

Region J Newsletter



Wendy's Welcome (A Note from the Region Governor)

February 2012
Volume 1, Issue 5



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Hello February!
We're excited you're here!

This month marks the beginning of the SWE election season and the month in which we are holding the Western Regions Joint Conference in Honolulu. Both of these events will provide opportunities you won't want to miss!

In the November issue of the Region J Newsletter, I encouraged you to "define your SWE success on your own terms". As you reflect on this, I urge you to consider running for a region office.

Some of you may be looking for additional opportunities to serve your fellow SWE members or perhaps you are looking ahead to a future society-level role. Holding an office at the region level is a great way to move toward fulfilling both of these goals.

The experiences you encounter in these roles will also serve as great development opportunities to help you advance in your career. Additional information about the offices available for this fiscal year and the requirements and responsibilities of each office are noted in the later part of this month's newsletter. Are you ready for the challenge and the rewards?!

It's not too late to register to be a part of our other exciting February event—the Western Regions Joint Conference. If booking a flight is still on your to do list, please note that American Airlines and Alaska Airlines are both offering discounts for our conference participants. See the flight portion of the travel page on the conference website for details:
<http://www.swewestern2012.org/Php/airfare.php>.

SWE Society President, Melissa Tata, established this year's theme as "Multiply the Momentum". As a region, let's do exactly that by moving toward our next SWE position and gathering inspiration from the region conference in Honolulu!





Upcoming Events and Due Dates

Region Newsletter Submittal Deadline

Our next newsletter will be a post-conference addition in late March. Please send any submission items to Melissa by March 10th.

National Engineers Week

7 billion people.
7 billion dreams.
7 billion chances
for engineers to turn
dreams into reality.

www.e-week.org

National Wear Red Day
Friday, February 3rd

**Region Collegiate
Nominations Due**
Sunday, February 5th

**Region J Awards
Package Due**
February 10th to [Suzy](#).
See page 5 for more info.

**ABJ Meeting and FY13
Conference Bids Due**
February 15th to [Melissa](#).
See page 4 for more info.

RCT Teleconference
Wed, February 15th
6pm AK/7pm Pacific
Conference Dial-in No.:
(218) 339-4300
Participant Access Code:
797789#

Region Nominations Due
Wed, February 15th
To [Coral Jean](#)
See pages 6 and 7
for more info

National Engineers Week
February 19-25
Get involved in your local
E-Week activities!

**All Together Newsletter
Content Due**
Thursday, February 23rd
To SWE HQ

**2012 SWE Western
Regions Conference**
February 29-March 3
Honolulu, HI
See section below for info

**Collegiate Section
Reports Due**
Thursday, March 1st
Send report to [Elaine](#).

Region J Meeting
Saturday, March 3
At conference

**National E-Week
Foundation's
Global Marathon**
March 5-10
A virtual event for, by,
and about women in
engineering and
technology.
To learn more visit
www.globalmarathon.net

Prof. Section Reports Due
Saturday, March 10th
Send report to [Wendy](#).

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



Conference Contacts

Amy Weintraub
FY12 SWE Western Regions
Joint Conference
Hawaii Chair
(808) 221-5894
amyweintraub@hawaii.rr.com

Jenn Harris
FY12 SWE Western Regions
Joint Conference Chair
(818) 383-7728
jennifer.harris@swe.org

The University of Hawaii at Manoa Collegiate section and the Hawaiian Islands Proposed Professional section are co-hosting the 2012 SWE Western Regions Joint Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Our theme — *"Ride the Wave of Innovation,"* showcases Hawaii as a model for innovation — particularly in "green" technology. The conference will allow both professional and collegiate attendees to enhance their skills and network with their peers while enjoying the beautiful views.

Visit the conference

website for information at www.swewestern2012.org

Airfare - American Airlines and Alaska Airlines are both offering discounts for conference travel. Check out the travel section of the conference website for details - <http://www.swewestern2012.org/Php/airfare.php>.

Luau - In lieu of the traditional banquet, we will be having a luau on Friday night! Section awards will be presented and the keynote speaker is M.R.C. Greenwood, President of the University of Hawaii School System.. If you're bringing someone to Hawaii with

you, bring them to the luau too! You can purchase tickets at <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaid=221794>

Tours - A few tours have reopened. Check out the conference website to sign up - <http://www.swewestern2012.org/Php/tours.php>

Hawaii And remember that you are visiting Paradise! Schedule some extra time to check out local attractions including snorkeling at Haunama Bay and hiking at Diamond Head. For more information, visit <http://www.gohawaii.com/oahu>



Membership Update

Great news! The Membership database is up and running - for those who should have access to the Leadership Rosters should have received an email from HQ earlier this month.

