



Division for Advancement of Women in Engineering and Geoscience

The EDGE Newsletter: December 2005 Issue

Equity and Diversity in Geoscience & Engineering

<http://apeg.bc.ca/daweg>

### Message from the Board

Dear DAWEG Members,

Happy Holiday Season from DAWEG Board members! 2006 is DAWEG's 15th anniversary - look for celebration events in the New Year!



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DAWEG Board

### Upcoming Events

#### 1. Victoria "Chapter" Meeting- Dec. 30, 2005

Learn more about the "Chapter's" activities by joining the current Vancouver Island network at the next meeting.

When: Dec 30th at 1:30pm

Where: Rebar Restaurant  
([www.rebarmodernfood.com](http://www.rebarmodernfood.com))

#### 2. Board Meeting- Jan. 5, 2006

The next DAWEG Board meeting will be open to DAWEG volunteers and Members who wish to join the Board members in discussion of DAWEG's business.

If you would like to attend, please email Monica Feng, Administration Director, by noon on Tuesday Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
([monicafeng@yahoo.com](mailto:monicafeng@yahoo.com))

When: Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 6pm - 8pm

Where: APEGBC Boardroom, 4010 Regent St., Burnaby, BC (Map at <http://apeg.bc.ca/aboutus/contactus.html>)

### Board News

#### 3. November Board Planning Retreat Brief

- Focus for 2005-2006 will be to identify (with Member input) the short- and long-term direction for DAWEG and increase Member participation in DAWEG activities, including volunteering for Board positions.
- Related research program will build on the Member priorities identified at the AGM, including increased electronic resources such as Member Directory, samples of existing equity and diversity policies at places of work, etc.
- DAWEG-organized events for Members will be limited to the Christmas and Summer Socials, Salary Seminar, AGM, DAWEG Stream at APEGBC Annual Conference, and possibly participation in a sporting event (e.g., Science Fair Run).

- DAWEG will raise the profile of Women in Engineering and Geoscience at events such as Engineering Week's E-Fest, and sponsor representatives to attend the CCWESTT Conference.
- Events organized in the Okanagan and Victoria regions will continue to be supported.
- The Board will continue on improving the quality and frequency of communication with Members, including improvements to the website, and a facelift to DAWEG's display booth.
- The recurring theme in all of DAWEG's activities this year will be the celebration of its 15th Anniversary.

After a morning of hard work and productivity, Board Members and volunteers enjoyed tasty Mexican dishes for lunch and 2 strings of 5-pin bowling.



*Bowling after the November DAWEG retreat*

#### 4. December Board Meeting Brief

The Board has begun organizing the upcoming Salary Seminar (tentatively Feb. 23), and planning for our 15th Anniversary celebrations (tentatively during the Summer Social) and for our 2006 AGM. The Budget for 2005-2006 was adopted, and draft sponsorship package for raising funds for DAWEG) reviewed. A policy and communications logistics for establishing regional DAWEG Chapters was discussed as the revival of a Victoria Chapter and the start-up of an Okanagan Chapter become more of reality with various events recently being organized in both areas. The draft Communications Plan for DAWEG was

reviewed. The meeting closed with a discussion about DAWEG's support for this year's nomination for the CCPE Award for the Support of Women in the Engineering Profession.

#### Past Events

##### 5. Okanagan Summer & Christmas Socials

After some cajoling and great organization from Darlene, a few engineers and geoscientists of the female persuasion got together at Ricardo's in Lake Country in September for conversation, jazz and other 'nutrients'. It was great to meet local professional women and socialize with people that 'like' to talk about 'how things work'.

At that gathering we decided to meet again in December and Sandy and Nicole arranged a snowshoeing expedition at Silver Star. This event was wonderful, with 10 women showing up in the brisk wintry night to tromp around the hill and then imbibe and chat at Sandy's afterward. Again, it was wonderful to meet ore professionals and just get the sense that we could very well be a support network for whoever has the need. We talked about getting together in February again, but the date, time and place has not yet been decided. Whoever decides to plan this event will be in touch with DAWEG and APEGBC to announce the particulars.

From the beautiful Okanagan, happy holidays and best wishes for a prosperous and memory-filled new year!!

##### 6. APEGBC Annual Conference

In October DAWEG hosted the Better Business stream of the APEGBC Annual Conference in Richmond. Topics included Networking for Success, Panel Discussion: Sustainability & Better Business, Negotiating Salaries & Fees - Advocating for Yourself, and How to Interpret and Get the

Most Out of Your Financial Statements. Please see the following link for more information:

[http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/ac05/pro\\_dev/better\\_business.html#fri](http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/ac05/pro_dev/better_business.html#fri)

## 7. Vancouver Christmas Social

Nine of us gathered to celebrate the Christmas Season on November 25 at the APEGBC offices. The room was brightly decorated as we feasted on diverse dishes and socialized. The two door prize winners won one copy each of "Becoming Leaders: A Handbook for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology." Our charity drive for our family, Nancy and Michael, was very successful and we'll be helping them to have a wonderful Christmas this year (please see the following link for more details)!

<http://batman.mech.ubc.ca/~daweg/events/past.html>

Thanks to everyone who helped, donated, and came out, and we'll see all of you next year!



*DAWEG members & friends at the Christmas Potluck Social*

## 8. Victoria "Chapter" Meeting

The revival of the DAWEG Victoria "Chapter" started on Friday November 25 with a meeting

of 5 DAWEG members from Greater Victoria. The first "Chapter" activity will be a Salary Seminar for students from Camosun College and the University of Victoria, in March 2006.

## Other

### 9. Regional Chapters

As activities in the Okanagan and Victoria regions increase, the creation of Regional Chapters is being considered. APEGBC Members, particularly female, in these regions interested in getting together with other DAWEG Members are encouraged to contact Nicole Kohnert in the Okanagan, [nicole.kohnert@nord.ca](mailto:nicole.kohnert@nord.ca), and the Victoria contact is to come (in the meantime, please contact the DAWEG Board at [dawegaccount@hotmail.com](mailto:dawegaccount@hotmail.com)).

DAWEG activities in other regions around BC are also encouraged and will be supported.

### 10. School Visit Opportunities

Have you ever wanted to share your real life work experiences with students? How about a chance to get students excited about engineering? Science World has a program called Science World's Scientist and Innovators in the Schools (SIS) where you can do just that! Sign up to become a volunteer, let them know what you would like to talk about and to which age group(s), and they will match you with schools requesting presenters. Expenses are reimbursed.

Contact: [sisinfo@ScienceWorld.ca](mailto:sisinfo@ScienceWorld.ca)

Website: [http://www.scienceworld.bc.ca/teachers\\_outreach/in\\_your\\_community/scientistsandinnovators.htm](http://www.scienceworld.bc.ca/teachers_outreach/in_your_community/scientistsandinnovators.htm)

Making Engineering and Geoscience Appealing, Rewarding and Equitable for women so that women are attracted to and are practicing at all levels in our profession.