Cal Poly Society of Women Engineers Honors Five Outstanding Members

SAN LUIS OBISPO - The Cal Poly Society of Women Engineers (SWE) announced the recipients of the 2011 Outstanding Women in Engineering and Technology Award at this year’s Evening With Industry banquet in January at the San Luis Obispo Embassy Suites.

In addition, SWE named Jane Lehr from Ethnic Studies as “Most Supportive Professor” and presented $30,000 in scholarships at the gala.

Students highlighted for their outstanding accomplishments were joined by 70 industry representatives from 32 companies, including Amazon, Northrop Grumman, Chevron, Cisco, Yahoo, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Outstanding Women in Engineering and Technology winners were chosen using four criteria: faculty recommendations, demonstrated leadership, related work experience and grade point average. Each of the winners is actively engaged in several extracurricular activities. The five honorees each received a $50 gift certificate to El Corral from Skyworks. The winners were:

Annie Beug

A computer science master’s degree student from San Luis Obispo who graduated from Cal Poly with a bachelor’s degree in 2000, Beug worked as a project manager for AirTreks, Inc., in San Francisco for nine years. Beug maintains an overall GPA of 3.671 and is active in three clubs: the Association for Computer Machinery, the Computer Science Graduate Student Association and Ignite Cal Poly, which sponsors events for Computer Science students during Week of Welcome. Beug also spearheaded the development of a mentoring program for first-year female students in computer science and software engineering.

Sarah R. Chang
A biomedical engineering senior from Riverside, Chang served as liaison between Cal Poly students and the QL+ organization for projects in the QL+ Lab to assist disabled veterans. She has also served as an outreach assistant and group leader for SWE’s Building an Engineer Day and served in student government as Vice President of the Inter-Housing Council. Chang maintains a GPA of 3.577.

Laura Dearborn

A senior industrial engineering student from Visalia, Dearborn has served as the treasurer of the Institute of Industrial Engineers for two years. With a GPA of 3.807, she has been a named to the President’s List for two years and the Dean's List for eight quarters. Dearborn, a College of Engineering Ambassador, completed internships with both Northrop Grumman in Woodland Hills and Duncan Enterprises in Fresno.

Ana Hopper

An industrial engineering graduate student from Laguna Beach, Hopper has served as president of the College of Engineering Ambassadors and is a member of the Institute of Industrial Engineering and Alpha Pi Mu, the IE honors society. Hopper also completed three internships: Cisco Systems in San Jose; Boeing in Everett, Wash; and REC Solar in San Luis Obispo. She has maintained an overall GPA of 3.4.

Jennifer Hughes

A Computer Science graduate student from Camarillo, Hughes is the founder and current president of Women Involved in Software and Hardware, a group that supports and mentors women engineering students. She has interned at LucasFilm, as part of a production systems team, and at Amgen, Inc., in the storage and backup department. A member of University Singers Choir for four years, Hughes has also volunteered for Cal Poly Rose Float, and her interdisciplinary team was a semifinalist in Disney’s ImagiNations design competition in 2009.

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