



# SWE RUTGERS

*Newsletter*



**INDUSTRY : HOW SWE IS PROMOTING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (P. 2)**



**OUTREACH & EDUCATION: SWE BRINGS ENGINEERING TO THE COMMUNITY (P. 3-4)**



**SOCIAL EVENTS: STRESS RELIEF--THE SWE WAY (P. 5)**

## New E-board for 2014-2015



#1

*Voted EGC's Most Active Society--2nd Year in a Row!*

Among the numerous and successful engineering societies at Rutgers, Engineering Governing Council decided that SWE deserved the *Most Active Society Award* for the second year in a row. We were honored to be recognized for the deliberate planning and work put into each of our weekly meetings and school-wide events. This is an accomplishment not only for our expanding chapter but for our cause of promoting women in the STEM fields. We hope to continue the trend!



The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) at Rutgers University is a collegiate section of the National Society of Women Engineers. Our chapter meets every Tuesday at 7pm in Room 174 of Busch Campus Center on the New Brunswick campus.

Aspire △ Advance △ Achieve

SWE's new Executive Board for the 2014-2015 Year was announced at our 2014 End-of-the-Year Banquet! Congratulations, girls!

Dean Candiece White - Advisor — [cawhite@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:cawhite@rci.rutgers.edu)

Khadeejah Yanes- President — [RU.SWE.pres@gmail.com](mailto:RU.SWE.pres@gmail.com)

Yifan Wang - External Vice President -- [RU.SWE.EVP@gmail.com](mailto:RU.SWE.EVP@gmail.com)

Erica Wysocki - Internal Vice President — [RU.SWE.IVP@gmail.com](mailto:RU.SWE.IVP@gmail.com)

Bianca Patel - Secretary -- [ru.swe.sec@gmail.com](mailto:ru.swe.sec@gmail.com)

Jaimie Swartz - Treasurer -- [RU.SWE.treas@gmail.com](mailto:RU.SWE.treas@gmail.com)

Danica Sapit - Digital Media Director -- [danicasapit@gmail.com](mailto:danicasapit@gmail.com)

Angel Matthew - Public Relations Chair -- [angel.matthew@rutgers.edu](mailto:angel.matthew@rutgers.edu)

Janki Patel- High School Outreach Co-Chair -- [jankisept1694@yahoo.com](mailto:jankisept1694@yahoo.com)

Amanda Chin- High School Outreach Co-Chair -- [achin94@hotmail.com](mailto:achin94@hotmail.com)

Abigail Paz- Fundraising Chair -- [abbymae.paz@gmail.com](mailto:abbymae.paz@gmail.com)

Avni Patel - Historian -- [avni1031@gmail.com](mailto:avni1031@gmail.com)

Stephanie George - Community Service Chair -- [stephanie.george22@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.george22@gmail.com)

Anuja Sarwate - Industry Mentorship Coordinator -- [anujasarwate@gmail.com](mailto:anujasarwate@gmail.com)

Nishtha Sharma - EGC Representative -- [nishy.ny@gmail.com](mailto:nishy.ny@gmail.com)

# Professional Development

## RU SWE'S NEW INDUSTRY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Industry Education

Spring 2014

By Anuja Sarwate

During the spring semester, our chapter piloted an industry mentorship program. Ten members of SWE were each matched with a mentor from AT&T, Merck, or Verizon who, over the course of several weeks, taught them about the different aspects of their career. Though many of the components of this pilot program were completed over email or Skype, several of the mentors organized informative tours of their

company. The mentors also helped the mentees develop their professional skills through activities such as mock interviews and resume critiques. At the end of the program, the mentees all completed brief presentations on their experience. Overall, the program was an excellent way for SWE members to get a better understanding of what a career in engineering entails. In the fall, our chapter plans to expand the program to have more participants and include more face-to-face components. We hope to have a greater number of mentors from a more diverse group of companies to

represent a larger variety of fields of engineering.

If you or one of your colleagues is interested in becoming a mentor during the fall 2015 program, please email Anuja Sarwate at :

[ru.swe.mentorship.program@gmail.com](mailto:ru.swe.mentorship.program@gmail.com)



SWE, along with the Rutgers chapters of Chi Epsilon, The Civil Engineering Honors Society and the ASCE hosted a technical talk with Hatch Mott MacDonald. Members learned about the company and the way it handles business while gaining an understanding on technical information about water supply and water treatment from the company's engineers.

