



The EDGE Newsletter: August 2006 Issue

Equity and Diversity in Geoscience & Engineering

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

Message from the Board

Dear DAWEG Members,

The DAWEG fiscal year end is fast approaching, but before we hand off the reins to the new Board of Directors, we look forward to celebrating our 15th Year Anniversary with you, getting feedback from you to our survey, and closing the year with you (and beginning the next) at the AGM. See details for all of these below. Happy Summer to You All!

DAWEG Board

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Board News

1. Aug. Board Meeting Brief

At our August meeting, we reviewed the current candidates list for Board positions for next year, and would like to encourage all Members to consider running for a Board position as we would like to combine some fresh ideas and energy on the Board with the experience of the current Directors. We are also presently discussing taking a one-year or longer hiatus from DAWEG activities if an insufficient number of Board Directors volunteer for running the Division in 2006/07, as we have experienced this year. If you would like to give input on this option, please contact the Board at dawegaccount@hotmail.com, or attend the next DAWEG Board meeting on September 11.

Along with this succession planning, we continued to plan the upcoming Summer Social & 15th Year Anniversary, and the AGM (see below for more info). We now have an updated website, and we are working on developing an online registration and renewal system for DAWEG Members who cannot register/renew through the annual APEGBC renewal system (which is the preferred method for the Board - i.e. most streamlined and efficient). We are also working on fundraising, with the current objective to offset the cost of attending the AGM for you, our Members. If you can assist with encouraging your firm or organization to sponsor DAWEG, it would be of great assistance to us! For more information on sponsoring DAWEG, visit <http://batman.mech.ubc.ca/~daweg/sponsorship.html>



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2. Board Succession Planning - Board Opportunities

Get involved!
Get experienced!
Get a new network!

If you have organizational, management, and/or communication skills, web (intermediate HTML) skills, bookkeeping and/or fundraising skills, or if you would like an opportunity to develop any of these skills, we would like to hear from you!

We are currently recruiting for the Vice Chair position, as well as seeking candidates for Director, Mentoring and for a new position next year, Director, Geoscience. Other positions that have potential candidates are still open as well.

Board elections at our AGM (Annual General Meeting) in September. Non-Board volunteers also sought!

For information on responsibilities and time commitments, please visit our website http://batman.mech.ubc.ca/~daweg/docs/2006-2007_Board_Positions.pdf

Reasons to Join the Board:

1. An opportunity to learn how an organization works.
2. Ability to influence the direction of an organization.
3. Ability to influence what goes on in the world.
4. An opportunity to expand your network.
5. An opportunity to develop skills invaluable to your day job.
6. Increased potential for career advancement.
7. Training ground for Board positions in other organizations.
8. An opportunity to go places you wouldn't otherwise go.
9. An opportunity to make good friends and allies.
10. An opportunity to gain recognition in the profession.

Interested Members are invited to submit an expression of interest (1-2 paragraphs)

indicating related experience, if any, and a resume to dawegaccount@hotmail.com, to the attention of Maggie Wojtarowicz, E.I.T., DAWEG Chair, by September 1, 2006.

Upcoming Events

3. Summer Social - DAWEG 15-year Anniversary Celebration - August 30, 2006

The DAWEG Board invites you and a guest to come and celebrate DAWEG's 15-year Anniversary during this year's Summer Social. Bring your spouse, a friend or a work colleague (or two!) to enjoy a succulent meal and wonderful company at the Macaroni Grill on Davie Street downtown. Come with memories of DAWEG from the past 15 years to share with the group.

We'd like to put together a "Trip Down the Memory Lane" photo album, and we need your help with DAWEG photos from over the years. If you have some in print or electronically, please email them or make arrangements to send or scan them in with Megan, Communications Director, at dawegaccount@hotmail.com.

When: Wednesday, August 30, 2006
5:30-6:00 No-Host Bar, Appetizers on DAWEG & Networking
6:00-8:00 Dinner

Where: Macaroni Grill, 1523 Davie St.
See map at: <http://www.macgrillbc.com/vancouver/map/index.html>

Bus #6, #C23
Bike-accessible

If driving, \$6 valet parking starts at 5:45 pm.
Street parking - watch the signs for restrictions.
Metered parking a block or two away.

Cost:
Members & Guests: \$35, Students & Members on Parental Leave: \$25
Register by Aug. 26

Registration: Online through APEGBC website



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

www.apeg.bc.ca/event (or visit www.apeg.bc.ca/branches.html, and click on "Branch/Division Event Online Registration")

Organized by the DAWEG Board

Please contact us at dawegaccount@hotmail.com if you have any questions, or need assistance with registering.

4. DAWEG AGM - Sept. 21, 2006

AGM Theme: Paths to Success in Engineering Panel presentation regarding how an engineering education and jobs can evolve into a wide range of career opportunities including academic, managerial, technical specialists, owning your own business, and consulting opportunities.

