Top 10 Ways to Prepare for Finals

1. Start early
2. Get some sleep
3. Eat a good meal beforehand
4. Do a little bit of everything each day
5. Make use of your resources - use test banks and go to review sessions
6. Study with others
7. Take breaks
8. Limit Internet surfing time
9. Apply de-stressing techniques learned from the GM!
10. Think positive

Think Positive! How to put #10 of the Top 10 List in Action

By Stacy Ma

Finals are just around the corner. As you pour over your readers, notes, and textbooks, begging for something to go into your brain and stay there, you’re slowly giving up hope. No matter how many hours you spend locked away in the library, it seems like you’re not absorbing anything. Slowly those thoughts of self-doubt begin seeping in.

Most students experience this panic with finals season in the horizon but did you know those negative thoughts could be the cause of ineffective studying? Recent studies have shown a strong correlation between one’s mindset and performance academically. Apparently, by having a set view of how intelligent one is can prevent growth in learning. Those thoughts of “why am I so stupid that I can’t understand this” could actually be the root of all the frustration. Instead, try to push out all the negativity and be optimistic about your studying and finals. This attitude might be hard given the circumstances but know that positive thinking will put you in a better mood and help make all those hours pouring over notes so much more effective. Remember that it is just another test and you can do it.

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Evening with Industry
By Mara Minner

On Thursday, November 10, SWE hosted one of its biggest events of the year—the annual Evening With Industry. The event was held at HS Lordships, the restaurant overlooking the beautiful Berkeley Marina.

The night started off with a career fair, and attendees had the chance to talk to representatives from Cisco, Chevron, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, among many others. After an interesting and inspirational keynote address by Ginna Raahauge, one of Cisco’s leaders in Information Technology, the dinner banquet began. Participants enjoyed entrees of shrimp, chicken, or pasta, and delicious cheesecake for dessert. During this time, students had the opportunity to talk to the reps in a more personal setting about anything from their job duties to their hobbies and interests to current happenings in the world.

In addition to valuable professional experience, EWI offered students some time to unwind from school. The moonlit Marina provided a calming atmosphere, and talking with friends and meeting new people while enjoying a high-quality dinner was a great way to kick off the 3-day weekend. If you missed out, be sure to check out Evening With Industry next fall.

Ir-Resistor-able Jewelry
by Amy Tsai

One of the most anticipated SWE events of the semester, Ir-resistor-able Jewelry night took place on November 22nd in Wozniak Lounge. There was a treasure trove of multicolored resistors, capacitors, LED’s, and beads for everyone to sift through. Once everyone had gathered the supplies needed to fulfill their artistic vision, the cutting, bending and soldering began. Creating “ir-resistor-able” jewelry was not only a test of the SWE member’s dexterity but also their patience. Frustrated sounds filled the room as solder refused to melt and wire bent and broke the wrong ways. However, all of the hard work and patience paid off as the SWE member’s proudly took home their finished products which included resistor dangle earrings, resistor flower necklaces and even a resistor bear. It was definitely a good break from studying and a fun start to the Thanksgiving break for everyone.

Inter-Societal Dancing by Anran Li

This past month, SWE hosted two fun and interactive dancing socials. First, on November 13th, our members learned swing dancing from the SwingCal group with PTS and TBP. Then, on November 18th, SWE and HKN members shared a pleasant night through swing and salsa dancing taught by the UC Ballroom Dancers. First, instructors from the dance organizations demoed moves and guided event participants through the steps. Then, the attendees practiced these steps with their partners. Everyone had to switch partners every few moves to ensure that each participant met someone new that night. Overall, the swing and ballroom dancing socials were both extremely exciting and successful. The funniest part of the nights was probably when guys had to dance with other guys due to the lack of girls. It was quite cute and humorous! By the end of both socials, SWE members went home with new skills and new friends.
A project manager, a software engineer, and a hardware engineer are helping out on a project. About midweek they decide to walk up and down the beach during their lunch hour. Halfway up the beach, they stumbled upon a lamp. As they rub the lamp a genie appears and says "Normally I would grant you three wishes, but since there are three of you, I will grant you each one wish." The hardware engineer went first. "I would like to spend the rest of my life living in a huge house in St. Thomas with no money worries." The genie granted him his wish and sent him off to St. Thomas. The software engineer went next. "I would like to spend the rest of my life living on a huge yacht cruising the Mediterranean with no money worries." The genie granted him his wish and sent him off to the Mediterranean. Last, but not least, it was the project manager's turn. "And what would your wish be?" asked the genie. "I want them both back after lunch" replied the project manager.
SWE CLCC Collegiate Leadership Summit By Cassie Janakos

The SWE Collegiate Leadership Summit held by the SWE Collegiate Leadership Coaching Committee was a huge success! On Sunday, November 20th 45 SWE members and women in engineering came together from 7 universities in the Bay Area to develop their SWE leadership skills and work on their professional development. Throughout the day there were leadership modules, a panel of women in engineering, a special module on mentoring and a networking social. The summit was funded by Lockheed Martin and Agilent Technologies, with representation from Abbott Laboratories, Intel and various other local engineering companies. This event was centered around women in engineering and is an annual event hosted by SWE Collegiate Leadership Coaching Committee (CLCC), which is on the societal level of SWE. Thank you for all the support from the UC Berkeley SWE Section and if you missed out this year, be sure to sign up next year! If you have any questions about the summit please contact the team lead, Cassi Janakos at cjanakos@gmail.com.

Letter from the Editor

Dear Fellow SWE Members,

With finals drawing closer and the end of the semester almost upon us, the PR committee has put together a newsletter geared towards preparing for the final stretch. Remember that although the next few weeks may seem like they are going to be the most important moments in your life, the memories you’ve made this semester, full of exciting events and amazing people, are infinitely more significant. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

It’s been a pleasure being your editor, and I hope to see all of you again come spring. Until then, best of luck on your finals and have a fantastic winter break!

Cheers,
Amy

December Calendar

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For times, locations, and absolute up-to-date information on future events, please visit swe.berkeley.edu/calendar.