



Society of Women Engineers

ASPIRE • ADVANCE • ACHIEVE

How will
you inspire
the world
this year?

Welcome!

Are you ready for a fun-filled year?

FY12 is certain to hold opportunities for professional growth and development along with numerous occasions to inspire future generations of women engineers!

Preparations for the fiscal year are in full swing with Sections holding planning meetings and developing tactical plans. Region plans for FY12 are also currently being developed,

with goals to be rolled out over the next month.

There are many places where you can get involved if you want take on a new challenge, develop new skills, or find a place to allow existing talents to blossom. These opportunities can be as small or large in scope as your availability allows. Section leaders would love to hear from you if you want to step forward and help make this a successful year!

Region J will be holding three face-to-face meetings this year—ABJ fall meeting in Orange County, California, Society Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois, and Joint Western Regions Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. I would love to see each of you at one or more of these events. Networking and development offerings will be plentiful at all three of these gatherings.

- Wendy L. Obenauf
Region J Governor

Communication

To keep members up to date with Region J information and events, there are several communication channels that will be utilized this year. Take advantage of each of these so that you'll always be "in the know"!

Region J Newsletter – This monthly publication will be sent via e-mail to all Region J members.

Region J Senate Blog – Our Senators use this venue to communicate information

regarding Society-level business that they conduct on your behalf. Let your voice be heard! Subscribe to the blog ([link](#)) and participate in surveys that are posted throughout the year.

Region J Collegiate Blog – The Region J Collegiate Communications Editor keeps this blog up-to-date with happenings from across Region J and the Society. Just as with the Senate Blog, you can subscribe ([link](#)) so you'll

receive e-mail notifications when new items are posted. The RCCE posts items that are relevant to both Collegiate and Professional members.

Region J Website – Looking for links to each of the Section's websites or Region Officer e-mail addresses? Look no further than the Region J Website ([link](#))!

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"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."
- Anne Frank

Contact your Region J Senators by August 24th to provide feedback on this motion.

Leave a reply at:

<http://regionisenators.wordpress.com/contact-us/>

Volunteer Opportunities

Fund Development Committee – This committee, newly formed last year, is in need of members and a chair. This committee is responsible for fundraising for the region travel budget and region scholarship fund.

Western Regions Conference – Region J Corporate Sponsorship Chair – To ensure the success of the spring conference being held

jointly with Regions A and B, it is vital that we receive adequate sponsorship from companies within each region. If you are interested in heading the effort to solicit sponsorships from companies within Region J, please let us know!

Mentor Program Coordinator – With the mentorship / leadership pipeline program coming to fruition this fiscal year,

we will need a volunteer to coordinate this effort for the team.

Newsletter Editor – Do you have excellent writing skills and enjoy seeing your work published each month? We are looking for a volunteer to put together this Newsletter each month.

If any of these opportunities interest you, please contact [Wendy Obenaus](#).

Mentorship Program

The Leadership Pipeline is alive and well in Region J!

Based on the survey responses collected at JCon11, we have begun matching up mentor pairs for the kick-off of our program this fiscal year.

Here are a few details of the program: monthly communication between mentor/mentee with suggested conversation starters provided, goal

setting by the mentee to focus on a desired outcome, and commitment by the mentor to remain in the program through the end of FY12.

Several Professional members expressed an interest in mentoring Collegiate members. These mentors are excited for this opportunity—all they need are willing volunteers who are interested in forming a mentoring partnership.

The program is open to all SWE members. This is an opportunity for us to prepare tomorrow's SWE leaders for excellence!

If you are interested in having a SWE mentor or being a SWE mentor, please complete the survey found at this [link](#).

Senate Update

The SWE Senate is preparing to vote on a motion that would affect the FY13 nomination process for Deputy Speaker and Senate Secretary. The motion seeks to have the Society Nominating Committee fill the election slate for these two positions

in addition to the other Society positions for which it has responsibility.

Pros – The Society Nominating committee has an established procedure for vetting candidates and has visibility to a wider range of candidates that

may have potential for Senate leadership.

Cons – The Society Nominating Committee may not fully understand the necessary qualifications for these positions.

Fundraising Corner

Fundraising comes in many forms. If your Section has time, a large event can be a fun venue for raising travel or scholarship funds while also doing some team building. Smaller fundraising plans also have the potential to earn big dollars without taking a lot of time and initial investment.

