer-Form.cfm>.

If you have any questions, please email pcwhosts09@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Kiana Clayton and Logan McKinstri
2009 PCW Committee

2. Expanding your Horizons Conference, April 25th

The Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference, which is held every year at Cornell to get local girls in grades 7-9 interested in math, science, and engineering, is going to be held this year on Saturday, April 25th. The program consists of workshops and exhibits throughout the day and runs formally from 9-4:30. We are beginning to look for volunteers for this year's conference. There are many ways to help:

- Volunteers at the SWE booth! Please come out and help with the Soap-making workshop, hosted by SWE! Volunteers are needed 10:10 – 11:30, 1:35 – 2:45, and 3:05 – 4:15 in Baker Hall. If interested, please e-mail Lucy, LB263, with your name, net ID, and hours you are available.
- General Volunteers are needed to help with tasks to help the conference run smoothly., like setup, registration, giving directions, etc. Being a General Volunteer is a good idea for people who can only commit to a partial day of the conference. If interested in being a general volunteer, contact Ellen Keene at ek237@cornell.edu
- Buddies are needed to escort the girls around campus and accompany them during all activities, including workshops, lunch, keynote speaker and viewing exhibits. Buddies must be female and must be available for the entire day (roughly

8:30-5:00). If interested in being a buddy, please contact Katie Sullivan at kjs237@cornell.edu

- Lansing Volunteers are needed to help run the mini-EYH conference which is held before the full conference itself at the Lansing correctional facility. Date TBA. If interested in helping out with this please contact Sharon Gerbode at sjg53@cornell.edu

3. Sisterhood of Science - Saturday, May 2, 10am - 2pm.

Local middle school girls will be visiting Cornell on May 2 to complete an environmental engineering project as the culmination to their monthly Science Club meetings. About 25 SWE volunteers are needed to help the girls with their projects. No previous knowledge of environmental engineering required! These girls come from schools where very few students go to college, so come encourage these girls to pursue higher education. Contact Jennifer Weil jrw85@cornell.edu with any questions.

4. Volunteer for High School Outreach, May 4th

Hi ladies,

We all have such fond memories of high school; sitting through easy classes, spending our parents' money, getting excited for silly things like prom. Ever wish you could go back? Well you can! Join me and my fellow high school outreach chair, Natalie Katchmar, and volunteer for this year's SWE High School Outreach event. Sign up to help out with our activity either during the morning or afternoon of May 4 (the first day of study break) and have some science-related fun with high school kids! As a thank you for volunteering, we will provide breakfast for morning volunteers and lunch for afternoon volunteers. Plus, you'll get lots of SWE merit points for helping out!

In summary,

Volunteer for half of the day on May 4 (morning or afternoon)

Get free food and SWE merit points

Have fun with high school kids

We hope you'll join us! Please e-mail Jessica Stark at jcs423@cornell.edu or Natalie Katchmar at nnk9@cornell.edu if you're interested.

5. Take Pictures at SWE Events!

Hi everyone,

I am a publicity chair for SWE this year and am responsible for writing a newsletter about the various SWE events this semester. If any of you happen to volunteer at an info session or attend any other interesting event, I would really appreciate it if

you took a camera with you! Please email me (ng262) any pictures you may have or just write me a sentence or two about what happened and what you did. This would be a great way for me to keep up with what everyone is doing for SWE! Thanks a lot!!

- Natasha

6. SWE Newsletter

You can pick up the first spring newsletter on the SWE bulletin board!

7. Apply for Summer Chair Positions!

Applications are attached, and they are due by:

Chair Positions - Monday, April 20

Class Scholarship - Friday, May 8

Send them to: cornellswe@gmail.com

8. Feedback from Region E

If you attended the Region E Conference, we need your feedback. Please click on the link to fill out a survey. Thanks!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=oDNRUGV0sophJbDxi853oQ_3d_3d

9. One of your fellow SWE members is running for Student Trustee and needs your support! Read her email to us, and help her out!

