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

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## The EDGE Newsletter – January 2008 Issue

*\* Equity and Diversity in Geoscience & Engineering \**

Dear DAWEG Members,

Happy New Year! Our goal for 2008 is to be more dedicated and getting members to be more involved in DAWEG. We are looking for enthusiastic women and men in engineering and geoscience who like to share with others.

*DAWEG Board*

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## BOARD NEWS

### 1. December Board Meeting Brief

In the fall the new board directors spent some time getting to know each other a bit. Our board retreat even included a session on scrap booking which turned out to be quite a bonding experience, much to the surprise of most of us 'craft phobic' technical types. We invite you to check out the results, which remain a work in progress, at an upcoming event. The next opportunity to visit with members of DAWEG will be at the E-fest exhibit organized by the Vancouver branch of APEGBC. A part of a national celebration of engineering week, the event will be held in the lobby of the Vancouver Public Library on Saturday, March 1st. Volunteers will staff the DAWEG booth from 10-5 to engage with the public and show the face of women in engineering and geoscience. We don't have any geoscientist currently involved with the board, so if you are one reading this, perhaps you should sign up to staff the booth. Any volunteers are welcome, please contact [daweg.events@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.events@gmail.com) to sign up. Also we very much hope that you would take some time that day to just spot and visit; bring with you a 'camera-ready' smile and an idea in your mind about why you love your choice of profession. We plan to set up video to catch some testimonial clips for use in future career or division promotion. Don't be shy, bring your family or friends and show others just what it takes to be a woman in engineering or geoscience. I am proud to report that our Dec 6th social and memorial evening had several male engineering attendees, a goal we set when planning the event. This makes for very effective networking across the profession and helps share the experience of commemorating the date. A donation was also made to Canadian Engineering Memorial Funds, from the proceeds. Next year the portion of each ticket that is donated will increase, since it is a fantastic opportunity to quickly voice your support for advancement of women in the profession. In fact, for those who have \$\$ but not time, we'll provide the option to register for the event and pay only the donation portion - remember this for next year. As far as changes go, many changes are under way with DAWEG communication strategy, including the website host and content. Input is welcome from the membership and can be sent to [daweg.info@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.info@gmail.com). At the start of the year we decided to introduce the board one member at a time through the newsletter. The Director for Leading Communications and responsible for sending out the newsletter is Nahal, her bio is included in this edition.



The board directors engaging in a team building exercise by preparing pages for a DAWEG 2007/2008 scrapbook.



Nahal has been working in aerospace engineering field since she was an undergrad student at the University of Tehran Polytechnic. She graduated in 1999 and started her job at the Aerospace Research Institute as an engineer. In 2002 she achieved her Masters degree in the same field and worked as an aerospace engineer/ project manager for four years, till she immigrated to Canada in 2006.

Switching her career to mechanical engineering in Vancouver, she attended courses at BCIT and recently started her job at the Olympic International Agencies (OIA) as a project manager, working in the field of Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning. Nahal joined DAWEG's board of directors last fall, as the Communication Director. To be in contact with DAWEG, you can send your inquiries to Nahal at [daweg.info@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.info@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2. 12<sup>th</sup> CCWESTT Conference- Building On Success

The Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology - CCWESTT is a national coalition of groups that aims to promote women in science, engineering, trades and technology, celebrate their contribution and apply new vision to these fields. **The CCWESTT conference in 2008 is an opportunity to bring together all stakeholders** - women in SETT, educators, industry representatives and community facilitators - to examine the intersecting areas of education, the workplace and career-life balance. The program will include opportunities to communicate the latest research and best practices to enhance diversity in SETT, for career support and networking, and to engage in strategic planning of future initiatives.

An abstract for a presentation from DAWEG at CCWESTT has already been accepted. The topic will deal with "a notable success of women in engineering in BC, professionally and within the ranks of APEGBC, but a noticeable dearth of interest in / involvement with DAWEG by new registrants with the association -> Precipitating a revitalizing or even re-branding of the division".

