



SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS

• ASPIRE • ADVANCE • ACHIEVE •

RUTGERS SECTION FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER



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Supporting Women in Engineering at Rutgers Since 1975

The Society of Women Engineers at Rutgers University is a collegiate section of the National Society of Women Engineers. Our mission is to create a network and support-system for women in engineering to help them achieve their full potential in careers as engineers and leaders. Our organization offers mentoring, corporate, and networking events, as well as community service, outreach to pre-collegiate students, and many more opportunities to women in engineering and to Rutgers as a whole. Our chapter meets every Tuesday at 7 pm in room 174 in the Busch Campus Center at Rutgers University, New Brunswick.

Awards:

The Rutgers chapter of SWE is sincerely honored to have received the following awards:

- ♦ WE Local Awards (2021)
 - ♦ Outstanding Professional Development Event Award
 - ♦ Joint Professional/Collegiate Event Award
 - ♦ Membership Growth Award
- ♦ SWE Mission Awards (2020) —
 - ♦ Gold Collegiate Chapter
 - ♦ Best Practice, Partnerships with Collegiates, Professionals, Industry & Academia

For more than six decades, SWE has given women engineers a unique place and voice within the engineering industry. Our organization is centered around a passion for our members' success and continues to evolve with the challenges and opportunities reflected in today's exciting engineering and technology specialties.

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT VIRTUAL SEMESTER!

This fall, for the first time in RU SWE history, our semester's events were hosted completely virtually. Our members engaged in various events throughout the semester, all of which were centered around our four main pillars of professional development, community, outreach, and mentorship. Even in these unprecedented times, our community came together to support and uplift one another. We dedicated our time to ensure that our members had a community that they could depend on for any situation that they faced. S(WE) look forward to continuing to engage with our SWE members in a virtual space this upcoming semester and are excited to see what the future holds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Tu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Melissa Tu
President
SWE—Rutgers Chapter

MEET THE TEAM

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:



Advisor: Candiece White

Internal Vice President: Shivani Vyas

President: Melissa Tu

Treasurer: Roy Kim

External Vice President: Kinjal Patel

Secretary: Trinh Vu

CHAIR POSITION HOLDERS:



Industry Mentorship Chair: Bhavini Lakshmanan

Digital Media Chair: Atmika Ponnusamy

Alumni Relations Chair: Anushka Pathak

Historian: Samantha Moy

High School Outreach Chair: Param Patel

EGC Representative: Elizabeth DeFazio

Fundraising Chair: Cate Aberant

Advocacy Chair: Brooklyn M Castillo

Community Service Chair: Kylie Lew

Freshmen Representatives:

Public Relations Chair: Jessica Carvalho

Aadya Gadkari & Maria Galkin

SWELL PROGRAM

SWE Leader-Learner (SWELL) Mentorship Program

By: Shivani Vyas

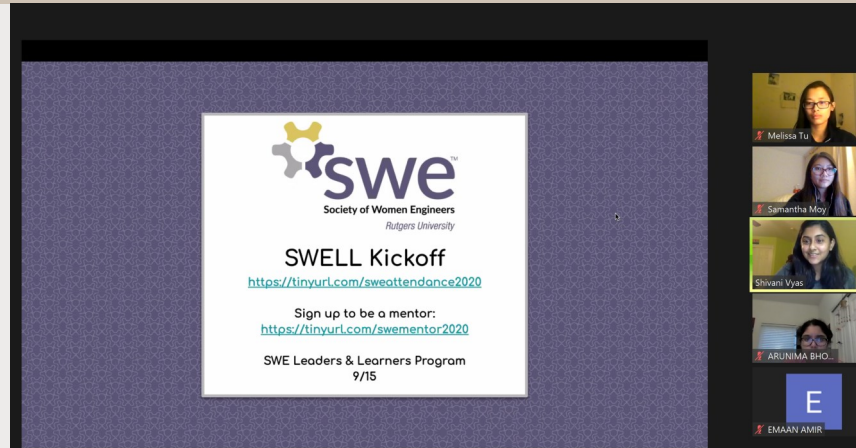
The SWE Leaders & Learners (SWELL) Program was a great success given its virtual format. This mentoring program is open to all students in the School of Engineering and is designed to help incoming freshmen and sophomore students with their first or second year. Each learner was paired with an upperclassman leader who guided and mentored them. The leaders provided insightful advice, support, tips/tricks, and more to the learner throughout the semester over Zoom! In order to build the mentor-mentee relationship throughout the year, the pairs had the opportunity to participate in activities such as solving a virtual escape room and writing thank you letters to medical frontline workers. The program and its most involved participants were celebrated during our End of Year Banquet in December. The SWELL program will continue in the coming Spring semester.



