The weather has been perfect and can’t ask for a better summer. I have been enjoying this beautiful weather at every chance I get and hope you are doing the same. I am honored to serve as the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Minnesota Section President. Welcome to FY14!!! I have been with SWE-MN for five years staring as a member of the Professional Development and Outreach committees. Since then I have served in many different roles at the Section included the most recent being Vice President. I have also been actively involved with SWE at the Region and Society levels serving on different committees and taking on leadership roles. I am currently a Senior Systems Engineer at Starkey Hearing Technologies working on their current and future hearing aids along with the accessory devices. Outside of work and SWE, I have a wonderful husband, Vijay, and a fabulous group of friends who help make Minnesota a home away from home. I enjoy traveling, cooking, dancing, and playing board games. I visit India given any chance to meet my parents, family and friends.

“Make Connections. Make History.” is our theme this year and am very excited for all that we have planned for this year. Our Executive Council (EC) held our Summer Planning Meeting, which was started off with a session conducted by Kristy Larson, Director of Talent Management, Starkey Hearing Technologies. We learned about the different social styles and what each of us are, why some level of conflict is healthy, how to leverage the resources we may have, to spread positivity across and negativity upwards in order to have a successful team.

The Executive Council then spent a few hours reviewing the Society goals; discussing and brainstorming the section goals which are primarily focused in the FY14 SWE Strategic Goal areas of

- Professional Excellence – SWE will develop women engineers at all stages of their personal and professional lives.
- Globalization – SWE will be recognized as a global, inclusive organization, promoting diversity and inclusion and serving women engineers wherever they are.
- Advocacy – SWE will advocate for the inclusion and success of women, present and prospective, in engineering and technology.

You can learn more about what we are doing through this newsletter and our committee meetings. If you have any ideas or suggestions that would align with our Society goals, please feel free to send me a note.

~Continued on Page 2~
I would like to welcome several new members to the EC this year. **Jessica Sheehan** is one of our Professional Development co-chairs who was also instrumental in making our Open House event a success. **Leah Johnson** joins us as Outreach co-chair with a lot of passion and commitment in reaching out to young kids. **Erin Lemke** and **Erin Syverson** successfully lead the SWE Collegiate section at University of Minnesota and will be leading our section social committee. They will be leading up efforts for our networking events including SWE-MN Holiday Party. **Ashleigh Hayes** and **Melinda Anderson** will be helping us bridge the connection with collegiate section acting as counselors for University of St Thomas and St Cloud State University respectively. **Claire Ferraro** brings her leadership skills to the team helping us in the role of volunteer coordinator. During the end of FY13, a group of distinguished women were voted to be part of the Advisory Board. Please join me to welcoming **Allison Pedersen, Alyse Stofer, Elizabeth Bierman, Karen Zais, Maggie Hickel, Naomi Brill,** and **Sara Beck** to our first ever advisory board. They are going to help us develop a strategy for our long term growth and sustainability.

I would like to congratulate **Naomi Brill** on being awarded **Fellow Grade** and **Charlene Willenbring** on being awarded **SWE Distinguished New Engineer** award. We will be celebrating with them at the WE13 Awards Banquet on October 25 in Baltimore, MD.

The SWE-MN Open House at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis was a success. We are excited to have partnered with Hormel and Lumin Advantage Consulting for this event. I hope we got a chance to connect at the Open House. If not, please send me an email. I am looking forward to the year ahead for all the fabulous events planned by SWE-MN committee chairs. Hope to see you at one of our events.

~Kalyani Mallela, president@swe-mn.org

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**Scholarship Committee Gearing up for FY14**

The Scholarship Committee is getting ready for another year of bringing recognition and financial resources to deserving young women. Last year, we were able to offer fourteen Corporate Partner Scholarships! We are hoping to even further expand the number of scholarships we offer this year. If you believe your company would like to participate in our Corporate Partner Scholarship Program, please let us know and we would be happy to send information for their review. The deadline for companies to sponsor a tuition scholarship for Fall Semester 2014 is October 31, 2013.

As always, we have opportunities big and small to help. A lot of our work involves mailing/advertising our services to Minnesota high schools and universities. If you’ve got a few hours to help collate a mailing or eight hours next March to judge scholarship applications, we’d love to have you join us. If you did not get to visit us at the Open House, feel free to send us an email!

