Southwest Michigan SWE Section

Want to stay connected with SWE while working from home? Keep an eye out for SWE news and updates on our social media channels! Join our newly revised FacebookGroup. Check out our website and keep an eye out for stories on the WHR360 GPO and Twin Cities Channels!

Q1 2020 Newsletter
April 6, 2020

Southwest MI SWE Leadership Team

**Executive Board:**
President - Nicole Ernat  
VP & Section Representative - Melissa Burchill  
Treasurer - Bri Anderson  
Secretary - Trish Davis

**Chair Positions:**
Social - Himabindu Yamana  
Membership - Michele Wilcox  
Professional Development - Pervin Taleyarkhan  
Media - Kathryn D'Alessandro  
Outreach - Christine Golden  
Girl Scout Day Lead - Michele Johnson

President’s Corner

Nicole Ernat

Happy Spring to the SWE community! With these uncertain times, I hope that each of you and your families are staying safe and healthy. As the Society of Women Engineers, it is our responsibility to support fellow colleagues throughout all parts of their careers from professional growth to outreach in our community. During the next month, the SWE team plans to transition to virtual events to continue and facilitate growth throughout our SWE network. If there are any questions on your mind or support needed as many people's "normal" routine is changing, feel free to reach out to your SWE exec board and we are happy to help. Wishing everyone a strong, healthy and resilient Q2!

Treasurer's Report
Brianne Anderson

Despite the insecurities in the world due to Coronavirus, our section is currently in good financial health. We have received our annual financial rebates as a section, and have a good line of sight
to being able to support our engagement activities both in the community and internally. At this time, we have no concerns or risks financially, and will continue preparing our documents for our annual financial report in June.

Professional Development Update
Pervin Taleyarkhan

The 2020 year has sure started off with its challenges. One thing is certain: All companies are facing challenges together and under the direction of capable and inspirational leaders, which makes all the difference.

So in the spirit of focusing on our Leadership Abilities competency in our SWE Leadership Competency Model Guide**, we will learn from our leaders in engineering at Whirlpool Corporation through candid stories about how they are responding to and overcoming the recent changes and challenges. This will be a Professional Development Livestream event featuring a panel discussion among leaders including Binglai Chen, Michael Farrington, Simona Pappalardo and Fang Deng. The panel discussion will be moderated by our SWE President, Nicole Ernat and is being targeted to take place in June.

If you have any question that you’d like to see addressed during the event, please send them to Pervin Taleyarkhan between now and June 1.

** SWE’s Splotlighted Resource for Q1 2020: “Leadership Abilities” competency in the SWE’s Leadership Competency Model Guide.
The one-to-one outreach activity that SWE Engineers of Whirlpool were participating in came to a halt when Covid-19 ended visitor access to Whirlpool buildings in March. Kathleen Krieger, the local High School Senior that had been shadowing engineers to learn about the disciples of the profession has expressed her thanks to those that were able to share their time with her.

While no physical outreach can be planned at this time, this is the opportunity to search existing programs and learn how to best leverage them for our community. Stay tuned for initiatives that will kick off in the next school year, and ways to involve ourselves in activities that showcase the Engineering profession.

**WINTER SOCIAL EVENTS RECAP**

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**January 8 - Zoup, Saint Joseph Networking Lunch**

We had a great turn out at Zoup with more than 12 in attendance. The topic of discussion was New Years Resolution and Career Goals.

**February 20 - Shu's, Saint Joseph Networking Lunch**

Another great turnout! The topic of this networking lunch centered around Engineering Day. Each member shared their proudest moment of being an Engineer.

**February 26 - KA Small Appliance Demo**

SWMI SWE and KA Small Appliances collaborated to deliver this social event where a group of our Engineers had the chance to experience different KA Small Appliances. This picture provides a collage of participants who attended and worked as a team to make lemonade.
Southwest Michigan Section
Michele Wilcox

2020 Email and Calendar contact list has been updated to reflect the updated list of Members.

If you know of any mistakes or know of anyone missed or needing to be removed, please contact Michele Wilcox for corrections.

Upcoming Networking Lunches:

Calendar invites will be updated as the situation with COVID-19 improves. Stay safe & healthy.
Engineer Figures Out How to Design Stylish Safety Boots

QUARTZ at WORK

[Image]

CORONAVIRUS - MICHIGAN.GOV

[Image]

Here is a link to some helpful information on COVID-19 in the State of Michigan.

STAY SAFE. SAVE LIVES.