



Members-At-Large

FY15 Newsletter, Issue 2

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President's Corner

Time is flying by in FY15 with over a third of the year gone!

By all accounts, WE14 was a very successful event with over 8,000 attendees including members of the International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists (INWES). I do miss past conferences where everything fit into one hotel. I don't get to see some people since everyone is spread out in multiple hotels and the conference venues are large.

WE14 was successful for the MALs as well. There was a small and very productive group of MALs at our annual summit and a small group at our annual in person meeting. I have heard from some of you about why you were unable to attend WE14 and hope that many MALs will be able to attend WE15.

We're now coming into the end of the year holidays and then into Region Conference season. MALs should try to attend their own or another region's conference to have an in person SWE experience. One of last year's region conferences had a reserved table for MALs at their meal events and all of the region conferences are being asked to use this best practice in FY15 and beyond.



Fran Stuart
FY15 SWE MAL President
frances_s@yahoo.com

MAL Summit Recap

A small group of MALs met on Wednesday October 22 prior to WE14 for the annual MAL Summit. Breakfast and lunch were shared with the Region Governors for networking. Region E Governor Alexis McKittrick spent an hour with the MALs briefing us on the new Governance Task Force and receiving feedback. As a result of data from the FY14 MAL self assessment forms, MAL Leadership Coach Beth Posey-Leonhard presented modules on Team Building and Conflict Resolution. The group had fun with the exercises. A joint session with the Region Governors had Region A Leadership Coach Elizabeth Hurley presenting a new module on advocating for SWE in your community. This was the first time the module had ever been presented and two BOD members also attended this session. The exercise part of the module was how to write your own SWE story. The module will be

presented at region conferences in the winter. The module is a great one for MALs since it is geared to individuals.

There was also a working session to begin the programs and services assessment process for the MALs. MAL President Fran Stuart gave a background presentation. The group then listed programs for assessment: awards, summit, money, communications with sub-categories, outreach, training, mentoring/coaching, and pipeline/succession planning. MAL Awards Chair Stacey Culver worked with the group on the history of the awards program. The group then discussed the purpose and timing of the MAL Summit. The consensus for now is to continue holding the summit the Wednesday of Annual Conference week. Assignments were made to start documenting the rest of programs. An assignment was also given to work on a charter and a vision statement.

MAL Meeting Recap

MAL Vice President Debbie Jacklitch-Kuiken (right) giving the financial report at the MAL Meeting. Also pictured: MAL Secretary Jacquelyn Nagel (left) and MAL President Fran Stuart (center).



The MAL Meeting was also held at the Society Conference in Los Angeles, CA. The meeting

opened with a recap of the MAL Summit from the previous day. Diane Peters gave the membership report since Claire was unable to attend. In general, we have seen an increase in MAL membership, though we have lost some MAL members due to professional sections being chartered. In order to make members feel connected, MAL reps are encouraged to send personal emails to new MAL members in their region. Also, con-

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consider Life Membership. See Stacey Culver's article on pg 5. Debbie Jacklitch-Kuiken gave the Treasurer's Report and the results of the Financial Assessment for Claire. The budget was approved and we discussed putting money in the Designated Fund Endowment. The MAL executive council will make the final decision on this. Please consider joining the Financial Assessment Committee. Contact Claire for more information. Stacey Culver presented the MAL awards. See the article below for details on this year's MAL Award winners! Start thinking about nominations for awards and stay tuned for the updated award packets to be released in January and early next spring for Society Individual Awards and MAL awards! Outreach Chair Tori (Borchers) Tinsley presented on the outreach goals

for the year. See her article on pg 6 for more details. Beth Posey-Leonhard was elected at the FY15 MAL Teller with Stacey Culver as Alternate Teller. Discussion of a MAL social to happen at the Society Conference next year!



2013 SWE MAL Awards

By Stacey Culver, MAL Awards Chair

The MAL organization is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2014 SWE MAL Awards Program. These women are dedicated MAL members who have demonstrated leadership, engagement and commitment to SWE.