~Naomi and Erica, scholarships@swe-mn.org
VP Spotlight

SWE-MN Participates in Twin Cities Diversity STEM Forum

August 13, 2013

Medtronic World Headquarters

A first time event, the Twin Cities Diversity STEM Forum, was held at Medtronic World Headquarters on Tuesday, August 13, 2013.

The event objectives were to:

- Showcase Diversity of STEM Leaders in the Twin Cities
- Share and discuss best practices by high tech companies in improving diversity in their workforce and it’s leadership
- Share and discuss partnerships and best practices by academia and universities to improve the diversity and graduation rates of students pursuing STEM degrees

Following a welcome and networking, the afternoon was kicked off by Barry Cordero, National SHPE President, and Alyse Stofer, FY13 National SWE President. In addition to giving invaluable background information, their discussions focused on the importance of improving representation of minorities and women in STEM careers and they also expressed the need for growth in diversity in leadership positions among companies.

Presentations were made by the SWE-MN President and a Minnesota SHPE Board member sharing their local activities and best practices. There were also presentations given by SHPE Medtronic and Medtronic SWEnet showcasing their extension of their national organizations and shared their perspectives on why STEM diversity is important.

The day continued with a panel, “Diversity in STEM in the Twin Cities Education System, Companies and Professional Societies.” There were several companies and organizations represented. These included: 3M, Cummins, Hormel, Medtronic, Northstar STEM Alliance, High Tech Kids, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, AISES, SWE, and SHPE. Discussions centered around best practices, various STEM/diversity initiatives, roadblocks and struggles to increase representation in STEM carriers, barriers to culture change, etc. SWE was represented on the panel discussion by SWE-MN Section President, Kalyani Mallela.

The closing session involved more open discussion and networking among the groups. Very positive feedback on this event was received and the groups represented hope that this will be an annual event in the years to come.

~Tricia Walker, vp@swe-mn.org
Awards Update

Congratulations to SWE-MN Members: Naomi Brill and Charlene Willenbring!

For FY13, Naomi Brill was recently selected as a SWE Fellow, and Charlene Willenbring was selected as a Distinguished New Engineer for SWE. Both will be presented their awards in Baltimore at the SWE Conference in October.

Congratulations to you both!

As the new Awards Chair for FY 2014, I am excited to continue the practice of recognizing the achievement of our members within Minnesota, at the Region and Society level.

I need help with reviewing and putting the awards package together. Please feel free to email me if you would like to volunteer for this opportunity. Also, if you are a past recipient of a certain Award, your experience in award application and its impact on your career is invaluable. You are encouraged to be part of this rewarding committee.

Upcoming awards will be advertised in monthly newsletters. If you are interested in a submission or appointing someone you know for submission, please contact me with questions.

New Faces of Engineering! Deadline is October 2013. The New Faces of Engineering strives to promote the accomplishments of young engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society.

Please contact me to find out more about the selection criteria to see if you qualify.

~Jessie Narr, awards@swe-mn.org

FY14 Sponsorship

SILVER

HORMEL
MEDTRONIC SWEnet

BRONZE

GENERAL DYNAMIC-AIS
LUMIN ADVANTAGE
STARKEY HEARING TECHNOLOGIES

For more information on how to become a SWE-MN Sponsor, check out our Sponsorship Opportunities here.
Membership Committee News and Upcoming Events

This year we have two new membership co-chairs: Claire Rydeen and Kristin Haag. We will be setting up events to help our members get to know each other and also to welcome new members into the society. As a reminder, your SWE membership needs to be renewed each June for you to be considered an active member. If you have not yet renewed for FY14 please do so at swe.org!

We have some fun events planned for the fall.

♦ Happy Hour: September 16th at JJ’s Clubhouse in Golden Valley
♦ Career & Networking Expo: November 9th at the Westin Hotel in Edina
♦ Feed My Starving Children Volunteering: November 20th in Chanhassen
♦ Holiday Party: December 9th

More information about these events will be coming in the weekly emails!

We look forward to working with you throughout the year!