Attendance to the conference is open [but not free ☺] to all DAWEG members, The purpose of this announcement in the newsletter is to get some idea of whom is interested in attending. You may also wish to be involved with paper preparation or presenting at the conference. Financial support from DAWEG for members who decide to attend the conference will be decided by the amount of funding available and other criteria based on contribution. An application process will determine these factors. Please contact [daweg.chair@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.chair@gmail.com) to get more info or to let us know if you already have the intention to attend CCWESTT, so we can start the planning process. <http://www.cctest2008.ca/>

Date: Thursday/Friday/Sat May 29 - 31<sup>st</sup> Where: Guelph, Ontario (1.5 hours west of Toronto)  
Early Bird Full Conference Registration (By April 15) - \$350 Regular (After April 15) - \$450

Also the Building Communities Symposium '07 (BCS '07) Organizing Committee is pleased to announce that the BCS '07 Networking Fund will be able to provide a limited number of subsidies to women in engineering who would like to attend "Building on Success," this year's CCWESTT Conference. Applications for subsidies are due by 12:00 noon, Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, and should be submitted electronically to [jennifer@mech.ubc.ca](mailto:jennifer@mech.ubc.ca) in .pdf, .doc, or .rtf format. Guidelines are as follows:

- Applications should be no more than two pages (12 pt font with 1" margins).
- Applications may be submitted by individuals or groups of individuals.
- Applications should include:
  - o Name(s) and contact information for all proposed delegates;
  - o The reason you are interested in attending CCWESTT and what benefits you think you will get from the experience;
  - o If applicable, what you propose to do after the conference to share your experience and/or these benefits with others;
  - o A budget for the trip, including other funding sources, and the total amount requested from the BCS Networking Fund

### 3. The Engineering Women Games Night

Join Women in Engineering in BC at The Engineering Women Games Night.

Date: Thursday, Feb 28, 2008.

Location: UBC, Room to be announced

Time: 5pm-8pm

Please check [www.sfu.ca/~mlahaye/gamesnight.html](http://www.sfu.ca/~mlahaye/gamesnight.html) for frequent updates.

Featuring: Career and Future Planning- Let's play the Game of Life

- Take a chance, Spin the wheel of fate, and Take a drive along the twisting path of life for the next 20 years in the Game of Life.
- Figure out just exactly, how much you need to love, live, earn, and learn in order to maximize your happiness.
- Discover and learn from other's brilliant decisions and foolish mistakes.
- Find out how to optimize your time and money to achieve the life style of your dream.
- Last but not least, realize just how LUCKY YOU ARE!!!

Refreshments such as coffee, tea, and delicious treats will be provided.

Seize this fantastic opportunity to network and have fun.

We also invite you to bring other games to share with us.

Please RSVP to [engineeringwomen@gmail.com](mailto:engineeringwomen@gmail.com) and give a brief description of what game you are bringing (if any).

We look forward seeing you there!!!

### 4. E-fest (DAWEG Booth)

APEGBC Vancouver Branch Event

March 1st 10AM - 5PM

Vancouver Public Library Foyer

### 5. Call for Speakers for the upcoming APEGBC Conference and AGM

We began organizing the DAWEG stream at the APEGBC Conference, October 16 to 18, in Kelowna, BC. We are looking for the best speakers who are willing to share their experience and skills. Our theme is 'Better Business' to showcase best engineering practices in the engineering field as well as focus on issues relating to managing, developing and promoting business.

All interested parties should send an email to DAWEG event coordinator, Paris H.Tehrani, via e-mail: [daweg.events@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.events@gmail.com)

### 6. Wonder Woman XX Evening 2008

SCWIST invites women studying science, engineering or technology to a networking evening at TELUS World of Science on Tuesday March 4, 2008.

A chance to find out how amazing women are making careers in science and technology

\$12 entrance fee covers the food and film.

5:15 Registration- Please arrive by 5:30 PM. For security reasons, no late-comers will be admitted

5:45 Panel discussion - Hear real success stories and get some good advice

7:00 Pizza and Networking - Chat with potential mentors

8:30 Omnimax film Dinosaurs Alive!

