



**Division for the Advancement
of Women in
Engineering & Geoscience**

The EDGE Newsletter – September 2007 Issue

** Equity and Diversity in Geoscience & Engineering **

Dear DAWEG Members,

We look forward to seeing you at September 27th Annual General Meeting.

We are still looking for Board candidates for: Finance, Administration, Membership, Events, and Internationally Trained Engineers. We have volunteers interested in assisting Directors in these areas but we need candidates for the Director positions. Please email us with your interests or questions at dawegaccount@hotmail.com.

DAWEG Board

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BOARD NEWS

1. September Board Meeting Brief

At our final regular Board meeting for the year, we adopted our revised Strategic Plan, and discussed our roster of potential Board candidates and volunteers for next year, identifying our needs for Directors of Finance, Events, Administration, Membership and Internationally Trained Engineers. We also discussed the idea of strengthening the past Board members network, and will be sending a survey to ask for input on how these members would like to achieve this. We are in the process of wrapping up our financials and drafting a budget for next year. Our fundraising efforts have generated several new sponsors for DAWEG, while past sponsors have been approached for renewed support. We discussed the need for benefits and drawbacks of engaging a professional bookkeeper for next year, and while it is preferred for a Director to carry out those duties, the next Board will make the final decision on how to best utilize the time and skills of our volunteers. We will also be consulting with our Chapters about Chapter operational guidelines. The AGM organization is in full swing, with details below. DAWEG will once again be sponsoring a few active members to participate in the DAWEG Stream at the APEGBC Annual Conference and AGM. We look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming DAWEG AGM on Sep 27th, and would like to thank you for your support this year and in the future. It is a pleasure working for you and for us!

UPCOMING EVENTS

2. Annual General Meeting

Save the date for this year's DAWEG AGM!

Theme: Celebrating Successes

When: Thursday, September 27, 2007

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

6:30-7:45 pm DAWEG Business (reports, new Director elections, notice of upcoming events)

7:45-9:00 pm "Celebrating Successes" Panel Presentations

Where: Science World (Main Street SkyTrain Station, paid parking available)

Door Prize: You could win one of two tickets from our newest sponsor, Investors Group, to "Power Within for Women" on November 6, 2007 featuring Hillary Swank!!!



Registration until September 26th at www.apeg.bc.ca/event. Non-members and new members welcome! Please contact Saghi at saghik2000@yahoo.com if you have any questions, or need any assistance with registering.

Cost:

Members: \$45

Students/Parental Leave/In between Jobs: \$30

Non-members: \$60

MEN & WOMEN WELCOME

Elections of New Board Members:

Interested candidates for Board positions are encouraged to contact the current Board to indicate interest. For more information about Board's activities and responsibilities, as well as profiles of current Board members, see http://batman.mech.ubc.ca/~daweg/board_candidate_info.html.

"Celebrating Successes" Panel Speakers:

- Diana Klein, P.Eng., Eco-Integration Sustainability Consultant, "Green Bricks" Program with DAWEG

- Janet Benjamin, P.Eng., Principal of Janet Benjamin & Associates, Hybrid Electric Vehicles Consultant, APEG Council Presidential Candidate

3. DAWEG Stream at APEGBC Conference

We are pleased to highlight one of the 4 sessions at this year's DAWEG Stream at APEGBC's Conference in Whistler on Friday, October 26, 2007.

Ms. Bernadette Currie, a Mechanical Engineer and Instructor at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) will join forces with Dr. Sheryl Staub-French, a Civil Engineer and Professor at the University of British Columbia (UBC) as presenters at the conference. They will lead a session on three dimensional computer-aided design (3D CAD). This session is ideal for those interested in learning more about the potential productivity gains of 3D CAD. For those not familiar with computer-aided design, the session promises to be a true eye-opener on the current state of the art computer aided design.

Ms. Bernadette Currie has been an Instructor at BCIT for the past ten years. In the late 80's, she started out in the field of CAD using AutoCAD – computer-aided design that is well suited to all types of technical drawings and many disciplines of engineering. In the last few years Bernadette has shifted away from 2D CAD instruction, and taught courses in 3D parametric modeling as part of BCIT's CAD Programming Post Diploma Program. The creation of a 3D model offers the benefits of rendered images, elevation and plan views from the same drawing database and adds other gains such as feature-based construction cost estimating. The 3D CAD model is also useful in the field of manufacturing, and is part of the Mechanical, Robotics and Automation programs at BCIT. This fall, in addition to teaching parametric modeling at BCIT, Bernadette will take on a new challenge by assisting to teach computer-aided design tools to a group of over 300 undergraduates as part of Simon Fraser University's new Tech One Program at the Surrey campus.

Dr. Sheryl Staub-French is a Civil Engineer and Professor at UBC. She has a research focus on design coordination and constructability reasoning in construction management and takes 3D CAD to the next level by integrating the time element, the fourth dimension. She is able to create an impressive time lapse model from site preparation to completion of a building or structure complete with all elements of construction. Dr. Staub-French was recently awarded an NSERC grant for Advanced Research, Techniques, and Informatics for Future Advantages in Construction Technology (ARTIFACT). The proposed research will examine how future collaborative computer systems can be designed to make it easier for construction professionals to share information across both time and space.

