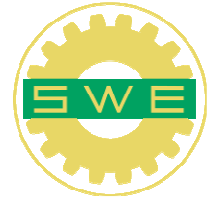


# SWE-EWS-NEWS



Society of Women Engineers,  
 Eastern Washington Section  
 PO Box 364, Richland WA 99352  
[www.eastwashingtonswe.org](http://www.eastwashingtonswe.org)

## Opening Notes

Well the SWE year is approaching an end!  
 Come to the Spring Business Meeting April 9th  
 to get involved in upcoming events or get  
 involved as a SWE officer!

Michelle Parker  
 SWE-EWS FY13 President



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## Spring Business Meeting

Spring Business Meeting will be held April 9, 2013  
 at the 3 Margaritas in Richland.  
 6:00 pm for board members,  
 6:30 pm for general members

## Upcoming Events

April 5-7 <sup>th</sup>	Region J Conference
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Business Meeting

We will be discussing the news from the regional conference and the nominating committee will be presenting the slate of officers. Let one of the officers know if you are interested in one of the positions. See next page for a description of duties.

## Region J Conference

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) 2013 Region J Conference will be held in the Olympia, Washington area, on April 5-7, 2013. Region J, the Northwest Star region, consists of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. The conference theme is "Engineering: One Journey, Many Paths."

The conference and career fair will be held at the new Cebula Engineering Building at Saint Martin's University and will be co-hosted by the South Puget Sound Section and the Saint Martin's Collegiate Section. 100 professional and collegiate members are expected to participate. Two tours will be offered on the Friday afternoon with a reception Friday evening. There will be a career fair and break-out sessions on Saturday with breakfast, lunch and dinner speakers. Regional Meetings will be held Sunday morning.

For additional information or registration, check the website: <http://www.swe.org/RegionJ/JCon13/>  
The conference room block for JCon13 is at the Comfort Inn, 4700 Park Center Ave NE, Lacey WA.  
To reserve a room, call 360-456-6300 and ask for the "Society of Women Engineers" group rate. The room block cutoff date is March 22, 2013.

## Expanding Your Horizons – March 23<sup>rd</sup>

STEM professionals teach middle school girls about different careers in Math, Science, and Engineering, through hands-on activity workshops at Washington State University Tri-Cities campus. Volunteers helped run the workshops, as well as for provided supervision and support throughout the morning and afternoon.

## EWS-SWE Officer Positions – Summary of Duties

### **President:**

Represents the section before the public and presides at meetings of the section and its executive council; Appoint the chairs of all committees, with the approval of executive council, except the chair of the nominating committee; Authorize the disbursement of section funds within the budget approved by the executive council; Coordinate activities and execute the business and policies of the section between meetings; Review and approve the year-end section financial report;

### **Vice president:**

Assume the duties of the president if the president is temporarily unable to serve; provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned;

### **Secretary:**

Maintains the records of the section and provide oversight and guidance to the committee chairs as assigned;

### **Treasurer:**

Responsible for the collection, distribution, and safekeeping of section funds; Prepares, maintains, and reports as directed on the financial position of the section in relation to the approved budget; Submit a financial report to the Society in accordance with established procedures

### **Section Representative:**

Attends Region and Section teleconferences and meetings; Provides update to section regional/national information and obtains section update for regional voting; Prepares quarterly Section Reports; Prepares the annual Tactical Plan and Vitality Report.

## EWS Celebrates “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day”– February

**21<sup>st</sup>** As part of the E Week celebration, EWS-SWE sponsored a tour of the ConAgra Lamb Weston Facility, for high school age girls. **Michelle Parker, Ann Langevin,** and about 10 high school students from Richland High School and Hanford High School, toured the facility where potato products including waffle-cut fries, curly fries, regular fries and hash browns, are produced for many of the fast food restaurants and grocery stores. Thank-you to our wonderful tour guides at Lamb Weston!



Engineers  
Week  
**2013**  
February 17-23



## Mid-Columbia Science Fair Judging

Taran Dhaliwal headed up the Mid-Columbia Science Fair Judging this year, with help from the following judges:

Michelle Parker  
Alicia Boyd  
Al Woo  
Ann Langevin

Roxane Wight  
Kahlil Hicks  
Renee Slocumb



### Winners

6th grade: Sarah Hale, Enterprise Middle School,  
*The Science of a Soccer Kick*

7th grade: Josephine Piipo, West Valley Junior High School,  
*Does the Change in a Bridge Design Affect the Weight Capacity of a Bridge?*

8th grade: Coraima Gomez, Washington Middle School,  
*Paper Airplane*

9th/10th grade: Shanta Katipamula, Hanford High School,  
*Working Toward a Greener Future: Investigating the Most*

*Efficient & Cost Effective Method to Obtain Hydrogen from Water*  
11th/12th grade: Gardenia Contreras, Sunnyside High School,  
*Surface Topography and Bacterial Inhibition Colonization*

### Honorable Mentions:

6th grade: Alexa Best, Chief Joseph Middle School,  
*The Viscous Effects of Shapes*

7th grade: Maricela Santana, Sierra Vista Middle School,  
*Onion vs. Pomegranate*

8th grade: Giada Szanyi, Carmichael Middle School,  
*Crystal Growth*

9th/10th grade: Taylor Stone, Delta High School, *Structural Integrity vs. Truss Bridge Type*

11th/12th grade: Audrey Dasef, Wilbur High School, *The Effect of Sex Ratio on Political Attitudes in Rural and Urban Settings*

## Congratulations!

From the IEEE website:

EWS-SWE Member, **Maria Vlachopoulou**, an engineer at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Wash., is the 2013 IEEE/IEEE-USA New Face of Engineering – Professional Edition.