SWELL PROGRAM

SWELL Kickoff By: Cate Aberant

Before SWELL mentors and mentees were paired, SWE hosted the SWELL Kickoff at which members of the program could get to know one another. Members were rotated between breakout rooms of 4-6 people and given various questions to stimulate conversation. Mentees were able to speak with potential mentors and learn more about life at Rutgers and SWE.



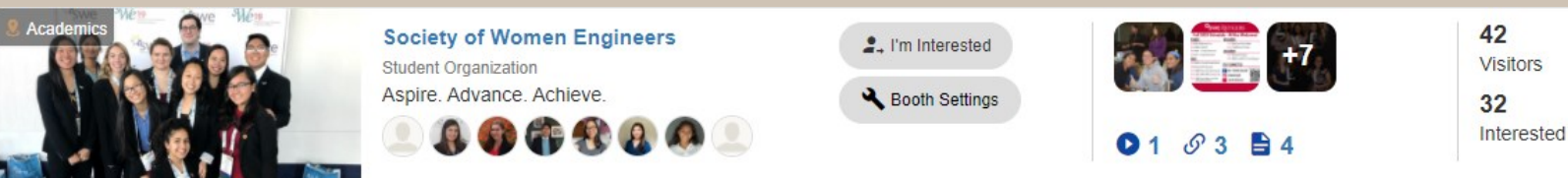
SWELL Virtual Escape Room By: Aadya Gadkari



In order to encourage bonding between SWELL mentors and mentees, SWE hosted a virtual escape room on October 6th. The goal of the puzzle was to “save the world from a cyber attack.” Teams of mentor/mentee pairs competed to finish all of the tasks so that they could save the world! Overall, this event was a fun way for SWELL members to get to know each other and de-stress!