Each month, several fundraising ideas will be posted here to help you get those creative fundraising juices flowing. If you have an idea that you would like to share, please contact [Wendy Obenauf](#) and it will be posted in a future Fundraising Corner.

Auction – Host a silent or live auction. The key to this type of event is to offer a wide variety of items on which participants can bid. Additionally, you'll need to have a clever way to encourage them to attend. Hosting the auction in conjunction with a dinner event is a great way to attract more attendees.

Restaurant Percentage Night – Many restaurants offer fundraising programs that host non-profit organizations for an evening. You only need to advertise and have participants bring in a flyer for the event. The restaurant will then pay a percentage of those sales to your organization. Some chain restaurants who have these programs are Chevy's, Sweet Tomatoes, Panda Express, Quiznos, Applebee's, Baja Fresh, and many more.

Bake Sale – Having a bake sale is a great way to earn funds and showcase your team's culinary skills. As an added fundraising booster, contact a local Wal-Mart and ask if you can set up a table outside their store from which to sell your baked goods. Most Wal-Mart stores will match all proceeds raised at fundraisers in front of their stores.



Region J Council Business

Region J Bylaws – An updated copy of the bylaws were delivered to the Region J Council members on August 7th. This new version is required in order to maintain compliance with Society bylaws updates that have occurred over the past two years. Changes will be discussed in the August and September Region J Council meetings, with a

vote to be held in person at the WE11 Region J business meeting.

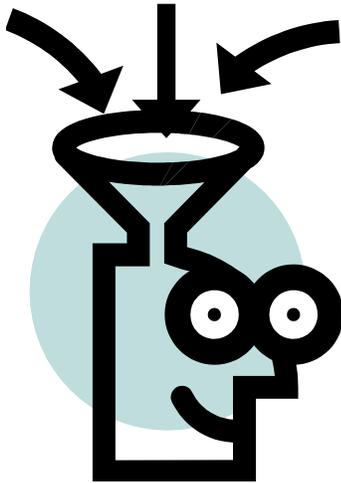
Please see your Section Representative for details on the bylaws changes that are being proposed.

Region J Procedures - Over the past year, a sub-team has been hard at work revising our Region J Policies and Procedures document. This document is intended to detail operational procedures and document decisions the region has made regarding those procedural items.

Updates have been made

for changes in officer titles and other administrative details. The Region J Travel Policy was reworded to coincide with our long-standing budgeting strategy, which separates the Collegiate and the Professional allocations. No large procedural changes are being proposed as a part of this update.

The Region J Council will vote on the adoption of this revised policy at the August Region J Council Meeting. Please see your Section Representative for details on the Region J procedure changes that are being proposed.



Section Officer Training

If you were unable to attend the SWE Section Officer Training, you're in luck! Replays of the webcasts are available.

New Section Officer Training - This webinar is intended for first-time SWE Section Officers. It covers roles and responsibilities in your new role as a Section Officer. To view the replay, visit <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/578110434>

Advanced Section Officer Training - This Webinar is intended to be a refresher on the best practices and responsibilities related to your current role as a Section Officer. To view the replay, visit <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/347656859>

Region Officer Training

Replays are also available for the Region Officer Training Webinar.

All SWE Region Officers should plan to view this webinar to gain a better understanding of the organization at the Region level.

This Webinar presentation was developed by the Leadership Coaching Committee to support all Region Leaders. SWE

governance, report, documents, methods, procedures, and strategic goals will be reviewed.

The webinar is available via replay by going to <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/759972618>

Building Membership

As part of the FY12 leadership webinar training series, a session was offered regarding building membership.

Although the webinar is particularly aimed at the leadership team, all Region

J members are encouraged to view this webinar, not just Section and Region leaders.

This presentation will help participants understand the challenges associated with building membership and

ways to accomplish recruitment and retention initiatives. A framework will be provided that each section, regardless of size, past history, or unique challenges, can use to successfully build membership and strengthen the SWE

network. The replay is available by visiting <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/448020450>

Upcoming Events

ABJ Fall Meeting – August 26-28, Orange County, CA - The traditional purpose of the ABJ meeting is to prepare and discuss issues relevant to the upcoming Annual Society Conference and to network with the other west coast SWE members.