The program, sponsored by the National Engineers Week Foundation, highlights the vitality, diversity and rich contributions of engineers under 30.

Vlachopoulou is developing new tools to more effectively incorporate renewable energy sources such as wind and solar into our nation's electric grid. Her research interests are in power systems, statistical and mathematical modeling and system optimization.

“Maria’s breakthrough work in computer algorithms and mathematical methods help transition the U.S. power grid to a more efficient and robust system,” IEEE Richland Section Chair David McKinnon said in his nomination letter.

Vlachopoulou is a member of the IEEE Power & Energy Society, IEEE Signal Processing Society and Society of Women Engineers. She is founding chair of the Richland Section Women in Engineering affinity group, vice-chair of the section’s Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) affinity group and assistant coordinator of the FIRST LEGO League annual tournament in the Tri-Cities, Wash., area.

She and 12 other young engineers were featured in a full-page Engineers Week ad that ran in *USA Today*: [http://www.eweek.org/Site/Engineers/newfaces2013/USAT\\_2013\\_new\\_faces.pdf](http://www.eweek.org/Site/Engineers/newfaces2013/USAT_2013_new_faces.pdf)

IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of more than 205,000 engineering, computing and technology professionals who are U.S. members of IEEE.

## Good Job!

Congratulations to EWS-SWE Member **Dimple Patel** on completing her Facility Representative (FR) qualification on January 17, 2013.

The qualification process lasts over a year and includes multiple written exams, oral boards, and facility walkthroughs which covered basic engineering principles, DOE orders and Federal Regulations, and facility specific technical and safety basis knowledge. The qualified individual is assigned responsibility by the Field Element Manager (or designee) for monitoring the safe and efficient performance of the facility and its operations. This individual is the primary point of contact with the contractor for operational and safety oversight and is responsible to the facility’s DOE Line Manager.

The purpose of the DOE FR Program is to ensure that competent DOE staff personnel are assigned to oversee the day-to-day contractor operations at DOE’s hazardous nuclear and non-nuclear facilities. Oversight performed by FRs provides DOE Line Managers with accurate, objective information on the effectiveness of contractor work performance and practices, including implementation of the integrated safety management system. The DOE’s experience has shown that, when personnel are dedicated to this function, the information they provide can be used proactively to ensure that work is completed in a safe and efficient manner.



## Positions

The following positions are open.

Contact

[easternwashingtonswe@gmail.com](mailto:easternwashingtonswe@gmail.com)

if you are interested in more information about any of the following positions for the FY 2013 fiscal year (July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013):

- Professional Development Chair – Plan the SWE-EWS professional development event.
- Membership Chair – Welcome new members to the section and lead the annual membership growth event
- Scholarship Committee Members - Assist scholarship chair Christina Marinovici in promoting the SWE-EWS scholarship and selecting the recipient.
- Fundraising Chair - Coordinate and plan section Fundraisers.

## Contacts

Position	Name	E-mail
President	Michelle Parker	myparker@bechtel.com
Vice President/ Programs	Amanda Tyler	xochiltz1@yahoo.com
Secretary	Taran Dhaliwal	Tarandeep_K_Dhaliwal@rl.gov
Treasurer/ Finance Chair	Dimple Patel	Dimple.h.patel@gmail.com
Section Rep. Nominating Chair	Jennifer Williamson	Jennifer.Williamson@pnl.gov
Career Guidance/ Outreach Chair	Josette Gates	Josette.Gates@terex.com
Publicity Chair Awards Chair	Renee Slocumb	rcslocum@bechtel.com
Membership Chair	Open	
Professional Development Chair	Open	
Newsletter Editor	Ann Langevin	Langevin2@charter.net
TCTC Chair	Joan Young	Joan.young@pnl.gov
Scholarship Chair	Cristina Marinovici	cristina.marinovici@pnl.gov
Job Postings	easternwashingtonswe@gmail.com	
Certificate of Merit Chair	Jennifer Williamson	Jennifer.Williamson@pnnl.gov
Historian	Wanda Munn	wimunn@aol.com
SWE-EWS Webmaster	Jenny Stenkamp	jjaye822@yahoo.com
Region J Governor	Alice Orrell	aliceorrell@gmail.com

*SWE's Mission: Stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders, expand the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in improving the quality of life, and demonstrate the value of diversity.*

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.eastwashingtonswe.org](http://www.eastwashingtonswe.org)



Society of  
Women Engineers

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