This was just one of the many corporate events SWE holds. One of our core goals is to get our members exposed to the corporate world and to broaden their knowledge in a variety of different subjects. We are always looking for new ideas and companies to work with. If you are interested please contact Yifan Wang at [RU.SWE.EVP@gmail.com](mailto:RU.SWE.EVP@gmail.com).



### National SWE Conference 2013

October 24 - 26, 2013

By Khadeejah Yanes

The Society of Women Engineers Annual Conference was held in Baltimore, Maryland this past year. This conference is by far the largest for women in engineering held in the United States. Over 6,000 members, collegiate and professional, from a wide range of engineering disciplines, gathered to network and develop a new set of skills to take back and apply to their daily lives. This was made possible through over 75 workshops and a career fair featuring over 250 companies and organizations. The section at Rutgers was able to send eleven members this year thanks to our generous corporate sponsors. Leaving the conference, our members reported feeling a renewed energy and were better equipped to continue on their path as women engineers.

### LinkedIn Workshop

Spring 2014

By Avni Patel



SWE is dedicated to helping its members develop professionally. A great tool to do this is LinkedIn, a site that allows users to connect with people on a corporate basis. SWE held a LinkedIn workshop this year in which members and professionals who were familiar with the site spoke about its usefulness, gave tips for creating effective profiles, and encouraged other members to create their own. Moreover, each member was given the opportunity to take a few photos in business wear, provided by SWE, to use as their LinkedIn profile picture. The event successfully led to more members actively using the site and building up a more professional view of themselves on the web.

Are you looking to be a corporate sponsor or to host an event with us? Email Yifan Wang at [RU.SWE.EVP@gmail.com](mailto:RU.SWE.EVP@gmail.com)! More info at [swe.rutgers.edu](http://swe.rutgers.edu)

Corporate Event Spotlight:  
Hatch Mott MacDonald

October 29, 2013 ,  
BCC Rm 174

# First Undergraduate Research Fair

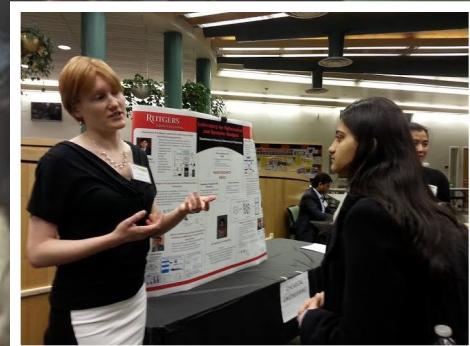
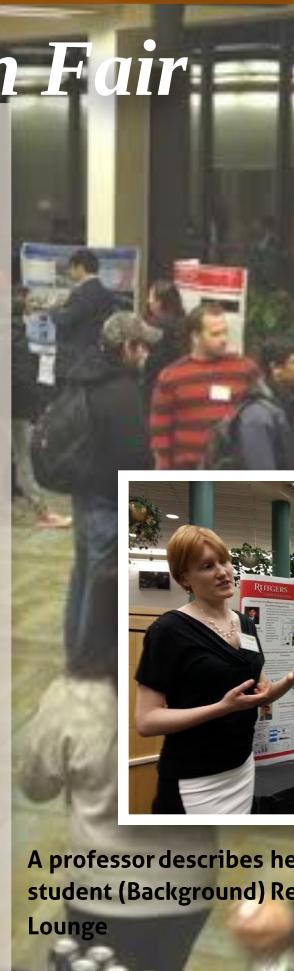
March 4, 2014  
By Yifan Wang

This year, SWE commenced the First Annual Undergraduate Research Fair. The fair aims to build a platform for professors and researchers in the School of Engineering to present their projects and, if they are seeking, recruit qualified undergraduate candidates as research assistants. The Research Fair was set-up booth style in the international lounge of the Busch Campus Center, and each research team set up a poster presentation and email contact list. Nineteen professors and graduate researchers from ten research groups attended, representing the majority of the engineering departments. Over 200 students attended the event.

Our Fair helped prepare for the Rutgers Aresty Research Assistant program, the largest undergraduate research program at the University. Students got the opportunity to talk to the professors they were interested in working with before they applied to the program. This allowed them to learn more about each project and gain an interest in current activity. Many students were very excited to speak to professors outside of the classroom, and professors were equally happy to talk to potential lab members. One professor said, "This was a great experience. ... [S]tudents want to come to our lab, and we will definitely be in contact with them."

SWE is trying its best to serve the Rutgers Engineering community, and the Research Fair is a great way to connect the top researchers to willing-to-learn undergraduates. This year allowed us to establish a contact database for future iterations. After the great feedback we received, we plan on making this an annual event.