Not a SWE member yet? Join today at www.swe.org/join

Did you let your membership lapse? You can renew easily at www.swe.org/renew

If you have problems during the renewal process, contact SWE directly for support at 1-312-596-5223.

December Membership by the numbers:

On the Society Level:

- The retention rate increased 2% between November and December to an overall retention rate of 61% as compared to 57% last December 2010
- Total membership at the end of December 2011 – 17,916 as compared to December 2010 – 15,921
- 371 members renewed and 640 members joined in December
- 85% (3,084) to the FY12 goal of 21,000

On the Region J Level:

- Total Region J Membership end of June 2011 - 768
- Total Region J Membership end of December 2011 - 735

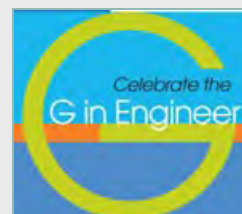
* Region numbers are professionals and collegiate combined. *



Got Questions?

If you have membership questions, you can contact [Dana Day](#). If she doesn't know the answers, she can point you in the right direction!

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day "10 for 10" Anniversary



In honor of the 10-year anniversary, the goal this year is to serve 10,000 ten year old girls with a positive engineering experience during a ten week period with the help of ten national partners. For the past ten years, women engineers have introduced more than one million girls and young women to engineering. More than just one day, Introduce a Girl to Engineering is a national movement that shows girls how creative and collaborative engineering is and how engineers are changing our world

Planning an event?

Whether you are participating in 10 for 10 or have other Girl Day plans, let us know!

[CLICK HERE to be counted.](#)

Join our '10 for 10' ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN, a multi-faceted effort intended to reach 10,000 10-year-old girls with positive engineering experiences. '10 for 10' runs for 10 weeks, February 24 through May 8, Mother's Day.

For more info, visit: <http://www.eweek.org/EngineersWeek/Introduce.aspx?ContentID=143&Version=5>

Region Communications

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 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!](#)

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](#) and participate in surveys posted throughout the year.

Region J Collegiate Blog

The Region J Collegiate Communications Editor (RCCE) keeps this blog up-to-date with happenings from across Region J and the Society. [Subscribe](#) and receive e-mail notifications when new items are posted. Items posted are relevant to all members.

Dropbox A Dropbox folder has been set up on which we will store documents related to Region J business, such as motions, agendas and minutes, reports, etc. If you are a region leader and have not yet received an e-mail invite to this site, please contact [Wendy Obenauf](#).

Facebook Like Region J on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/2212498850/>

Snail Mail You can also send Wendy mail through the US Postal Service at:

P.O. Box 219102
Portland, OR 97225-9102



Past Award Winners

2010

Professional Development
Eastern Washington

2011

Distinguished
Outreach Service
Maria Kampsen
Greatland



Have ideas for different region awards?
Or how to improve the existing awards?
Tell Suzanne now.

2012 Region J Awards

The following awards will be presented at the 2012 SWE Western Regions Joint Conference. The application deadline for consideration for these awards is **February 10, 2012**. Obtain an application package from and submit the appropriate materials in Word or PDF format via e-mail to Suzanne Jewett at suzanne.jewett@careinnovations.com.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To recognize a professional section that has developed the best program or activity that is aligned with the SWE professional development goals.

Minimum requirements:

- Professional section in good standing
- Program being nominated
- Must have been offered during FY11 or FY12
- Must not have previously won this award for a similar activity

Application materials:

In 750 words or less, highlight the section's professional development program or activity. Ensure that the items listed in the "Primary selection criteria" below are covered in the submission.

Primary selection criteria:

- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Participation
- Program Innovation

OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE PROGRAM

To recognize exceptional programs and activities of a collegiate section that are aligned with the SWE national or regional goals, mission, and/or strategic plan.

Minimum requirements:

- Collegiate section in good standing
- Program being nominated
- Must have been offered during FY11 or FY12
- Must not have previously won this award for a similar activity

Application materials:

In 750 words or less, highlight the section's professional development program or activity. Ensure that the items listed in the "Primary selection criteria" below are covered in the submission.

Primary selection criteria:

- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Participation
- Program Innovation

DISTINGUISHED OUTREACH SERVICE

To recognize SWE members who have made a valuable contribution to the Society with specific emphasis in promoting SWE via K-12 outreach and STEM-related activities.

Minimum requirements:

- Collegiate, Professional, or MAL member in good standing
- Minimum of 10 years of SWE membership

Application materials:

- Nominee's resume, SWE resume and biography (300 words or less)
- Candidate's statement of 750 words or less, demonstrating each of the "Primary selection criteria" noted below.