~Kristin and Claire, membership@swe-mn.org

SWE Membership Renewal Period Winding Down

Have you renewed your FY14 membership yet? Renew online now or keep an eye out for your renewal notice, which was mailed in early July to the address in your membership profile.

Non-renewed memberships will be terminated on Sept. 30, 2013.

Don’t wait until its too late. Renew with SWE: the engineering society that focuses on your success, however you define it.

Some members may be eligible for reduced dues rate. Review the Discounted Memberships to determine your eligibility. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact SWE HQ for additional support.

Already renewed your membership? Log in here to "Update My Information" and ensure that SWE has the most up-to-date contact information.

Professional Members Renewing Online:

Log in to the Member Services site now to renew for FY14 (July 1 - June 30, 2014) and confirm your contact information. Be sure to visit the "Discounted Memberships" link on the Member Services page before renewal to determine eligibility for reduced dues.
Professional Development News

Thank you to all who come out to the Woman’s Club of Minneapolis on Thursday, August 15th for our FY14 SWE-MN Open House! We had over 130 attendees who had the chance to meet fellow SWE-MN members, learn about upcoming events, and sign up to participate in the many committees within SWE-MN!

Special thanks to Hormel and Lumin Advantage for helping sponsor this great event! Each attendee was given a treasure map that helped them explore the many opportunities SWE-MN has to offer – Outreach, Professional Development, Awards, Membership, Communications, Scholarships, and more! Plus, we had a lot of fun with the photo booth!

Our next Professional Development event will be a dinner and tour at Ecolab on Thursday September 19th – see the flyer on the next page for more details!
You are cordially invited...

Dinner and Tour with Ecolab

Ecolab Inc., global leader in water, hygiene, energy technologies and services. They provide and protect what is vital: clean water, safe food, abundant energy and healthy environments.

Thursday, September 19, 2013
please join us for the following:

6:00 – 6:45pm Dinner and Presentation from Global VP Kristine Williams

6:45 - 7:30pm Guided Tour of R&D Facility

7:30 – 7:45pm Q & A Session/Networking

RSVPs for this event should be sent to pd@swe-mn.org no later than September 12th, 2013. Please note special food needs in RSVP. Only 40 spots available.

655 Lone Oak Drive, Bldg. F, Eagan, MN 55121

www.ecolab.com
Welcome to a new SWE year! We are Lynn Davenport and Cathy Krier, your Section Reps from the SWE-MN section to Region H. Lynn has been around SWE-MN for the last 4 years in the Membership role. Cathy has been serving in Society and Region leadership roles and is excited to be returning to our section leadership this year. You will find both of us around at SWE-MN events. We are always on the lookout for ways to highlight the impact our section makes fulfilling the SWE Mission. Please point things out!

Are you looking for a cross-discipline engineering conference to learn best practices, share insights with other engineers, or find some stellar employees? The SWE Society conference is coming up to meet all these needs and more. Join us in sunny Baltimore October 24-26 to “Make connections. Make history.” For schedule, registration, a WE13 Cost Benefit Kit, and more, check out the website (we13.swe.org).

Are you looking for an outlet to see a different part of SWE? There are a number of committees in Region H that are looking for members. Commitments vary depending on the purpose of the committee, but if something sounds interesting, please talk to us at Open House or contact the Region H governor, Jenny Morikawa (jennifer.morikawa@concrete.org).

**Looking for members:** Assessment Committee, Nominating Committee for Region H, Region Membership, Region H Conference Advisory Committee

**Looking for leadership:** Assessment Committee, Transition Party co-chair (*someone who plans to attend Society conference in October*), Leadership Coaching, Collegiate Leadership Coaching, Outreach Representative to the Society Committee, Region Membership, Communications, Region H Mentor Program Coordinator

~Cathy and Lynn, sectionrep@swe-mn.org

### Outreach Upcoming Events

We are excited for a new and exciting year in Outreach! If you are interested in being added to the SWE-MN Outreach Distribution List or volunteering for any upcoming events, please contact us today!

