Society of Women Engineers

Some Best Practices from the Largest Collegiate SWE Section

- 5928 undergrad+ grad eng/science students at Mines
- 27.9% female (31.5% freshman are female)
- 715 SWE members (43% of females at Mines)
- Success has been due to
  1. Institutional and campus support
  2. Early recruitment of women to Mines and SWE
  3. Strong corporate partnerships
  4. Outreach, professional development, and community development opportunities for SWE members through a corporate leadership model
Institutional Support

• Expanded Campus Commitment since ~2002
  – Full-time VP for Diversity and Inclusion
  – Full-time WISEM Director
  – Full-time MEP Director
  – Extra compensation+release time for SWE Director

• SWE Faculty Advisor & WISEM Partnership

• Resources Allocation

• Recruitment & Retention Strategies
  – New admissions officer focused on diversity and inclusion
  – Registrar-like membership management model that maximizes participation
Recruitment & Outreach

- Making The Connection
- Girl Scout Engineering Day
- Energy Leaders
- Girls Lead the Way
- Math & Science Nights
- SWE Newsletter

Community Development

- Networking
- Social Activities
- Continuum Celebration
Corporate Support

- Corporate Donations
- Professional Development
- Scholarship Opportunities
- Career Information & Exploration
Professional Development

- Evening With Industry
- Networking Reception
- Retention
- Intentional professional development and activities to foster a sense of community and identity as engineers

Summary

**Result:** An active, vibrant SWE chapter that is helping make an environment at Mines that is more and more open, inclusive, and supportive of women students in engineering.

3. Aggressive courting of corporate partnerships
4. Intentional professional development and activities to foster a sense of community and identity as engineers