To My Dearest SWEople,

I hope you all had a wonderful winter break and a happy new year! To those of you returning members, I want to say welcome back and thank you for making SWE such a success last semester. For those of you who are new to SWE, thank you for taking the time to join us.

If there is one thing I have learned from my three and a half years here it is that college is all about creating new experiences. So this semester, I would like to challenge you all to try something different. It can be anything, whether it’s speaking up in discussion or lecture, auditioning for a jazz combo, or signing up for a class that doesn’t fill a requirement. Whatever the task, no matter how big or small, just get out there and step outside of your comfort zone.

And if you’re scared, don’t worry. We all are. College is a daunting place. And so is the world. But that’s what we’re here for. That’s what organizations like SWE are around to help you do: learn to conquer the world in your own way. From personal experience, I can say that taking a risk is both exhilarating and rewarding, and getting involved with SWE is an easy way to do it. Heck, you’re already doing it by just reading this letter!

There are so many ways to get involved with SWE and to create that new experience. You can join a committee, join a house, take on a leadership role, make a new friend, learn to ballroom dance, sing at a karaoke event, the list is endless! If there is something you want to try, we can help you do it. I hope you all find time and reason to make SWE a part of your lives here at Berkeley as I have because it is a one of a kind experience that I will never forget.

Hope to see you around,
Amy

Shadow an Engineer by Carmen Tang

Shadowing in NASA Ames Research Center was such a memorable and awe-inspiring experience. I’m so glad I took this opportunity to see all these people operate and manage a spacecraft! It’s pretty awe-inspiring how computer science can be used for such impacting projects.

If you missed this break SAE, don’t worry! Next Shadow an Engineer will be this Spring! :)

Calendar

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SWE Fall Semester Banquet
By Nana Low

Wrapping up the 2013 Fall Semester on December 12, Society of Women Engineer’s annual dinner was held at Racha Café. As an invitation only event extended to the chapter’s National members and outstanding individuals who had contributed significantly contributed to the organization, the dinner was completely sponsored by the club. In addition, the top 2 leading SWE Houses (House FBRD and TYTO House) and top 8 individual top point scorers were given awards. The delicious food selection, buffet style and free for all invitees, included Thai dishes that made both vegetarians and meat lovers quiver in delight—Crispy Tofu Salad, Pad Thai, Pad Khing, Pad Se Ew, and others to just name a few.

Interested in a chance to be eligible for this exclusive event Spring semester? One can either get a National Membership (Collegiate to Career-C2C) or join a House, earn points, and become a top scorer.
SWE Houses (SWE Houses and Harry Potter)
By Nana Low
Last semester, SWE implemented a new membership program which included 4 Houses, a point system, 80+ Housemates, and many more ways to meet more SWE sisters based on interests. The Houses are led by House Heads and are comprised of several members of the current officer core. Each House characterizes themselves by certain unique traits and objectives.

2013-2014 Houses:
[A]dventure House led by Head Heather Hughes
House FBRD led by Head Joanna Wu
House of Entropy led by Head Mara Minner
TYTO House led by Heads Denise Doan and Allie Stoyanova

But do not mistaken that joining a House is the same as becoming involved in a committee. Houses focus on the social aspect of SWE including benefits like having officer mentor(s) and bonding with more members with the same interests as you because we hope that your house becomes your family at Cal and SWE.

Interested in joining a House? Visit SWE.Berkeley.edu and select your House preferences. For any further questions or if you would like to know more about the program, ask Membership Director Nana Low or President Amy Zhang.
**Top 10 Ways to Get Involved with SWE in 2014**

By Heather Hughes

1.) Join a committee and participate actively
2.) Join a house and participate actively
3.) Attend our four general meetings
4.) Attend info-sessions and other corporate events
5.) Attend socials
6.) Register as a SWE national member
7.) Respond to SWE facebook event invitations
8.) Apply for an officer position at the end of the school year
9.) Recruit a friend to come check out SWE
10.) Have fun and make friends in SWE!

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Happy New 2014! Happy new semester and we hope to see you around in our upcoming events!

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**CALENDAR**

January / February 2014

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**For times, location, and up to date information on future events, please visit swe.berkeley.edu/calendar or our Facebook page.**