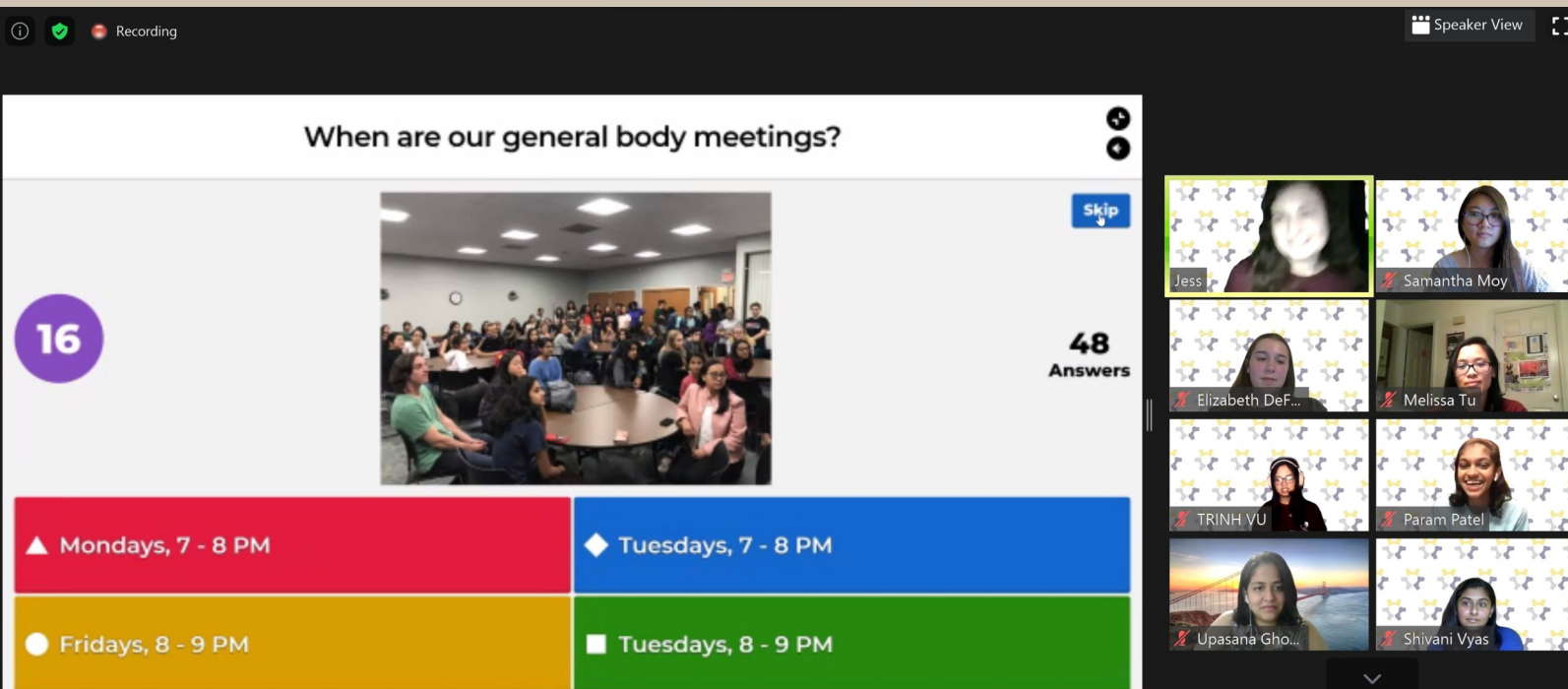
ASPIRE

Rutgers Involvement Fair By: Samantha Moy



From September 14th to 16th, SWE participated in the virtual Rutgers Involvement Fair. This annual event showcases the organizations and societies that Rutgers has to offer. Prospective members visited SWE's virtual booth and learned about upcoming SWE events and opportunities in the areas of professional development, community, outreach, and mentorship.

S(WE) Welcome You By: Jessica Carvalho



SWE kicked off the new school year a little differently with a virtual warm welcome. Held at the beginning of every fall semester, new and returning SWE members gathered on Zoom to learn all about what SWE has to offer with our weekly meetings, mentorship programs, and professional conferences. The board members presented an overview of SWE's mission and how other general members can get more involved throughout the year. Finally to conclude the night, attendees joined breakout sessions to meet the board members.

ASPIRE

Cards for Frontline Workers By: Kylie Lew

Despite an entire semester of remote learning and online meetings, SWE found ways to continue serving the community. This past fall, SWE members made lovely pop-up cards for the frontline workers at Saint Peter's University Hospital, a local hospital in the New Brunswick area. These cards were filled with messages of appreciation and support for the heroes working around the clock. SWE would like to thank all the frontline workers and hope the cards brighten their day!



Girl Scout Lab Tours By: Param Patel



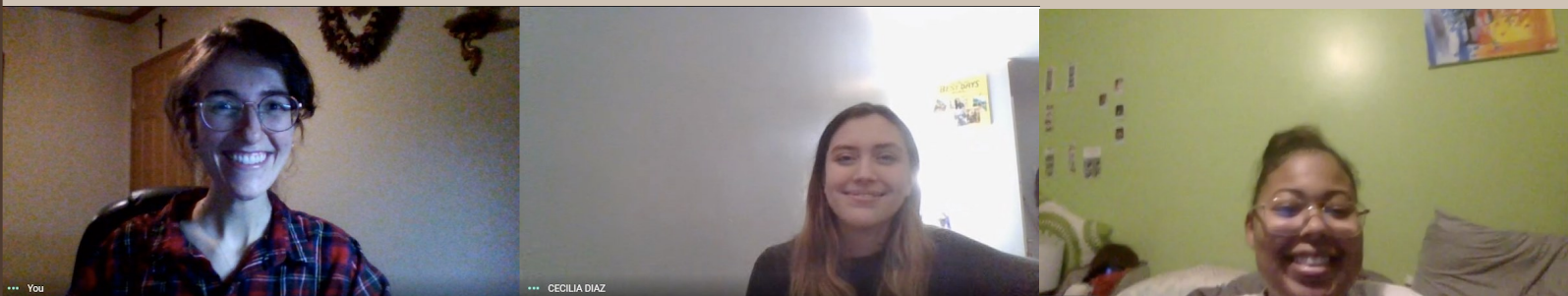
Rutgers SWE hosted our 6th Annual Virtual Girl Scout Lab Tours on November 21st, 2020. We had over 50 scouts from 10 troops join us for presentations by undergraduate and graduate SWE members. The event included 4 research labs, from different engineering departments, which each talked about the numerous channels of inquiry that they handle and how their research is evolving over the course of the pandemic.