Door prizes!!

Undergraduate Women in Science, Engineering & Technology should pre-register by February 29, 2008 by calling Science World at 604-443-7551 or emailing [jscott@scienceworld.bc.ca](mailto:jscott@scienceworld.bc.ca).

Female professional engineers or geoscientists with especially interesting career paths or a desire to share with younger women one on one; should contact Sandy Eix <[SEix@ScienceWorld.ca](mailto:SEix@ScienceWorld.ca)> as soon as possible about participating as a Double X Wonder Women at this event.

## 7. Parents Coffee Talk

The Parent's Coffee Talk is a casual gathering for those working (part-time or on-leave) parents with young children. A relaxed get-together will be held at my home on a Friday morning in the month of Feb/Mar/April. Dates will be picked when the most can attend, if you are interested, please send an email to [daweg.chair@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.chair@gmail.com) to add your name to a distribution list. Look forward to seeing you. Beverages provided, pls. bring a small kid friendly snack to share. Please invite other engineering parents who may not be DAWEG members yet, or forward me their contact info.

## 8. DAWEG ITE Coffee Talk

DAWEG Evening Coffee Talk

- Network event for engineers looking for work, including Internationally Trained Engineers (ITE)

What about an opportunity to mingle with other peers?

A great way to improve your professional network!

Event objectives:

- ✓ build a supportive and informative network for engineers looking for work
- ✓ create a forum for discussing and sharing ITE-related information
- ✓ promote inclusiveness in the engineering community in BC.

Are you interested? Then email [Daweg.ITE@gmail.com](mailto:Daweg.ITE@gmail.com) by Feb 11<sup>th</sup> to let us know.

We will provide details soon, based on the responses received.

Thank you for your support!

## OTHER

### 9. BC Hydro Job Opportunity

BC Hydro, DAWEG's Title Sponsor, is recruiting DAWEG members for Construction Managers, Project Managers, & Engineers. Please visit the BC Hydro Careers website: <http://www.bchydro.com/careers/> and apply to any opportunities that interest you.

Request to bring you this recruitment information comes from:

Parinder Deu, HR Administrator

Recruitment Services for BC Hydro

21st Floor, 401 West Georgia Street

Vancouver, BC V6B 5A1

Tel: 604.694.8597 Fax: 604.663.3921

[parinder.deu@absu.accenture.com](mailto:parinder.deu@absu.accenture.com)

### 10. Guest Speakers Wanted! Call for Volunteers!

Local Engineers are invited to share their practice and experience with first year engineering students. Taking part in the "Introduction to Engineering" series, you can present anything relevant to your discipline and/or position to help inform and stimulate the students. They are currently deciding which branch of engineering to embrace. This can be approached by your company as a valuable opportunity to market the industry area.

January, February or March

#### **Mondays 4:30-5:30**

(\*other times available for invited speakers; contact Lisa for further inquiries)

Capilano College - <http://www.capcollege.bc.ca/Home.html>

2055 Purcell Way - North Vancouver

Contact: Lisa Lajeunesse ([llajeune@capcollege.bc.ca](mailto:llajeune@capcollege.bc.ca))

604-986-1911 x 2451

#### **Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 pm**

Kwantlen University College - <http://www.kwantlen.ca/>

Either campus:

12666 - 72nd Avenue, Surrey, BC

8771 Lansdowne Road, Richmond, BC

Contact: Dr. Carmen Ciubotariu ([Carmen.Ciubotariu@kwantlen.ca](mailto:Carmen.Ciubotariu@kwantlen.ca))

### 11. Call for Speaker in Salmon Arm

SCWISTT on behalf of Salmon Arm Secondary School is looking for a female Mechanical Engineer to speak at an upcoming Career Fair the end of February. For more information please email: [msoo@sfu.ca](mailto:msoo@sfu.ca)

Monique Desroches, ms infinity coordinator  
Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology  
471 - 411 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver BC V6B 1X4

### 12. Engineers Canada, Women in Engineering Advisory Group – Representative Update

In October 2007 Megan Leslie, EIT, LEED® AP attended Engineers Canada's Women in Engineering Advisory Group (WIEAG) meeting in Toronto as APEGBC's representative which has prepared the following report. Women representatives from most of the provincial and territorial associations were also present.