Jana Samulski an internationally acclaimed communication expert and bestselling author will kick start ABJ with the a presentation on "Turning Heads" and what you can do to make the right

impression at work and other professional meetings. Find out more about Jana at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Jana-Samulski/129999217053879>.

Detailed information about the event can be found at <http://www.swe-oc.org/EVENTS/2011ABJMEETING/tabid/135/Default.aspx>.

WE11 – October 13-15, Chicago, IL - Raise the heights of innovation with

more than 5,000 women engineers and technologists at the WE11 Conference! Visit the career fair, experience keynote speakers, and participate in many thought-provoking sessions while taking the opportunity to network with your SWE peers. For additional details and a link to register, please visit <http://we11.swe.org/>.

SWE 2012 Western Regions Joint Conference – See below

ABJ Fall Meeting is just around the corner!

August 26-28
Orange County, CA

The SWE room block closes on Friday, August 12th. Register for the meeting and reserve your hotel room today!

SWE 2012 Western Regions Joint Conference

**February 29 – March 3,
Honolulu, HI**

We are proud to announce the SWE University of Hawaii at Manoa Collegiate section and the SWE Hawaiian Islands Proposed Professional section will be co-hosting the 2012 SWE Western Regions Joint Conference at the Sheraton Waikiki in

Honolulu, Hawaii.

The conference will allow professional attendees to further enhance professional development skills and examine local technical projects, as well as cater to the collegiate attendees with a career fair and presentations related to their next steps after college. Our theme is

"Ride the Wave of Innovation," which will provide a wonderful opportunity to showcase Hawaii as a model for innovation – particularly in "green" technology.

Visit the conference website for information as it becomes available: <http://www.swewestern2012.org/>

Western Regions Joint Conference: Getting There

We can't have a successful conference without you!!!

Calling all Region J members and supporters:

We are excited to have you attend the Joint Conference hosted by Regions A, B, and J. While this is an exciting venue, we also anticipate that travel costs may be an issue for some. In order to help defray some of these costs, we will post helpful travel tidbits in this Newsletter

each month.

Tip #1: Don't wait until it's time to book your travel before you start thinking about funding.

Fundraising – Ensure that your Section has a plan to raise funds to send members/Officers to the conference.

Corporate/University Sponsorship – Members should plan to seek the

support of their employer or university to attend the conference.

Region Funding – Limited funding is available for Region Officers as per Region J Policy. The budget is currently being set for this year with consideration being given to higher anticipated travel costs.

Region J Governor
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Website
<http://www.swe.org/RegionJ/>

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About Our Organization

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE), founded in 1950, is a non-profit educational and service organization. SWE is the driving force that

establishes engineering as a highly desirable career aspiration for women. SWE empowers women to succeed and advance in those aspirations and receive

the recognition and credit for their life-changing contributions and achievements as engineers and leaders.

Region J Council Meeting Schedule

	Dates	Activity
2011	25-Jul	Region J Orientation - Teleconference
	28-Aug	Region Meeting at ABJ Fall Meeting (Orange Cty, CA)
	19-Sep	Region J Teleconference
	13-Oct	Region Meeting at WE11 (Chicago, IL)
	21-Nov	Region J Teleconference
	19-Dec	Region J Teleconference
2012	16-Jan	Region J Teleconference
	3-Mar	Region Meeting at Joint Region Conference (Honolulu, HI)
	16-Apr	Region J Teleconference
	21-May	Region J Teleconference
	18-Jun	Region J Teleconference

Other Important Dates

	Dates	Activity
2011	30-Jul	FY11 Financial Reports Due (Section and Region)
	27-28 Aug	Region ABJ Fall Meeting (Orange County, CA)
	16-Sep	Professional Section Report Due
	12-15 Oct	Society Conference (Chicago, IL)
	15-Nov	IRS Filing Due (E-postcard if < \$25k)
2012	17-Jan	Professional Section Report Due
	15-Feb	Region J Award Submission Due (Tentative)
	29-Feb - 3-Mar	2012 Western Regions Joint Conference (Honolulu, HI)
	20-Mar	Professional Section Report Due (Tentative)
	31-Mar	Society Individual Award Applications Due
	1-Apr	Region J Elections Start
	30-May	Professional Section Report Due
1-Jul	Society Section Award Applications Due	