Previous year's in-person event, at which the troops participated in fun experiments!

ADVANCE

Industry Mentorship Program Kickoff

By: Bhavini Lakshmanan

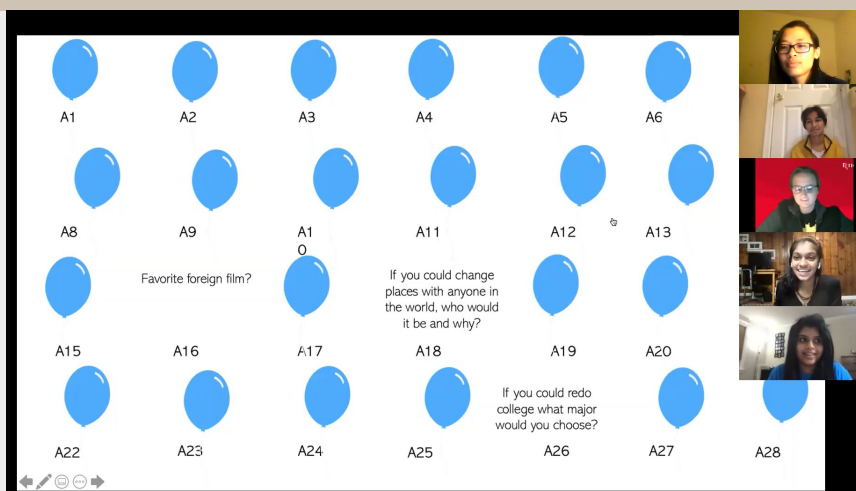


The Industry Mentorship Program connects undergraduate mentees with industry professionals who guide the mentees through their early professional development journeys! The program had its official kickoff on September 25th, 2020 where mentors and mentees met each other for the first time. This year we had 33 successful mentor-mentee pairings! Throughout the semester, the pairs met monthly to discuss various professional development topics and career advice. SWE thanks all the amazing professionals who are mentors in the IMP program this year!

Personal Narrative Workshop x AT&T

By: Brooklyn M Castillo

On October 6th, SWE partnered with AT&T to help SWE members and alumni learn more about themselves and the company. Using an interactive balloon popping activity, members randomly chose others to answer questions ranging from places they would like to travel to their favorite hobbies. SWE would like to thank AT&T for holding this event and having an exceptional performance in an online environment!



ADVANCE

UPS Cracking the Virtual Career Fair By: Samantha Moy

Pre-Career Fair Tips



- Prepare resume
- Prepare LinkedIn profile
- Prepare professional attire
- Research organizations
- Partner with University's career services center
- Prepare questions



UPS | 2020



In preparation for recruiting season, SWE members learned how to navigate virtual career fairs and discussed full-time and internship opportunities with UPS recruiters on Tuesday, October 6th. This event was one of many helpful sessions leading up to the first virtual SHE-SWE-MEET Career Fair.

Alumni Panel By: Anushka Pathak

Meet the Panelists



Madeleine Modugno



Elisa Orsini



Cristina Bordas



Angel Matthew



Sophia Blanc



Erica Wysocki



Nishtha Sharma



Sara Koshy

Meet the Panelists

On November 17th, SWE held its first alumni panel of the year featuring eight of our lovely alumni with various majors and backgrounds. During the first half, the alumni answered common questions about their Rutgers experiences and how they shaped their journey post-graduation. The event concluded with a casual networking session via breakout rooms where members and alumni held further discussions and shared their stories. Thank you to our alumni who took the time connect with the undergraduate members!

