



Society of Women Engineers at UC Berkeley



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EWeek 2011

For the College of Engineering, March was largely highlighted by Engineers Week, which took place from the 7th to 12th. The week was filled with various socials, competitions, and seminars, designed to bring together engineers of all departments. These events included Tuesday night's Ice Cream Social, Capture the Flag, Engineering Trivia Night, and Wine & Cheese Night.

Friendly competition between disciplines was encouraged throughout the week, as the all-new Engineering Olympics trophy was up for grabs. The festivities ended with the grand finale carnival on Friday in Memorial Glade, where everyone gathered one last time for free food, fun games, and good music. It was here that the trophy was awarded to the Materials Science & Engineering department.

Congratulations, MSE!



Engineering 4 Kids

On Saturday, March 12, EWeek ended with the annual Engineering for Kids event, better known as E4K. Engineers of all disciplines gathered together to host the outreach event. SWE's workshop tested knowledge and creativity by challenging participants to create balloon cars. The vehicles were to be made from simple materials, including wooden dowels, construction paper, foam, straws, and, of course, a balloon! The kids got into teams and quickly set to work, carefully designing and assembling their cars. When time was up, the groups gathered together to test their inventions by racing one another! In the end, certain groups were more successful than others, but everyone had a blast and left having developed some useful junior engineering skills!

-- Leanne Chan, PR Committee



DUCT TAPE COMPETITION | Engineers brought out their competitive side for Tuesday night's Duct Tape Competition outside of Bechtel Hall.



EWeek FINALE CARNIVAL | SWE's colorful and creative "Complete the Cal Scene" board at the Engineers Week Finale Celebration in Memorial Glade.



E4K DAY | E4K participants test out their finished balloon car creations through some friendly competition versus other groups.

A Day in the Life of a Microsoft Engineer

by Amy Zhang

While some may have spent their breaks lying on a beach, I spent mine at Microsoft. Well, technically it was only one day and I really didn't do much work, but it was a trip well worth taking. I, along with four other girls, visited Microsoft's Mountain View office as part of SWE's annual "Shadow an Engineer Day."

Now many people have the impression that Microsoft is either this evil empire or an outdated tech company, but I can safely say that they are neither. It's a very friendly, cooperative, and creative environment, and I learned just how truly important teamwork

and communication are to any good engineering venture.

If any of you get the chance, I definitely recommend participating in "Shadow an Engineer Day." It shed some serious light on what engineers in industry actually do. For me,

Outside the Microsoft office
in Mountain View, CA



it reinforced my decision to become an engineer, not to mention I was quite well fed. I also walked away with a copy of Halo Reach so if any of you have an Xbox... we should hang out sometime.

PI(E) DAY: 03/14/2011

by Leanne Chan

3.14159265... HOW MANY DIGITS OF PI CAN YOU REMEMBER?

A hungry college student wandering through Evans on March 14th may have been lucky enough to stumble upon cupcakes and pies galore, as SWE hosted the Pi(e) Day Social to celebrate math enthusiasts' favorite calendar day. Attendees enjoyed an abundance of delicious dessert, including an assortment of cupcakes, as well as apple and cherry pie. For those feeling creative, frosting the perfect π symbol onto cupcakes proved to be quite the challenge! Meanwhile, others mingled with their fellow SWE members or tried their hand at paper crafts.

All in all, what better way to celebrate Pi Day than with SWE and a free slice of pie?



Top 10 Things... to do over Spring Break!

I know that break is over by now and we're heading into round two (or maybe even three) of midterms, but here's a list of fun things to keep in mind for next year's spring break.