Here are some of the ways that Rutgers SWE has helped the greater Engineering Community



A professor describes her research to an interested student (Background) Research Fair in BCC International Lounge

# SWE Night 2014

A Night For Prospective Students

April 4, 2014  
By Jaimie Swartz

Deciding to major in engineering can be difficult for high school students, especially if they are not familiar with the course work, job prospects, or student life. Thus, SWE coordinates "SWE Night" every spring to help prospective female engineering students learn more about Rutgers engineering. Sixty girls were greeted by SWE for a night of fun. The night's theme was "I'm SWE-et", and giant balloon candy canes and a variety of treats at the candy table awaited the girls. After icebreakers and socializing during a catered dinner, speaker Malkia Henson gave an inspiring speech about her career path from an engineering undergraduate to Project Director at Verizon. Following the speech, a panel of SWE members from different engineering disciplines answered anonymous questions from the girls, with topics ranging from campus life to advice for getting internships. To get a taste of how engineers solve real world problems, the girls split into groups to compete in building the tallest tower of dry spaghetti and gumdrops. At the end of the "SWE-et" night, the girls were paired off with SWE members and slept over at the on-campus dorms to experience dorm life. In the morning, after being treated to breakfast, the girls left with their parents to explore Rutgers' annual Open House. SWE night was a huge success, and we are excited to see our prospective students at SWE events next year!



(Inset) SWE volunteers help teach prospective students about Rutgers engineering. (Background) High school girls at SWE night construct a unique---yet stable---spaghetti-gumdrop tower

# Engineering With Girl Scouts



**A SWE member aids troops in Skittles Chromatography  
(Background) A team moves their Puff Mobile with a toy air gun**

April 12, 2014

By Isabel Tamayo

Girl Scouts work hard to earn their badges, and at Busch Campus Center, Rutgers SWE helped a local New Brunswick troop earn badges for embarking on a trip "Around the STEM World!" The scouts were given passports to decorate, and then SWE girls introduced a STEM-related activity at each of various "stops." Completion of an activity was rewarded with a new passport sticker. At the first stop, the scouts were split into groups for "Skittles Chromatography," in which they squeezed drops of water or salt solution onto Skittles on a filter paper. The objective was to observe how the color of the Skittles ran along the solution. M&Ms were also used to encourage the girls to question the different behaviors of the inks. At the next stop, each group made its own Puff Mobile, a small car constructed using four life-savers, straws, 50-cm tape, and con-

struction paper. They had to get their car to the finish line either by blowing on it or by using a toy air gun. This prompted them to think about efficiency given the limited materials and the importance of design. Afterward, SWE helped the girls make Balloon Rockets. Each group filled a balloon with air for the rocket body and then used construction paper to create the rocket fins and restrict its weight. Paper clips were used to control the air flow escaping from the balloon. The rockets were suspended on a string set at an angle, and the one that reached the end of string the fastest, or made the most distance, won. Finally, the girls traveled to the last stop, where they played *Jeopardy! Girl Scout Edition*, hosted by SWE. There was trivia on STEM, Rutgers, and Girl Scouting. By the end, each girl left with a souvenir from "STEM World" and the pride of a new badge. SWE looks forward to helping prepare for next year's trip!