Primary selection criteria:

- Leadership
- Dedicated Service
- Visibility
- Impact
- Innovation
- Versatility





2012 ABJ Meeting

The Region ABJ meeting is held 6-8 weeks before National Conference and consists of discussions on SWE strategic issues. The WE12 conference will be November 8-10, 2012 in Houston, Texas, so mid to late September would be the best time for the Regions ABJ meeting. Any section in good standing may petition to host.

Even though we've had a change to the COR Senate model, the Regions A, B and J governors supported the idea we should meet to have our voices heard on the issues. Region J hosts this meeting every three years, and this is our turn to be host! Another reason to put ABJ on your calendar is for networking and meeting SWE members from the three regions, plus meet with SWE Board of Directors (for example the National President and President -Elect) attend because they are interested in hearing what you have to say:

The typical ABJ meeting schedule is

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Friday Evening | Registration and informal social gathering |
| Saturday | Joint Regions A, B, and J Meeting |
| Sunday | Individual Region Meetings |

The host section will arrange for a hotel room block, and reserve meeting space for the Saturday and Sunday meetings. Attendance at this meeting is about 40-50 people.

Interested in hosting? Please contact Melissa Branch, SWE Region J Lt. Governor at greatlandgirl@gmail.com. She will provide you with the official bid form.

2013 Region J Conference

The bid for the 2013 Region J Conference is now open. Any section in good standing may petition to host. The region conference can be held from January through May 2010 and is a three- day event. This is the premier region event after National Conference, and is open to all SWE members and non-members.

The Region meeting starts with tours and other social activities. The conference provides both professional and collegiate development tracks. The conference also provides a career/job fair for participants. Professional and collegiate meetings wrap up the event. The typical Region Conference schedule is:

| | |
|----------|--|
| Friday | Registration, tours, and informal social gathering |
| Saturday | General Conference |
| Sunday | Region Meeting |

This year's bid schedule is as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| February 15, 2012 | Return Intent to Bid form to Lt. Governor Submit date, location, theme and fundraising plan |
| February 22, 2012 | Submit preliminary budget and schedule |
| Sat, March 3, 2012 | Presentation at Joint Meeting Award by Region Council and MOU signed |

Interested in hosting? Please contact Melissa Branch, SWE Region J Lt. Governor for the bid information packet.





Region Nominations

Interested in board service but want to know what's really involved? Ask the current board!

Region Governor
Wendy Obenauf
governor-j@swe.org

Lt. Governor
Melissa Branch
greatlandgirl@gmail.com

Secretary
Kitty Nolen
kitty.l.nolen@intel.com

Treasurer
Maria Kampsen
mkampsen@dowlhkm.com

Senators
Barbara Donoghue
Jennifer Bly
Carla Todenhagen
Amanda Dang
See Senate Section for contact information

More officer information can be found at
<http://www.swe.org/regionj/NewSite2010/Officers.htm>

"There are many wonderful things that will never be done if you don't do them."

~ Charles D. Gill

We are seeking nominees for the following positions:

- Governor (2-year term - FY13 & FY14)
- Lieutenant Governor (1-year term - FY13)
- Secretary (1-year term - FY13)
- Treasurer (1-year term - FY13)
- Senator (2-year term - FY13-FY14)
- Alternate Senator (1-year term - FY13)
- Collegiate Senator (1-year term - FY13)

Fiscal Years

Fiscal year 2013 (FY13): July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

Fiscal year 2014 (FY14): July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

Nominations

These leadership positions within the Region provide valuable experience within SWE and can be a step towards society leadership. All members are encouraged to nominate themselves and/or other eligible members. See below for eligibility requirements.

Send nominations to Coral Jean Cotterell at cjcotterell@comcast.net by **Wednesday, February 15th**. The nomination packet includes the information below and a high resolution photo.

Nomination Form

The following information is required on the form:

- Officer position you are applying for
- Name of nominee
- Contact information for nominee (including day/evening phone number, and email address)
- Section of nominee
- List of previous SWE positions held (if any)
- 200-word maximum candidate statement (why the candidate wants to be in the officer position and what they hope to accomplish)
- 150-word maximum candidate history (qualifications and previous SWE leadership experience).