MAL Rising Star Award

This award is presented to a SWE MAL who has less than ten years of experience and has made outstanding contributions to the field of engineering, the SWE MAL organization, and other community activities. This year's recipient is Jacquelyn Nagel. Dr. Jacquelyn K. Nagel is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Engineering at James Madison University (JMU). Dr. Nagel has six years of diversified engineering design experience, both in academia and industry, and has experienced engineering in a range of contexts, including: product design, bio-inspired design, instrumentation and controls, factory automation, hybrid manufacturing systems, design for the factory floor,

and renewable energy systems. She earned her Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Oregon State University, and her M.S. and B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering and Electrical Engineering, respectively, from Missouri University of Science & Technology (formerly University of Missouri-Rolla). Her teaching has impacted sophomore through senior engineering students, in both engineering design and engineering science courses. In the classroom, Dr. Nagel's goal is to provide multidisciplinary concept exposure in the courses she teaches to facilitate problem solving in multiple contexts. Dr. Nagel is an active member and volunteer leader in SWE, the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), and the American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME). In SWE, she has held multiple roles across the local, regional and society levels



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Congratulations to Dr. Jacquelyn Nagel for winning the MAL Rising Star Award and the Best Newsletter Article Award. Pictured here with Awards Chair Stacey Culver.

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 including being a member of the Conference Advisory Board (CAB) Member (2006-13), Region E MAL Representative (2012-14), Women in Academia (WIA) Committee Chair (2013-14), MAL Secretary (2013-14), and JMU Collegiate

Section Faculty Advisor/SWE Counselor (2012-14). In conclusion, Dr. Nagel has been nationally recognized for her technical work, in both research and teaching, become an expert

Newsletter Awards

in bio-inspired design, and her SWE service has made a lasting impact at the local, regional, and society levels.

Communication is vital to the SWE MAL organization and this year we have two awards related to the MAL newsletter: the Best Newsletter Article Award and the Newsletter Contributor Award. The Best Newsletter Article Award is presented to a SWE MAL member who has written an outstanding article for the MAL newsletter during the fiscal year. This judged award is presented to Dr. Jacquelyn Nagel for her article entitled “Tips for Succeeding as a Leader” published in FY14 Issue 4. In this article she summarized Colleen Layman’s workshop entitled “Becoming an Effective Leader in the Workforce” that was presented at the Region E conference. The Newsletter

Contributor Award is presented to one of the many MALs (collegiate or professional) who authored an article for the newsletter. This award, selected by random drawing from all contributors, is awarded to Emily Ongstad.

Outreach Award

The SWE MAL Outreach Award is awarded to a MAL member who has demonstrated commitment to outreach over the past fiscal year. This year’s recipient of the Outreach Award is Brandie Jackson. Brandie Jackson is a



Congratulations to Brandie Jackson for winning the Outreach Award. Pictured here with Awards Chair Stacey Culver.

System Safety Engineer for the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD), a premier research and development center for weapon system integration. Ms. Jackson is responsible for ensuring the utmost safety and best acquisition decisions for the fleet are met in development, operation, maintenance

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and disposal of the Navy's engagement systems. She is the Lead System Safety Engineer for Long Range Anti-Ship Surface Launched Missile and provides System Safety support to the Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile Program. Ms. Jackson has been a member of the Society of Women Engineers for more than 4 years and is currently a Member-At-Large in Section E. As a MAL, she works innovatively with other organizations to create opportunities for outreach. Being a volunteer has allowed Ms. Jackson to reach young females and males. She finds it fulfilling and rewarding to see the excitement in the youth and to know that she is making a difference in the future success of others. Her volunteer service has spanned from going to local schools teaching students to build a STEM project, designing a program for volunteers to follow in helping the youth do an experiment, and setting up and manning an exhibit with STEM activities on the job with other colleagues. Each task has fulfilled Ms. Jackson's goal of exposing young people to STEM and

sparkling their interest to pursue a future degree in science or engineering.

Outstanding MAL Leader Award

The Outstanding MAL Leader Award, selected by the FY14 MAL president for outstanding contributions to the MAL organization, is Emily Ongstad. Emily was one of the FY14 newsletter co-editors and is currently one of the newsletter co-editors. She wrote five newsletter articles in FY14 and was an active participant in the FY14 MAL summit.



Congratulations to Emily Ongstad for winning the Outstanding MAL Leader Award. Pictured here with Awards Chair Stacey Culver.

Why Should I be a Life Member of SWE?