ADVANCE

SHE-SWE-MEET Career Fair By: Kinjal Patel



The SHE-SWE-MEET Career Fair was our chapter's largest testament to the challenges of transitioning online.

In 2020, SWE helped organize the first virtual SHE-SWE-MEET Career Fair, Rutgers University's largest student-run career fair. We are incredibly grateful for our **63 company partners** who have been dedicated to recruiting during the pandemic. Overall, Rutgers SWE, along with SHE and MEET, were able to host **13 hospitality suites, 5 professional development events, and 2883 1:1 meetings** between recruiters and students.

As the only dedicated engineering and computer science career fair at Rutgers University, we have an immense gratitude for our corporate sponsors, without whom our SHE-SWE-MEET Career Fair would not be possible.



ACHIEVE

S(WE) Know What You Did in Quarantine

By: Elizabeth DeFazio

ELIZABETH: PROCESS ENGINEER AT PHILLIPS 66

HOW I GOT THERE

- 💡 ATTENDED THE MEGA CAREER FAIR AND SPOKE WITH A RECRUITER IN SEPTEMBER
- 💡 INVITED TO AN INFO SESSION AND INTERVIEW THE NEXT WEEK
- 💡 RECEIVED AN OFFER EARLY OCTOBER



SWE hosted its annual “S(WE) Know What You Did Last Summer” event on October 27th with an added twist... we wanted to highlight what members did during quarantine. Members shared in-person and virtual internship experiences, as well as other past opportunities. Students learned about the application process, the role itself, and lessons learned. Overall, this event aimed to educate and encourage SWE members to pursue a variety of upcoming summer opportunities.

Bob Ross Paint Night By: Atmika Ponnusamy

On Tuesday, November 10th we held a virtual Bob Ross Paint Night. SWE members followed along as one of our board members, Atmika Ponnusamy, played the role of Bob Ross and taught everyone how to create a fun mountain landscape. Using whatever art supplies they could find, members took a break from studying for midterms and enjoyed de-stressing together in Zoom breakout groups.



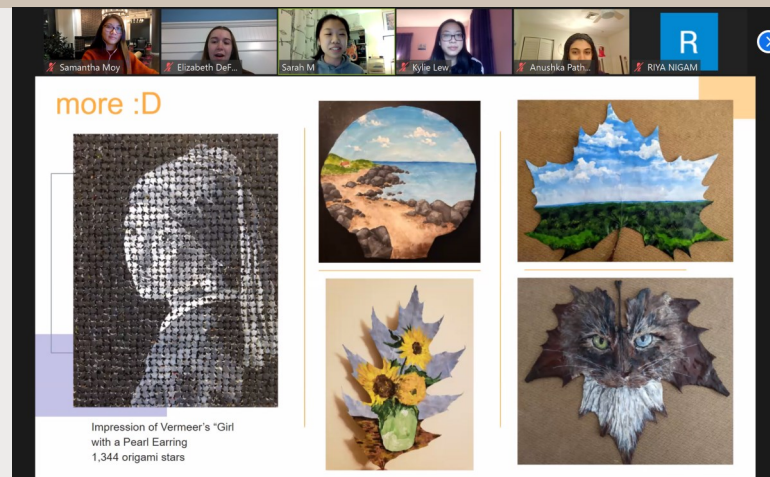
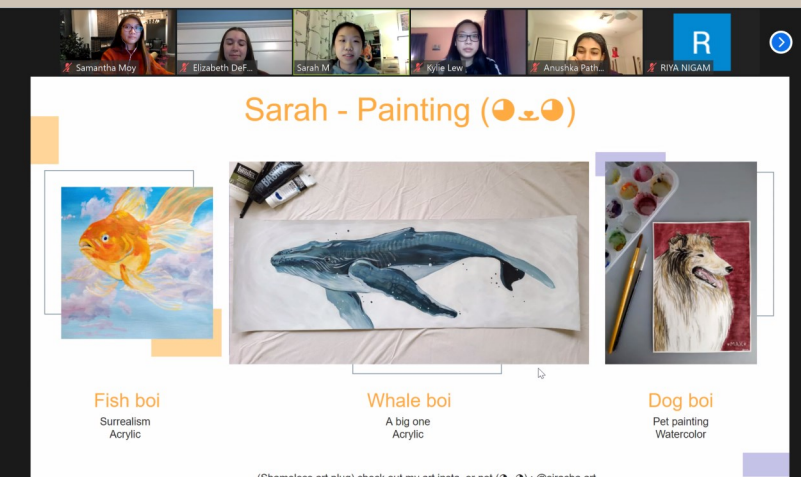
ACHIEVE