Following introductions, there was a round table report from representatives of activities relating to women in engineering across Canada. Interesting events that perhaps APEGBC could consider are the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers' (OSPE) Go ENG Girl program ([www.ospe.on.ca/goenggirl](http://www.ospe.on.ca/goenggirl)) that provides an opportunity for girls in grade 7 to 10 and a parent to meet women engineering professionals, academics and students.

Some provincial/territorial associations provide an opportunity for members to make a donation to the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation (CEMF) while paying annual dues. More information on the CEMF is available on the website: [www.cemf.ca](http://www.cemf.ca)

The group reviewed the proposed changes to the group's Terms of Reference including the change of Engineers Canada expecting the group to hold at least one teleconference a year and one face-to-face meeting each year. Previously the group met for a face-to-face meeting only once every two years, usually at the CCWESTT conference.

Dr. Suzelle Barrington, Ph.D., Agr. Eng. of McGill University presented the Declaration from the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO). Dr. Barrington attended the WFEO conference in Tunisia in June 2007. The Declaration is entitled "Carthage Declaration on Empowering Women in Engineering and Technology". A copy of the declaration can be viewed at <http://www.wfeo.org/documents/download/Carthage%20Declaration%20on%20Women%20Empowering%20eng.pdf>. More information of the WFEO is available on their website: [www.wfeo.org](http://www.wfeo.org)

Samantha Colasante, MBA, of Engineers Canada presented some interesting statistics regarding engineering enrolment and degrees awarded. Interesting facts included:

- Approximately 10,700 women were enrolled in undergraduate engineering programs in 2006.
- The number of women enrolled in undergraduate engineering programs is increasing the fastest in British Columbia and Newfoundland.
- The number of women enrolled in undergraduate engineering programs has increased the most in the Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Chemical disciplines.

The next teleconference will likely be sometime in early to mid 2008. Please feel free to contact me at [megan.leslie@jacqueswhitford.com](mailto:megan.leslie@jacqueswhitford.com) if you have any questions about WIEAG.

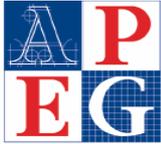


WIEAG Meeting,  
Toronto, ON  
October 2007

### 13. Sponsors

DAWEG recognizes sponsorship at four major levels:

- 1) Title Sponsor (>\$1000) – Exclusive to one sponsor company
- 2) Gold (\$500 to \$1000)
- 3) Silver (\$200 to \$499)
- 4) Bronze (up to \$199)



Professional Engineers  
and Geoscientists of BC

In-kind sponsorships are also greatly appreciated and are valued in the same way as monetary contributions.

DAWEG is fortunate to have the in-kind support of APEGBC.

All sponsorships will be recognized for one year after a contribution is made. Returning sponsors will be mentioned at the beginning of each list of sponsors.

All sponsors will receive the following recognition:

- Recognition of sponsorship on the DAWEG website and in EDGE, DAWEG's monthly e-newsletter
- A copy of the annual DAWEG newsletter
- An invitation to all DAWEG events

Sponsors at the Title, Gold and Silver level are recognized in the following manner:

#### Title Sponsor

- Link to corporate website from the DAWEG website
- Logo on the banner (displayed at all DAWEG events)
- Will always be mentioned first and recognized as our primary contributor

#### Gold Sponsor

- Link to corporate website from the DAWEG website
- Logo on the banner (displayed at all DAWEG events)

#### Silver Sponsor

- Logo on the banner (displayed at all DAWEG events)

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To support DAWEG or for further information please contact Svetlana Levitskaia, Finance Director at: [daweg.sponsorship@gmail.com](mailto:daweg.sponsorship@gmail.com) OR (604) 930-4592.

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**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.*

**Title Sponsor:**



**Gold Sponsors:**



**Silver Sponsors:**



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