By Stacey Culver, MAL Awards Chair

At this year's conference in Los Angeles, I volunteered to be a Life Member ambassador. Being an ambassador entailed talking to anyone and everyone about why I was a life member and why they should consider becoming a life member. This volunteer role didn't require much thought as I have been a life member for more years than I can count and I can talk about the reasons why I became a life member at the drop of a hat, without scripted notes or having to think about an answer when asked. The reason for me is very simple: I believe in the mission and strategic goals of SWE. When I was considering a career in

engineering, there weren't many women that I knew in the field and no mentors for me to talk with. I was one of only three women in my civil engineering graduating class and the first woman engineer at McDermott Incorporated,

"The reason for me is very simple: I believe in the mission and strategic goals of SWE. "

my first employer. Luckily for me, my father was a great cheerleader for this career choice as he worked with engineers in his company and was very supportive.

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I was a charter member of the Greater New Orleans SWE section and worked on many career guidance programs, encouraging young women to consider engineering as a career and counseling their parents on how to support their daughters as they worked towards their engineering degrees. I also strongly believe in acknowledging accomplishments through awards and recognition programs and worked at the society, region and MAL levels in creating and presenting awards to women, communicating these awards letting other women know of their accomplishments to inspire young girls to aspire to a career in engineering.

If you share these beliefs and thoughts, consider becoming a life member. It is really easy. Download the Life Membership contract at swe.org/lifemember to get started.

The fund development contact at SWE HW can assist you with any questions you may have by contacting 312.596.5223 or by emailing funddevelopment@swe.org. There are three contribution plans that you can choose from that allow you to waive your membership dues in perpetuity. The SWE life membership fee is \$2000 and is considered a tax deductible contribution.

When you become a life member of SWE, you demonstrate a life-long commitment to SWE and its mission, vision and goals. You also demonstrate that SWE is an important part of your professional and personal life. Please consider becoming a life member today. Join me in demonstrating your life-long commitment to SWE.

MAL Outreach Goals for FY15

By Victoria Borchers Tinsley , MAL Outreach Chair

My name is Victoria (Borchers) Tinsley and I am very excited to be your MAL Outreach Coordinator for FY15! There are two main goals for MAL Outreach this year: 1) Capture Existing Outreach Events, and 2) Increase the Number of MAL Outreach Events. Keep reading for more details on our goals and how you can help!

If you are interested in joining a MAL Outreach Committee or have any questions about outreach, please email me at victoria.borchers@swe.org. Additional resources can also be found on the Society Outreach website www.swe.org under the "K-12 Outreach" tab.

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Goal 1: Capture Existing Outreach Events

While we know there are MALs planning, leading, and participating in outreach events, we don't always hear about these awesome events. Capturing information about Outreach events is important in order:

- To share best practices with other MALs and Sections.
- To help the Outreach Committee make strategic decisions.
- To share externally with the Society's Sponsors to show the impact of the Outreach we do.
- To recognize events and their organizers through MAL, Region, and Society awards.

Thanks to an online tool recently developed by the Society Outreach Committee, you can record your impact with just 10 simple questions. Check out the [Outreach Metric Tool \(OMTool\)](#). Here's the information you should gather together before you use the Outreach Metric Tool: the event name and date(s); section name/number or Member at Large (MAL) number for all SWE sections/MAL groups participating; the event type; the number of girls who participated in the event; the number of boys who participated in the event; the age of students who participated (estimates are okay; report the age range of the majority); the number of adults who participated (these are parents, educators, and other non-volunteers who participated in the event); the number of SWE Member volunteers; the number of other volunteers (not SWE members); the name of any partner organization(s), if applicable; and any best practices you would like to share (optional).

Once your outreach event is complete, please enter it into the OMTool. I'm looking forward to reading about all of the great MAL outreach events over the next year! If you have any questions about the OMTool, please let me know.

Goal 2: Increase the Number of MAL Outreach Events

Have you ever wanted to organize an outreach event but thought that it is just too difficult for one person to organize/conduct or that SWE outreach events have to be all day events for 100+ girls? Were you unsure where to start or how to get funding for an event? To help address some of the concerns MALs often have when thinking about hosting an outreach event, we're working to develop a MAL Outreach Kit! This will help MALs organize and led a 2-3 hour outreach event based on a group of 5 girls. We're gathering a list of suggested activities that are fun, easy to organize and cost effective.

The Outreach Kit will include tools such as a sample event schedule, budget, sponsorship letter to your company, funding suggestions, etc. Look for more information about the MAL Outreach Kit coming soon. If you'd like to help put the MAL Outreach Kit together and/or if you are interested in trying out the program, please let me know!