Dear fellow Cornell Students,

My name is Gavrielle Untracht, and I am a candidate for Student Trustee. I'm a sophomore in the engineering school and I am the only engineer and the only woman running.

For those of you who don't know, the Board of Trustees is the supreme decision making body for the university, and we are the only Ivy that has two student elected members: one graduate, and one undergraduate. I was inspired to run for this position because although we have these two representatives, it still seems like the students have no input in the university's decision making process. The student assembly is mainly to keep up appearances, because the university ignores their resolutions. For example: last semester, the SA passed a resolution to amend the policy by which publications can apply to use the name "Cornell" in their title. When I asked the other candidates for Student Trustee who are currently on the SA what had happened with that, they responded "It's in the bureaucracy. There's nothing we can do now." This is not an acceptable answer! The university cannot ignore the will of the students. As Student Trustee, my number one goal

is to make sure that student voices are heard. The people on the board have the power to change things – lets make them listen to us!

Particularly in this time of economic downturn, the University is going to take every opportunity possible to cut the budget. As Student Trustee, it is my responsibility to protect the services that students need to be successful here. I plan to fight to protect all of our support services including not closing the LGBT resource center, and moving forward on the A3C. I also plan to argue for more support for program houses, including more money for facilities and more institutionalized advertising. Cornell claims to be one of the most diverse universities in the country. It is up to us to make sure that Cornell continues to be a welcoming place for all people.

In addition to arguing for student services, I plan to get students as involved as possible in the decision making process. I plan to open as many lines of communication as possible with the student body including writing a blog and holding weekly office hours to make sure that anyone who has something to say gets heard. I also plan to argue for more students on the board of trustees, including a student on the executive board, which has autonomous power. After the takeover of Willard Straight Hall, we had four student trustees, and it's time to get that representation back. All the candidates agree that there needs to be more transparency and accountability on the part of the board of trustees. I would like to see all the meetings open to the whole Cornell community. While this might not be possible, there minimally needs to be a procedure for members of the constituency to present issues at the meetings and the minutes need to be available online. What really sets me apart from all the other candidates is that I am not just doing this to build my resume. I don't have the experience of being on the SA, but that doesn't mean that I don't know how to get things done. Rather than trying to run for as many positions as possible, I see this position as a way to fix a problem in the university. The university would be nothing without the students, and we need to hold the administration accountable for what we are paying them to do. I spent the time I've been on campus joining student groups and getting to know the community I want to represent. I've been organizing with political groups on campus including Campus Anti-War Network and The Coalition to see who is dissatisfied and what on this campus needs to be changed. I want to see a democratic Cornell where everyone feels welcome and everyone can succeed. If you want more student input, vote Gavrielle Untracht for Student Trustee! Remember, ALL students, including undergraduates and graduate students, can vote in this election!

Please join my Facebook group and invite all your friends:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=63623425748&ref=mf>

Thanks!
Gavrielle Untracht

gru3@cornell.edu
(201) 618-1081

****ALSO****

Congratulations to the New SWE Corporate Relations Directors, Jun Hui Erh and Ansu Abraham!

Contact Information!

Name, Directorship, Netid

Kavita Baba, President, kb273
Adwiti Balakrishna, President, ab442
Amrita Mahtani, Corporate Relations, agm39
Renee Yuen, Corporate Relations, ry42
Corinne Winters, Corporate Relations, caw262
Alex Woldman, Corporate Relations, ayw6
Emily Swarr, Career Development, ecs43
Kristie Resetco, Career Development, kmr53
Alex Milaychev, Public Relations, am495
Christine Pitner, Public Relations, clp65
Christine Catudal, Conference Planning, clc242
Liz Tutunjian, Conference Planning, eht26
Barbara Wang, Student Services, baw39
Michelle Zheng, Student Services, myz4
Caitlin Cutter, Fundraising, clc62
Danielle Brody, Fundraising, dlb333
Alice Chuang, Finance, acc65
Liz Corson, Outreach, ecc35
Nicole Rodia, Outreach, ncr6