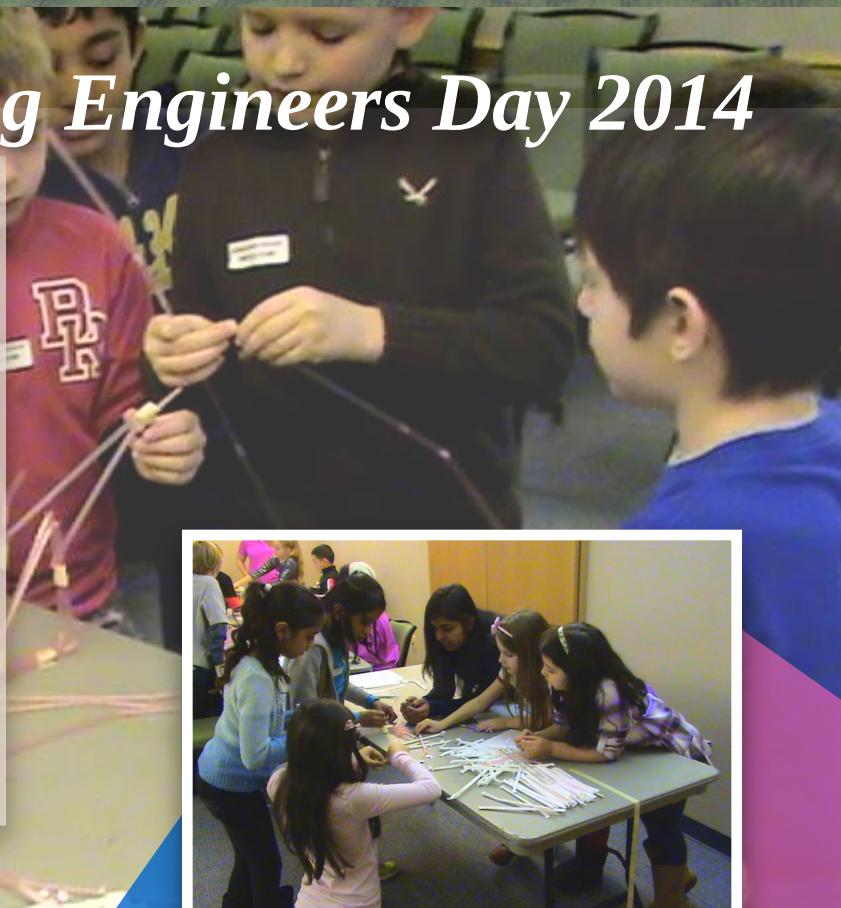
## Young Engineers Day 2014

February 19, 2014

By Avni Patel

Young Engineers Day, which is part of Rutgers' Engineers Week, is an annual event in which 8-10 year olds from local schools come to experience a day in the life of an engineer through small challenges hosted by various engineering clubs on Rutgers campus. This year, Rutgers SWE introduced the concept of cantilevers to students from seven different public schools in the New Brunswick area. Cantilevers are structures that extend through a single base and have one unsupported side. A prime example would be a diving board. The kids were split into teams and given time to design and build the longest cantilever they could out of straws. This project introduced important concepts in civil engineering, such as time management, design, test and retest, and limited resources. The young engineers had a blast doing the activity, and SWE members enjoyed watching and helping the young minds at work along the way.

**(Inset) SWE introduces the idea of cantilevers to a group of young girls. (Background) A team of young boys get to work on their cantilever made of straws while a SWE member guides them.**





# Social Events

## "SWELL" OLYMPICS

November 5, 2013

By Erica Wysocki

The Society of Women Engineers Leading and Learning (SWELL) program is a mentoring program that pairs a freshman ("mentee") with an upperclassman ("mentor") to help the transition into college more easily along through support or advice. One of the largest events in the program, having garnered one of SWELL's and SWE's largest turnouts of the 2013-2014 year, was the "SWELL Olympics," held in Busch Campus Center Room 174. Mentees and mentors teamed up to compete

against other pairs within the society in a series of games for a chance "to win it all." Each pair faced difficult challenges together, such as paper airplane competitions and balloon races, which promoted bonding between mentee and mentor. The excitement of the competition encouraged quick, critical thinking under pressure and inspired creative ideas. With the games designed especially for engineering students, the SWELL Olympics created a great learning environment that has proven to allow the teammates to be able to connect and learn together.

## BALLROOM DANCING with *Sigma Phi Delta*

February 25, 2014

By Erica Wysocki

The Society of Women Engineers loves to encourage friendships not only among female engineers, but among all engineering students. To do this, we usually set aside at least one meeting a semester to invite another student organization within the School of Engineering to plan a combined event. This year, the brothers of the engineering fraternity Sigma Phi Delta agreed on a "Ballroom Dancing" event at Busch Campus Center with SWE members, happy to have members from the two organizations familiarize with each other. Each SWE girl was paired with a SPD boy to learn a few steps to bring to the dance floor. The event was fun and active, promoting one-on-one interactions between members from the opposite organizations. Overall, it was a success, and SWE appreciated its strengthened tie to SPD.



## DEANS NIGHT

October 1, 2013

By Abigail Paz

Each fall semester, SWE hosts a networking event between students and the School of Engineering Deans. In the BCC, we were able to garner a total of seven Deans, which is 3 more than in past years, and thirty-five students to the event. Many of the students that came were freshmen whose first time meeting any of the

Deans was that night, and we had one of highest attendances of the year thanks to all the inquiring minds. During the event, the Deans were able to meet the students, play games, and provide an outlet for the many questions that students had about the School of Engineering. These kinds of events are crucial to students because it allows them to connect with the people in charge of their undergraduate

career without having to make an appointment. More than likely, students will come up to Deans with the same concerns and questions, and this event creates a more relaxed environment that can speed up the process for everyone. Everyone always has a wonderful time and hopefully we can gather more Deans and students in the future.

