

## The Happenings: 2016-2017



Female engineering students were empowered to Aspire, Advance, and Achieve in developing their careers as engineers this past academic year through the dedicated energy of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) at Colorado State University (CSU). The chapter enjoyed hosting networking events, continuing our Mentoring Program, attending the SWE national conference, piloting a STEM outreach event – Introduce a Girl to Engineering, and much more while enriching members' professional development.

In August, our *Mentoring Program* launched its second season with over 20 members, connecting engineering students with like-minded female professionals in Northern Colorado. Mentors shared insight with mentees on topics spanning work-life balance, professional development, networking, internship and job opportunities, and field-related technologies. Students got to see into the world of industry, many taking tours of mentors' work sites. We are excited to expand & develop the program this fall to impact even more women.

CSU SWE was pleased to also bring engineering students together with employers through hosting our biannual *Evening with Industry* (EWI). Taking place the night before the fall and spring engineering career fairs, the event allowed attendees to network in a more relaxed setting before the fast-pace on the day of the career fair. We are grateful to the company representatives and recruiters who joined us. A special thank you to our corporate sponsors: Rockwell Automation, Boeing, and Mortenson.

In October, twelve members attended the SWE national conference in Philadelphia, PA. Joining brilliant women and men from a variety of industries. Attendees expanded their horizons through participating in workshops, networking, and going to a large career fair.

Several members received job and internship offers while at the conference! Women gained inspirational leadership skills, learned of useful resources for our section, and developed as professionals.



Accepting the Awards at Nationals

In addition to enriching those individuals at the conference, new skills and tools were brought back to CSU and shared with other SWE members. Our section was honored with *Outstanding Collegiate Section, Gold Status* and our advisor, Terry Comerford, won the *Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award*.



IAGE Participant Learning to Solder



IAGE Volunteer with Participants

Not stopping with our collegiate audience, we were excited to share our passion for creativity through STEM with over 100 middle school airls and their families. Our first annual Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (IAGE) happen on April 1. This event engaged budding minds through interactive projects, tours, and presentations, SWE partnered with 14 student organization to put on these activities. Imagination was encouraged as youth were exposed to the different disciplines

of engineering and how engineers have the privilege and opportunity to make the world a better place. Thank you to all our volunteers, sponsors, teachers, parents, and attendees who made this event possible! Special praise goes to the CSU SWE Outreach Coordinator Meena Rezaei and the IAGE committee for their energy, talent, and time in organization.

This year CSU SWE won two CSU Student
Leadership Awards. The Introduce a Girl to
Engineering Event won
Educational Program
Award of the Year. Our advisor, Terry Comerford, won Advisor of the Year.



Accepting the CSU Student Leadership Awards

Between big events,

CSU SWE members enjoyed a variety of presentations at our general meetings. Speakers included representatives from Medtronic, Lockheed Martin, Burns and McDonnell, Ball Aerospace and New Belgium Brewery. We also had a past Society SWE President, Jill Tietjen, and the current Society SWE Treasure, Heather Doty come speak to us. We also incorporated panel discussion concerning internships and salary negotiation.

Colorado State University's SWE section had a fantastic year and is eager to continue activities this fall! To learn more about SWE at CSU or to join the mentor program, please visit us at <a href="http://coloradostate.swe.org">http://coloradostate.swe.org</a>.