WE20 Conference By: Melissa Tu

From November 2nd-13th, our SWE section sponsored 48 members to attend the National Conference WE20, which was held virtually for the first time. This was the largest number of members brought to a conference thanks to the generous support of our sponsors. WE20 was a valuable experience that provided 15,000+ collegiate and professional SWE members the opportunity to develop both personally and professionally. Over the course of the two weeks, our members were able to engage in workshops, panels, networking sessions, as well as a career fair with 300+ companies.



Passion Projects By: Maria Galkin

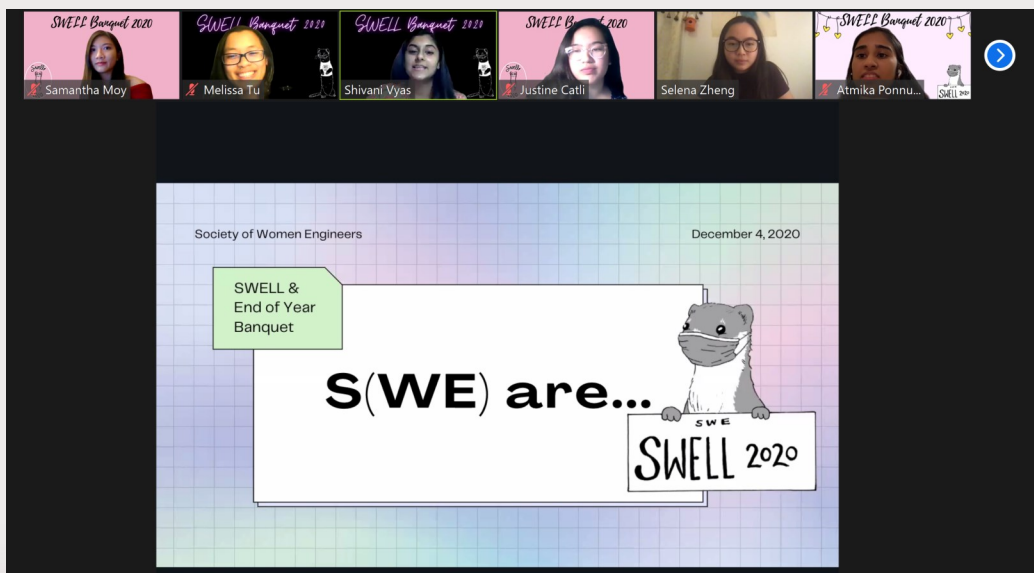


To conclude the busy fall semester, SWE members gathered virtually on Tuesday, December 1st to share their passions outside of engineering. Through short powerpoint presentations, videos, and photos, a group of eight volunteers talked to our members about their unique hobbies and talents, including art, Indian classical dance, bullet journaling, travel, and scholarship hunting. The volunteers shared their personal stories of how they got involved in their passions, as well as how they make time for them. This event served as a great opportunity for SWE members to get to know each other in the virtual environment, find peers with similar interests, and wind down just before final exams!

ACHIEVE

End of Year Banquet By: Trinh Vu

During our annual fall banquet, we celebrated the SWELL program with all of the mentors, mentees and SWE members. Although we couldn't enjoy our dinner in-person, we were all able to order food and still enjoy each other's company. We also recognized our most dedicated members and most active SWELL pairs. Lastly, we closed out the night by playing fun online games. It was the perfect way to end another fantastic semester for SWE and made us even more excited for the spring semester!



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