1. **Take a trip:** Whether it's a road trip down to SoCal, skiing in Tahoe, classic Cancun, or something more exotic, a vacation with friends or family is just the de-stressor that every college student needs.
 2. **Go home:** Spend some quality time with the family. Or maybe just some "me" time away from your roommates. Take advantage of the home-cooked food and don't forget to take your laundry with you.
 3. **See a show:** With all these theaters in the Bay Area, what better time to catch a matinee during the week than over break? Besides, who doesn't love seeing a good performance for a good price?
 4. **Enjoy the outdoors:** Ok. So with that hailstorm we had on Friday night and all the rain now might not be the best time to go for a hike. But maybe you'll discover just how much fun puddle-jumping can be.
 5. **Shadow an Engineer:** What do engineers actually do?
Visit a company and shadow an engineer over break to find out!
 6. **Bake pie!** Who cares if pi-day is always going to be a week before break? You don't need a holiday to enjoy a delicious slice of pie.
 7. **Read a book:** I know what you're thinking, "Why would you do this if it's not required for school?" Because then you might actually enjoy what you're reading.
 8. **Plan a lunch date:** Grab a few friends and reward yourselves with some *real* food.
 9. **Go shopping:** Now that spring is upon us, it means the newest summer fashions have hit the stores. Take this break from school to freshen up your wardrobe.
 10. **Do homework:** Sorry, but I had to say it. I know there will always be that professor who schedules a midterm/project due date right after break. It's a bummer but what can you do?
- Amy Zhang, PR Committee

Engineering Joke of the Day...

An architect, an artist and an engineer were discussing whether it was better to spend time with the wife or a mistress.

The **architect** said he enjoyed time with his wife, building a solid foundation for an enduring relationship.

The **artist** said he enjoyed time with his mistress, because of the passion and mystery he found there.

The **engineer** said, "I like both."

"Both?"

"Yeah. If you have a wife and a mistress, they will each assume you are spending time with the other woman, and you can go to the lab and get some work done."

INTERESTED IN CODING?

The newly established Undergraduates of Chemistry website, uchem.berkeley.edu, needs your help! We are looking for coders to assist us with a forum and general website management.

Email us at uchemweb@gmail.com for more information.

Thanks,
Undergraduates of Chemistry

SWVE Science Saturday



by Tahoura Samad



OOEY GOOEY CHEMISTRY

Last weekend, the theme of SWE Science Saturday was Chemical Engineering: Ooey Gooeey Chemistry, and the event lived up

to its name. We started off with an enthusiastic discussion about matter, atoms and molecules. As a group, we came to the conclusion that chemical engineers are individuals who mix and match molecules to

make new materials that we use in our everyday lives. From here, we briefly talked about the arrangement of molecules in the different states of matter are arranged before doing our first activity, making Oobleck, a suspension made of cornstarch and water. We observed that the suspension behaves like a solid when you apply a lot of force and compress the molecules, but like a liquid when you apply less force and the molecules are able to slide past each other. We then briefly discussed the effects of temperature on states of matter, and used our knowledge to make ice cream in ziplock bags with ice and rock salt!

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			March 30 Third General Meeting 6 - 8 pm Wozniak Lounge 4 th Floor, Soda Hall		1	2 Berkeley Marina Cleanup and Social 9:30 am -12:30 pm Berkely Marina SWE Science Saturday 3 10 am -12 pm 209 Dwinelle SWE Science Scholars3 10 am -12 pm
3	4	5	6	7 Kid Day Social 6-8pm	8 Mini University	9 SWE Science Saturday 4 Water Filters and pH 10 am - 12 pm SWE Science Scholars 4 10 am -12 pm
10	11 Tele-BEARS begins	12	13	14	15	16 Cal Day
17	18	19	20 Fourth General Meeting 6 - 8 pm Wozniak Lounge 4 th Floor, Soda Hall	21 Meteor Shower	22 Meteor Shower	23 Junior Solar Spring Challenge (JSSC)
24	25	26	27	28 Workshop with Lockheed Martin How to Succeed as a Woman in Technology 7 pm - 8 pm 3110 Etcheverry	29	30 SWE Science Saturday 5 Slipper Slime 10 am - 12 pm Dwinelle

For absolute up-to-date info, please visit swe.berkeley.edu/calendar.



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If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact Tracy at tracychuong@berkeley.edu.