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a voting member of SWE in good standing.
- Must be assigned to Region J as a member of one of the professional sections or as a professional member at large (MAL).
- **Region Governors and Lt Governors** must have served at least two years in the aggregate as a professional member of the senate, professional section or members at large president, professional section or members at large representative, or as a region officer, except that one year as a collegiate senator or collegiate representative may be counted toward this requirement.
- **Region Governor, Lt. Governor, and Senators** may not serve concurrently as a member of the SWE board of directors.
- **For Collegiate Senator**, must have at least two years of SWE membership, held a leadership position (office or committee) and have attended a region or Society conference. Must be in good academic standing as well.



Region Duties

Governor

- Overseeing the operations and vitality of the regional structure
- Support Professional Sections, Collegiate Sections, and MALs
- Overview the Budget and Finances of the region
- Maintain the Bylaws and Update as needed
- Ensure Elections are carried out
- Conduct Region Meetings
- Complete Region Reports
- Attend ABJ Meeting, WE12, WE13, FY13 and FY14 Region J Conferences
- Perform other duties as assigned by the SWE Director of Regions.

Lt. Governor

- The lieutenant governor shall assume the duties of the governor if the governor is unable to serve
- Lead the Region Collegiate Team
- Join one of the Region Committees
- Attend ABJ Meeting, WE12, WE13, FY13 and FY14 Region J Conferences (flexibility with this)
- Oversee Region Conference Planning Committee
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Secretary

- Maintain the records of the region
- Records minutes at region meetings and conference calls
- Join one of the Region Committees
- Attend National SWE Conference
- Attend Regional SWE Conference
- Maintain Region Community
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Treasurer

- Be responsible for the collection, distribution, and safekeeping of region funds;
- Prepare, maintain, and report as directed on the financial position of the region in relation to the approved budget;
- Submit a financial report to the Society in accordance with

established procedures; and

- Join one of the Region Committees
- Attend National SWE Conference
- Attend Regional SWE Conference
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Senator

(Professional and Collegiate)

- Prior SWE leadership experience of at least one year would help the Senator in the performance of her duties.
- Have a working knowledge of the organization and its bylaws.
- Be able and willing to travel to Senate and Region meetings and actively communicate at the Region level.
- Charting the strategic direction of SWE by developing and adopting long-range goals for SWE.
- Developing statements of external policy on issues or positions that have broad implications for the professional environment and the Society as an organization.
- Conducting essential dialogue on long-term trends and issues of common interest.
- Appointing subordinate units to assist in the creation of strategic directions or policies.
- Communicating the outcome of the meetings to the board of directors and their constituent SWE members.
- Timely voting on recommendations from the membership presented as motions.
- Setting dues for membership grades.
- Allocating percentages of rebates..
- Establishing policies on the use and restrictions of contingency funds.
- Approving trademarks and emblems changes.
- Approving changes to regional boundaries
- Approving changes to bylaws.
- Attending Senate and Region meetings
- Being the voice of their constituents.
- Perform other duties as assigned.





RCT Members

Lt. Governor

Melissa Branch
greatlandgirl@gmail.com

RCR

Elaine Wilcox
wilcoxel@onid.orst.edu

RCCE

Jenelle Parson
parsonje@onid.orst.edu

RCR

Amanda Dang
amanda.t.dang@gmail.com

SWEFL

Mary Peterson
mypeterson03@yahoo.com



LCC Coaches

Tamaira Ross
tamairaross@yahoo.com

Joan Young
joan.young@pnl.gov



Region J Senators

Professional Senators

Barbara Donoghue
Pacific Northwest

Jennifer Bly
Columbia River

Alt. Professional Senator

Carla Todenhagen
Columbia River

Collegiate Senator

Amanda Dang
University of Washington

Contact your Region J
Senators via their blog:

[http://
regionjsenators.wordpress.com/
contact-us/](http://regionjsenators.wordpress.com/contact-us/)

RCT Corner

Our next RCT teleconference is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15th at 5pm AK time/6pm Pacific. See Upcoming Events section for call in info. All collegiate members are invited to participate!

Subscribe to the Region Collegiate Blog - [http://
regionj.wordpress.com/](http://regionj.wordpress.com/)!

Section Reports Section reports were due January 1st. If you haven't submitted your report yet, please do so as soon as you can! Send reports to Elaine. The next report is due March 1st - while we're at conference. Please keep this in mind while you're making travel plans!

Interested in sharing a room during the conference? Check out Facebook for potential roommates!

Get a jump on your job hunt! Submit your resume to [resume4westernregion-
sconf@gmail.com](mailto:resume4westernregion-sconf@gmail.com) before the conference so companies can review them and plan for interviews during the conference.

Two Volunteers Needed! On the Friday afternoon of the conference, there will be an outreach event for local high school students. Part of the event is a collegiate panel to give the high school students an opportunity to ask

collegiates about college and engineering. The panel is scheduled for 3 to 4 pm on Friday.