Clearly, 3D CAD has a multitude of both benefits and uses. Join Bernadette Currie and Sheryl Staub-French as they share their expertise and insight on 3D CAD. For more information or to register, please go to <http://www.apeg.bc.ca/ac2007/prodev/betterbusiness.html>.

4. Board Meeting

The September Board meeting was the last regular meeting of the year. A schedule of regular meetings for 2007/2008 will be prepared by the new Board after the September 27 AGM.

5. Summer Coffee Talk

A casual get-together was held on July 27th at 10:30 am in Central Park, Burnaby. The huge playground was enjoyed and we took a short walk to the duck pond. It was very pleasant until my stroller rolled down the hill into a pond and I had to get wet to remove it, luckily no child went for a ride! Never a dull moment! The four women that attended mostly had preschool aged kids, however we had the chance to meet Cynthia Oldham's little one, Annie, who was six months old – never too young to come to coffee talk! At the next one we hope that more mothers will bring their children and new babies to be introduced.

The next coffee talk will likely be morning of Friday, September 21st. If you are interested in joining us, but are not on my distribution list, please email me (Bernadette) at bcurrie@bcit.ca with your contact info.

PAST EVENTS

6. Lower Mainland Summer Social

On August 23, twenty-two DAWEG members and guests celebrated summer with a succulent meal at the Pondok Indonesia restaurant. One of the guests gave us an introduction to our newest sponsor, Investors Group, and its services. We had two winners of two tickets from Investors Group, to "Power Within for Women" on November 6, 2007 featuring Hillary Swank. Memories were created as everyone enjoyed enthusiastic and stimulating conversation over wine and bowls of exotic flavors of Indonesian cuisine. Thanks to everyone who attended and who helped to organize the event!

7. Board Recruitment Info Session

Of the two dozen or so Summer Social guests, about half joined the Board members in sharing information about being on the DAWEG Board and holding various Directorships. We have identified additional volunteers, including our two new Newsletter Editors, Stella Chiu and Dena Vergamini of Dayton & Knight Ltd., who are trying out their role with this issue of The EDGE Newsletter. We have several candidates for the Outreach Director position, a potential candidate for the Finance and Communications position, and are looking for others for the Administration, Membership, Events and Internationally Trained Engineers positions. Bernadette Currie, the current Outreach Director, is our candidate for Chair.

It was quite encouraging to see the interest in volunteering with DAWEG, although we do need a few firmer commitments for Director positions. We would like to emphasize that there is some time commitment involved with being a Director, but the opportunities for developing certain skills and relationships with other professional women in engineering are very valuable and often not provided in the workplace. We encourage members to step up and contribute to this organization while reaping the benefits of active participation.

8. Building Communities Symposium

In planning the program for BCS, DAWEG Board put out a call for workshop presenters and speakers. A handful of DAWEG members and long-time DAWEG supports stepped up and took part in the event. We sincerely thank you for sparing your time, preparing a talk, making the trip up to Loon Lake and sharing your story, expertise and wisdom with the group. We were very pleased with the final program and from the response from the hundred or so attendees, we know that your efforts were worthwhile.

Kudos to Laurel Richl, Ann English, Alisa Preston, Kathy Lokhorst, Lianna Mah, Elizabeth Croft, Hiromi Matsui, APEGBC staff person Andria Ink, DAWEG Board candidate Nicole Bennett, DAWEG Outreach Director Bernadette Currie, and Symposium lead organizer Anja Lanz. We also received feedback from those presenters saying how special it was to be a part of the event and how they appreciated the opportunity to meet, share with and learn from up-and-coming engineering women. We hope this event is repeated again in the future for our province and that others accept the invitation to be involved next time, and to participate in this wonderful networking experience.

OTHER

9. UBC Engineering Tri-mentoring Program – Call for Mentors

Female practicing engineers are needed for the Engineering Tri-mentoring Program at the University of British Columbia to help students begin to see engineering in the bigger picture and develop the skills they will need for a successful career. Deadline for submission applications from industry/academic mentors is September 28th, 2007. For application forms, calendar of events, and participant specific information, please see <http://www.cpsd.apsc.ubc.ca/mentoring>. Contact Erin Biddlecombe, Program Coordinator, at erin.biddlecombe@ubc.ca, or by phone at (604) 822-6720 for more info.

10. Sponsors

Title Sponsor:



Gold Sponsors:



Silver Sponsors:



Vancouver International Airport Authority

Administration de l'aéroport international de Vancouver



Vision Statement - *Making Engineering and Geoscience appealing, rewarding and equitable for women so that women are attracted to and excel at all levels in our profession.*

Core Values - *Professionalism · Equity · Inclusiveness*

Mission - *To promote, enhance and facilitate opportunities for women to succeed in engineering and geoscience.*