When: Thursday, September 21, 2006
5:30 - 9:00 pm

Agenda:

5:30 - 6:30 Registration/Hors d'oeuvres / Networking

6:30 - 7:45 DAWEG Business - Welcome Address, Board Report, Elections

7:45 - 8:00 Outstanding Achievement Award Presentation

8:00 - 8:50 Guest Speaker Panel Presentation: "Paths to Success in Engineering"

8:50 - 9:00 Closing Remarks & Acknowledgment of Sponsors

Where: Science World, "The Boardroom"

See map at:

http://www.scienceworld.bc.ca/general_information/hours_rates_location/location.htm

Near Main Street SkyTrain Station

Pay Parking on site

Bike accessible (use a heavy duty lock)

Sign up for or renew your DAWEG membership at the AGM and receive a \$5 discount on the new membership fee valid to Dec. 2007!

Cost:

* Early bird (until Sep. 8)

Members: \$40, Students & Members on Parental Leave: \$25, Non-Members \$50

* Regular (after Sep. 8 to Sep. 20)

Members: \$50, Students & Members on Parental Leave: \$35, Non-Members \$60

Registration: Online through APEGBC website

www.apeg.bc.ca/event (or visit www.apeg.bc.ca/branches.html, and click on "Branch/Division Event Online Registration")

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Please contact us at

dawegaccount@hotmail.com if you have any questions, or need assistance with registering.

Other

5. DAWEG Member Survey

The DAWEG Board is conducting a survey of its members in order to better serve you. We would like to know what you want from DAWEG, and how to make the organization work for you; which services you are interested in, and how to deliver them; and which topics interest you as a professional.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey, which can be found at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=258022396806>

If you provide your name and email address at the end of the survey you will be entered in our draw for a pair of DAWEG AGM (Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006) tickets!

We will do the draw on September 1st so make sure you fill in the survey before then!

6. Outstanding Achievement Award

This year DAWEG is celebrating its 15th anniversary. We are taking this opportunity to recognise a member of the community with an Outstanding Achievement Award for volunteer work, leadership, and support efforts made to the engineering and geoscience communities

within the past 15 years that align with DAWEG's core values of Professionalism, Equity, and Inclusiveness.

Please go to <http://batman.mech.ubc.ca/~daweg/events/> for more Information about the award and the nomination process and for the award nomination form.

7. DAWEG Sponsorship key to ROV Chix Success

Submitted by: Monica and Peter Thain

The ROV Chix – the DAWEG sponsored all-girl Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) design team – won second place in the Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) 2006 International ROV Design Competition. The Competition highlighted the new and dynamic world of ocean observing systems and the careers, organizations and technologies associated with ocean observatories. The goals of the Competition were to increase awareness of marine technology fields and to encourage students to participate in them. The Competition was held at the Johnson Space Center's Neutral Bouyancy Lab, Houston Texas June 23-25.

The ROV Chix are five home school students who participated in an innovative ROV based Science Program, taught by Peter Thain, Science Co-ordinator, White Rock Christian Home Educators (WRCHE).

DAWEG has been a key sponsor for all-girl ROV teams, which have won first, second and third place honours at the ROV Competitions over the last five years. Beckie-Anne Thain, ROV Chix mentor and winner of the 2003 ROV Design Competition said "Without DAWEG's support and encouragement a number of girls would never have experienced the challenge of hands on engineering and the thrill of international competition."

ROVs play a critical role in the installation of ocean observatories. The team designed, built

and operated two ROVs – Everest and C.I.D. Their mission: the installation of an underwater observatory. ROV Everest transported a large electronics module from the surface and inserted it into the Observatory frame. To accomplish the mission, Everest was equipped with a pneumatic module latching system. The mission of ROV C.I.D. was to open the door of the frame, insert a power connector into the electronics module and pull a pin to release a buoy. C.I.D. was equipped with a suction tool to grab the connector and a hook for releasing the buoy and opening the frame door.



L-R: Madeleine Gawthrop, Jessica O'Sullivan, Lindsey Gorman, captain, Beckie-Anne Thain, mentor, Rebekah Pickard and Caroline Dearden

To gain a berth in the invitation-only International ROV Design Competition, the team competed against nine other teams to win the first Pacific NorthWest ROV Design Competition in Seattle in May 2006. In Houston the team broke the record for the fastest completed mission in the history of the ROV Competition. Forty-four teams from across North America and Asia competed for honours in the Neutral Buoyancy Lab Pool. Astronauts train in the 6.3 million gallon pool for Shuttle and Space Station missions.

Building two robotic systems posed a number of challenges for the students. At times the

challenges of the project were overwhelming. "Before the PNW Competition, the whole team really struggled. We quit three times. This was something none of us had really tried before and it was a bit overwhelming" Lindsey Gorman, the team captain said.

Highlights for the girls included an invitation from Bob Curtis, Oceaneering International, to train on MIMIC – Oceaneering's \$15 million ROV

training Simulator. Their training mission: install oxygen scrubbers on a disabled nuclear submarine. Besides winning second place, the team enjoyed dancing the night away with Max Q, the NASA astronaut band headed up by the Canadian Space Agency's Chris Hatfield.

Thank you DAWEG!