If you are interested in participating, please contact [Alice Orrell](mailto:Alice.Orrell).

Outstanding Items We have contacted sections about missing information. Our goal is to help get you back in good standing with the Society and to help keep you there. If you have any questions outside the items we've contacted you about, please let us know.

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Ideas? We want them all! Contact Melissa.

Leadership Coaching Committee

Region J leadership coach, Tamaira Ross, will be attending the upcoming Western Regions Conference.

At the conference -The leadership coaches from regions A, B and J have several sessions planned

in which you can get answers to your questions about succession planning, creating diverse sections, and general SWE leadership topics.

There will be drop-in clinics available for individual coaching also.

Survey Says The Region J section presidents should have received a note about a survey concerning leadership coaching. Please respond so Tamaira and Joan can serve your sections better.

Senate Update

Bylaws Amendments - There are five bylaws amendments posted on the [Bylaws Amendment Community](http://BylawsAmendmentCommunity) for you to review. Your input is needed; please send questions and comments

to our senators this month to help them prepare for their February meeting. The amendments are S1209-S1215.

Our senators will send out more information about

these amendments through your section presidents and representatives. You can also subscribe to their blog. See Region Communications section on page 3 for details.



Shout Outs

Congratulations to the following Region J members for their efforts and recognition in their communities!

Linda Thomas was named 2012 Industry Engineer of the Year by

the Puget Sound Engineering Council Awards Committee.

Melissa Branch was named 2011 Engineer of the Year by SWE Greatland as part of the local E-Week activities (to

be presented on February 25th)

Stephanie Mormilo (SWE Greatland) was named one of the Alaska Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Top 40 Under 40 (to be presented March 8th)

"You are not here merely to make a living.

You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement.

You are here to enrich the world, and to impoverish yourself if you forget the errand."

~ Woodrow Wilson

Volunteer Opportunities

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

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

Mentor Program Coordinator With the mentorship/leadership pipeline program coming to fruition this fiscal year, we need a volunteer to coordinate this effort for the team.

Time to Invent Club: Volunteers Needed Innovation and invention are cornerstones of American society, but not all young people have role models to open doors in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). To help meet this need, WGBH (Boston's PBS station) and the Lemelson Foundation launched an exciting invention-based mentoring program called the Time to Invent Club in 2009. The program places STEM professionals and college students in afterschool sites once a week to co-lead an hour-long program. Working with a group of fifth

graders, the mentors use a stepped-out curriculum that inspires underserved youth to explore invention. We are currently looking for volunteers to serve as mentors for an 8-10 week program beginning in February 2012 at afterschool sites in Massachusetts, Oregon, and Indiana. For more information, visit www.timetoinvent.org. If interested, please contact Liza Goldstein: liza_goldstein@wgbh.org or (617)-300-3642.

Collegiate Panel at Conference - Volunteers Needed . See RCT Corner on page 8 for more info.

What's That Mean?

SWE uses a lot of acronyms. Do you know what they all mean?

Here's a quick guide to the acronyms used in this newsletter:

E-Week

Engineers Week

FY

fiscal year

GRPP

Government Relations and Public Policy Committee

MAL

Members-at-large

MOU

Memorandum of Understanding

RCT

Region Collegiate Team

RCR

Region Collegiate Representative

RCCE

Region Collegiate Communications Editor

RCS

Region Collegiate Senator

STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

SWE

Society of Women Engineers



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.



Visit www.swe.org for more information.



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 |



Important Region J Dates

| | Dates | Activity |
|----------------|-----------|--|
| 2011 | 30-Jul | FY11 Financial Reports Due (Section and Region) |
| | 27-28 Aug | Region ABJ Fall Meeting (Orange County, CA) |
| | 10-Sep | Section Report Due |
| | 12-15 Oct | Society Conference (Chicago, IL) |
| | 10-Nov | Section Report Due |
| | 15-Nov | IRS Filing Due (E-postcard if < \$25k) |
| | 2012 | 10-Jan |
| 15-Feb | | Region J Award Submission Due (Tentative) |
| 29-Feb - 3-Mar | | 2012 Western Regions Joint Conference (Honolulu, HI) |
| 10-Mar | | Section Report Due |
| 31-Mar | | Society Individual Award Applications Due |
| 1-Apr | | Region J Elections Start |
| 10-May | | Section Report Due |
| 1-Jul | | Society Section Award Applications Due |



Region J Newsletter Editor
Melissa Branch
greatlandgirl@gmail.com

Please send ideas and info for future newsletters to Melissa. Comments and feedback are also appreciated.