Region H holds annual “HART” meeting

By Diane Peters, MAL

In September, Region H held its Heartland Annual Round Table (HART) meeting in Indianapolis, IN. The meeting started out by covering a variety of topics such as a review of the Region H goals and reports on finances, the nominating committee, and the region Collegiate Team. We also heard about Advocacy and Public Policy, held breakout sessions on topics such as Membership Engagement, and discussed the upcoming Annual Conference.

There were a few outreach-related highlights that may be of interest to the Region H MALs – or other regions’ MALs, for that matter. One of these is the launch of the SWEnext program, which will let high school girls who want to affiliate with SWE do so. You’ll undoubtedly be hearing more about this, so watch for news and announcements – and if you’re asked to be involved with one of these groups, please consider it. They do need to have at least one member of SWE involved, and it’s a great way to link up your SWE membership with a passion for young women and encouraging them, so if that’s something you love, watch for an opportunity!

Another great thing that was discussed is the new Outreach reporting tool. Many of our Members at Large are committed to encouraging and nurturing the next generation of engineers, particularly female engineers, and are doing great things in outreach. Unfortunately, sometimes SWE doesn’t know what we’re doing, and doesn’t fully realize just how much is happening. Well, now there’s an easy way for us to let SWE know about it! There’s a tool, based on SurveyMonkey, which you can use to report your outreach events. It’s been designed to be equally relevant for events sponsored by sections, put together by small groups of SWE members on their own, or done by a single SWE member on her or his own initiative. I’m really hoping that MALs will use it, and show off what we’re doing as a group. Here’s a list of the information that you’ll need – and keep in mind, if you don’t know exact numbers

on some stuff, you can make your best estimate.

- Event name and date(s)
 - Section name/number or Member at Large (MAL) number for all SWE sections/MAL groups participating
 - Event type
 - Number of girls who participated in the event
 - Number of boys who participated in the event
 - Age of students who participated (Estimates are okay; report the age range of the majority)
 - Number of Adults who participated – These are Parents, Educators, and other non-volunteers who participated in the event.
 - Number of SWE Member volunteers
 - Number of other volunteers – not SWE members
 - Name of Partner Organization(s), if applicable
 - Any best practices you would like to share (optional)
- So, if you speak to your son or daughter’s class about engineering, you could tell SWE about it. Or, if you’ve been mentoring students in FIRST Robotics, or if you choose to work with one of the new SWEnext groups, let SWE know. All of our SWE members, both in sections and in the MAL organization, are doing great stuff, and SWE needs to know about it!

Other issues covered were Membership Engagement, Program Development Grants, Professional Excellence, the region’s plans for Celebrate SWE, and next year’s HART meeting. Overall it was a really busy day, but a great way to get everyone moving forward as we continue our new fiscal year.



Society of Women Engineers

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Stay Connected!



As a MAL, it can be difficult to stay connected to SWE. Find us on social media and online to stay in the know about MAL and the Society!

Find the Members at Large on [Facebook](#); find SWE on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn.com](#) (join: “Society of Women Engineers (SWE)”) and check out the [Monthly SWE Newsletter](#).

Help Wanted!

Leaders like you Needed! Want to get some leadership experience? The call for nominations for FY15 officers and chairs goes out in mid-January. Review the MAL Roles and Responsibilities Documents in the MAL Communities and get to know your current officers and chairs in preparation! Self-nomination and contested chairs are encouraged!

Newsletter Contributors: Looking for articles 200-1000 words to include in future newsletters. A broad range of possible topics include but are not limited to

your local outreach events, career tips, leadership, mentoring in your workplace, etc. Additionally, the MAL Leadership will recognize their favorite article with the MAL Newsletter Article Award at the end of FY14! If you would like to contribute, please send your articles to our co-editors, [Emily Ongstad](#) and [Modupe Oluwadiya](#). This is your newsletter!

Awards Judges: If you’re interesting in judging the MAL Awards packets, please contact MAL Awards Chair [Stacey Culver](#).

MAL Calendar

2015 Region Conferences

Region A—Stockton, CA	February 20-22
Region B—San Luis Obispo, CA	February 27-March 1
Region C—Austin, TX	February 6-8
Region D—Cookeville, TN	March 27-29
Region E—Philadelphia, PA	February 20-22
Region F—Boston, MA	February 28-March 1
Region G—Morgantown, WV	February 6-8
Region H—South Bend, IN	March 6-8
Region i—Kansas City, MO	February 27-28
Region J—Tri Cities, WA	April 10-12
Call for MAL Officer and Chair nominations	Mid-January
MAL Webinar	TBD