~Holly and Leah, outreach@swe-mn.org

**STEM Day at the FAIR**

**When:** August 22nd, 2013 – 10am to 4 pm  
**Where:** MN State Fairgrounds  
Pairing with The Works!

**To volunteer:** Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Claire Ferraro at volunteer@swe-mn.org

**Girl Scout Patch Day**

**Lead:** Rachel Borchers  
**Date:** November 2nd  
**Location:** Boston Scientific  
Educating 150 (opened up to 200 this year) Junior Girl Scouts about engineering! Girls will learn about different areas of engineering through experimentation, receive a T-shirt, and earn a SWE badge.

**To volunteer:** Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Claire Ferraro at volunteer@swe-mn.org
When I was growing up I had no idea what an engineer did. However, I loved playing with Legos and could nearly always win at flash cards with my siblings. The first sign I had that pointed me towards a career in engineering came in 7th grade math. I had a great teacher who made math fun and interesting. Plus he would let us watch and episode Modern Marvels or Engineering Disasters after each test. Since I didn’t have cable at home this was a real treat! I became fascinated by the idea that I could help create the next cool thing in society. Fast forward to high school and I took as many math and science classes as I could and even attended a week-long engineering camp at Michigan Tech one summer. When it was time to pick schools my senior year I attended Technically Speaking at the U of M and made up my mind that day to become a Gopher. The SWE volunteers at the event were fun and successful which made me feel more confident about choosing a big school.

In college I kept busy with rowing, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and of course SWE. My favorite events to plan for SWE were the outreach events including Technically Speaking that brought high school girls to campus. I always hoped that one of the events that I helped plan would impact a girl in the way that it had for me.

After graduation I took a job with Eaton Corporation in a rotational development program. It was scary to sign up for a job not knowing where I would be working or what I would be doing but it was a great decision! I moved to Indiana for my first rotation and worked on designing a new clutch for semi-trucks. I was fortunate to get to move back to the Twin Cities for my second rotation and joined our Hydraulics Advanced Technology Team in Eden Prairie. I was mainly helping with the development of a hydraulic-hybrid excavator. This summer I graduated the rotational program and moved to my permanent role on the new product development team for piston pumps.

When I’m not working, I keep busy with all sorts of hobbies. I just completed a Warrior Dash a couple weeks ago and try to fit workouts whenever I have time. I’ve also been working on my ‘extreme’ golf this summer – mainly because I haven’t been playing enough to get consistent. My fiancé Brett and I just bought a house so our weekends are jam packed with wedding planning and house projects now. We’re also counting down til the State Fair. It’s one of my favorite summer activities in Minnesota. Check out what happened to us at the fair a couple years ago.
SWE-MN has their own Google Calendar that you can add to your Google account.

Here’s how:

Visit [www.swe-mn.org](http://www.swe-mn.org)

Go to the Calendar Tab.

On the bottom right of the calendar, select the (+) sign and click ADD to the pop-up message to add the SWE-MN Calendar to your account.

You won’t miss an upcoming event!

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2013 Career & Networking Expo

New Perspectives in Hiring

MN Society of Women Engineers
www.swe-mn.org

Are you looking for new career opportunities? Are you looking to network with fellow Minnesotans? Interested in technical and business graduate programs? Hoping to attract top-quality technical talent?

Come expand your technical network!!!


Date: November 9, 2013
Location: The Westin, Edina
Time: 1:00 – 5:00pm Career Expo
      3:00 – 5:00pm Happy Hour
Attire: Business Attire
Cost (Job Seekers): FREE!!!
Cost (Companies): $475 per table
                 $350 per table (Non-profit)
Contact: Cassie Svendsen
cassiep@hotmail.com
Exciting news: In lieu of a Committee meeting at WE13, SWE will providing conference attendees with the option of a day trip to Washington, D.C. to participate in Congressional visits on Capitol Hill (cost: $40, which includes lunch). In order to accommodate the driving time, the tour will leave at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, October 23rd, and return later that day by 5 PM.

More information can be found at: [http://we13.swe.org/conference-schedule?start=15&eventid=1393](http://we13.swe.org/conference-schedule?start=15&eventid=1393)

Please note: Space is limited, and reservations are on a first-come, first-serve through SWE conference registration.

In the last SWE Alltogether newsletter, SWE Washington Representative Melissa Carl called upon SWE members to reach out to their Members of Congress to show support for four specific pieces of STEM legislation. To review the associated action alert, please go to:


~Paula Stenzler, FY14 GRPP Chair