

Events to Watch for in the Fall:

FRESHMEN BRUNCH

Sunday, September 20, 2009

INDUSTRY DAY

Thursday, October 15, 2009

6:00pm at the Hilton Garden Inn

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

October 15, 16, and 17th, 2009

Long Beach, CA

NU SWE

Summer's Here!

Have a Great Summer!

It's been a great 2008- 2009 academic year. Enjoy all of your plans this summer and come back in the fall ready to get more involved in SWE! But until then, enjoy the beach!



Member of the Month

Congratulations to Natalie Murray, May's Member of the Month!

Natalie was recognized by several of her fellow SWEeties and here's what two of them had to say:

"Natalie has been very involved in SWE this quarter, attending the general meeting, Spring Banquet, and joining the summer program committee. Natalie also has extreme dedication to her EDC project, spending hours in Ford meeting with different group members and working on the project herself. She does all of this with an extremely cool head, never getting stressed or overwhelmed by the tasks she has to do."

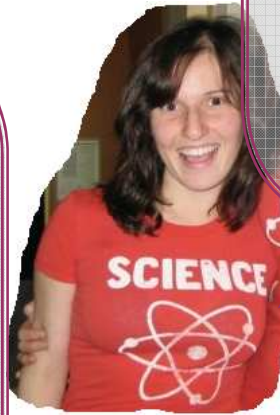
"Natalie is very involved on campus, but the reason I want to highlight her as member of the month is for the great work she is doing on an EDC project about designing a new water container for Mountaineering enthusiasts. I assisted her group with user testing, and was exceptionally impressed by Natalie's organizational skills, sharp mind for design, and passion for engineering. This is a challenging project for a group with no access to mountains, let alone large user testing groups of mountaineers. As the only woman in the group, it looks like Natalie is holding her own on a tough project!"

What some of our SWEeties are doing this Summer:

"I am going to be working in Minneapolis, MN at a company called Medisyn. Medisyn works with math algorithms to discover and test new drugs. Specifically they are working on Alzheimer and pain medication at the moment. They also have projects going on biospheres (which they are hoping to apply to the US Marines submarines) and fertilizers/crop production."



"I got a \$6000 research grant from CRA-W, to do the Distributed Research Experiences for Undergraduates. I'll be doing research at the University of Washington in Seattle on distributed systems. The program is meant to match prominent women in academia with undergraduate female computer science majors to encourage us to pursue work in the field and to get a taste for research."



I'm starting my co-op with Kimley-Horn & Associates, a civil engineering firm. I'll be working in their Atlanta office, which is home for me, so I'm really excited to spend the summer with my family and old friends. I'll be in the transportation group, but the office also has a land development group, a water group, etc. so I will get to learn about different aspects of the civil engineering field. Before I start work, though, I get to spend some time in Telluride, Colorado enjoying the great outdoors and volunteering at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival. I can't wait!

-Madiston Fitzpatrick



This summer I will be doing my first quarter of co-op at Fenwal Blood Technologies, a company in Lake Zurich, IL that specializes in blood collection and transfusion equipment. I will be in the research and development department working on materials that come in contact with the body.

-Fei Yin Luk



STEP this Summer

This summer, SWE is proud to be having it's 2nd annual STEP program for Middle School Girls. It's a 3-day summer program that allows girls going into grades 8 and 9 an introduction to the different fields of engineering. Each year the program has a different theme that the projects are focused around. Last year's theme was centered around design, while this year's is centered around sustainability and going green. In line with this theme, there will be an ecology grad student on the staff this year. Her background will bring something very new and different to the table. We're also increasing the number of lab tours and having a greater hands on focus in the planning.

The programming this year reflects the theme in a series of sustainable and very fun projects. One of the many design activities this year will be putting together solar powered robots. Girls will also make solar cells out of cranberry juice, and designing green roofs. Additionally, there will be a field trip to the Chicago Center for Green Technology to attend a tour of the site and learn about green living.

This program is a more intensive subprogram of SWE's annual Career Day for Girls to get younger girls more interested in Engineering, and it seems to be working. Jess Swenson, the heart and soul of this program for the past two years, says her favorite part about the program is, "the last day, when we sit down and discuss what they've learned over the week. When the girls speak, they show how inspired they are by this program, and how they see engineering as a career opportunity. Each finds their own inspiration and connection to some activity in the program, and listening to them talk about their plans for the future is what I do this program for".

This year 24 girls from the area will attend STEP, and increase from the 24 last year.

Announcements:

Want to write for the Newsletter? Lindsay will be having a Newsletter Committee to write all future Newsletters. You can be only as active as you want to be and get a chance to write about the latest events in tech!

Contact Lindsay at l-janes@u.northwestern.edu if interested!

Renew National Membership! Make sure to either renew your membership or register to become a national member in June! It's only \$25 for scholarship opportunities!

Have a great Summer!

