

Women in Engineering Program

The University of Texas at Austin

What Starts Here Changes The World!

The **Women in Engineering Program (WEP)** connects pre-college and college students to opportunities and careers in engineering and introduces them to mentors, peers and resources in the field. WEP's mission is to increase the overall percentage of women in the Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin. WEP strives to educate girls and women about engineering; inspire women to pursue the unlimited opportunities within the world of engineering; and empower women engineers to benefit society. Women currently comprise 21 percent of the UT Austin engineering student body, ranking third in enrollment of female students among top 10 public engineering institutions. ***WEP reaches over 1,400 precollege students and over 1,500 current engineering students annually through outreach, recruitment, retention, leadership development and career development initiatives.***

Looking Forward: 2009-2010 Opportunities

- **Become a WEP Corporate Partner for 2009-2010!** Opportunities abound to partner with WEP to recruit targeted precollege or current female engineering students such as 1st or 2nd year students, student leaders, all undergraduates, etc.
- Fall 2009 first year class enrollment is projected to be approximately 24% (n=342) female engineering students – **we could have our highest first year female engineering enrollment in history this year!**
- Don't miss out on the 18th Annual Women in Engineering Program Evening with Industry Banquet on February 4, 2010! Registration is online now at www.engr.utexas.edu/wep and space is limited.

Celebrating the Past: 2008-2009 WEP Highlights

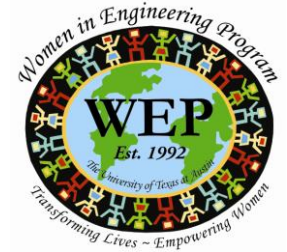
- Fall 2008 enrollment consisted of 21% (n=1,096) undergraduate and 20% (n=434) graduate female engineering students.
- 60 students participated in the WEP Leadership Development Seminar and WEP Career Development Seminar, weekly for-credit fall and spring semester courses designed to provide real-world training and coaching to students through discussions, readings, activities and mentoring.
- WEP's Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day program gave 1,118 first through eighth grade students a chance to have fun doing hands-on engineering activities and to interact with 362 volunteers from 31 partners including Central Texas universities and colleges, companies, student organizations and community organizations.
- Over 1,400 pre-college students (approximately 99% female and 35% ethnic minority) participated in WEP pre-college outreach and recruitment programs.
- WEP had over 2,000 contacts with first year female engineering students participating in WEP's First Year Initiative (FYI); average one year retention rate of FIG participants is 94% (based on average of past 5 years and compared to Cockrell School of Engineering average of 76%).
- 308 students participated in the 2009 WEP Evening with Industry Banquet with 37 companies represented; 80% of participants indicated the Banquet positively impacted their confidence in networking with corporate representatives.
- WEP initiatives were led by four fulltime staff members, 56 Peer Assistance Leaders (PALs), 4 First-year Interest Group Mentors, 1 volunteer staff First-year Interest Group facilitator, 13 student assistants, and more than 500 student, alumni and industry and community volunteers.

Contact Information

Tricia Berry, Director
The University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station C2100, ECJ 2.108
Austin, TX 78712-0284

Women in Engineering Program
Phone 512-471-5650 / Fax 512-232-1885
Email: tsberry@mail.utexas.edu
Web site: www.engr.utexas.edu/wep

Women in Engineering Program 2009-2010 Initiatives



Women in Engineering Program (WEP) initiatives for the 2009-2010 academic year are described below. Minimum support for any WEP initiative is typically \$1,000 with some exceptions. Contact Tricia Berry, WEP Director, for more information about partnership opportunities and how WEP can help you reach your recruiting and diversity goals.

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Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Pre-College Initiatives			
Your Opportunities are Unlimited at UT Austin (YOU@UT) – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday, August 8, 2009, 11:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday, October 12, 2009, 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Saturday, October 31, 2009, 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. WEP Future Student Information Sessions, Fridays at 3:30 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 high school senior women 25 current engineering student volunteers 	Your Opportunities are Unlimited at The University of Texas at Austin (YOU@UT) is a one-day program targeting high school senior women interested in math, science or engineering. The goals of YOU@UT include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing pre-college students' interest in engineering as a choice of major increasing pre-college students' percent chance of applying to UT and majoring in engineering providing leadership and skills development opportunities for current students Student participants are provided opportunities to learn about engineering through creative hands-on sessions and to interact with engineering students and engineers in industry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials Recognition on YOU@UT PowerPoint welcome slides and agenda Participation as panelists and lunch engineers Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Pre-College Initiatives (continued)			
<p>Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (Girl Day) – Saturday, February 20, 2010, 2 – 5 p.m.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,000 pre-college 1st-8th grade students ▪ 250 current engineering student volunteers 	<p>Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (Girl Day) is celebrated internationally during Engineers Week each year. Families and educators are invited to join their students at UT for an afternoon of engineering fun. Girl Day gives over 1,000 first through 8th grade students a chance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have fun doing grade-specific, hands-on engineering activities hosted by student organizations, corporate partners and community organizations • interact with over 300 students, professors and engineers <p>Participating Girl Scouts are able to receive a Girl Day patch available through partnership with the Girl Scouts of Central Texas. Current engineering students are provided leadership and presentation skills development opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Recognition on Girl Day banner and program agenda • Participation as booth presenters, activity room facilitators or general volunteers • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
<p>WE Connect at Explore UT– Saturday, March 6, 2010, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.</p> <p>WE Connect at Spring Break – Friday, March 19, 2010</p> <p>WE Connect “Admitted! Now What?” Sessions – Select Fridays at 2 p.m.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 60 high school senior women ▪ 20 current engineering student volunteers 	<p>WE Connect is an open reception and tour targeting a select group of admitted high school students and their parents. Current engineering students answer questions and provide advice while participants tour the Women Engineers in Littlefield (WELD) residential program. The goals of WE Connect include informing students about WEP and WELD and answering any remaining questions the prospective students or parents may have concerning the Cockrell School of Engineering or their admission to the University.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
<p>Consider Every Option (CEO), June 7-11, 2010, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monday, June 7, 2010 – Toys, Music & Media 2. Tuesday, June 8, 2010 – Fashion, Food & Forensics 3. Wednesday, June 9, 2010 – Energy, Earth & Beyond 4. Thursday, June 10, 2010 – Communities, Environment & Transportation 5. Friday, June 11, 2010 – Body, Mind & Medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 80 high school sophomore, junior and senior women ▪ 20 current engineering student volunteers 	<p>CEO is a day camp recruitment initiative designed to increase the representation of women in engineering by showcasing engineering disciplines at The University of Texas at Austin. The CEO day camp:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ encourages young women to develop an interest in engineering through hands-on experiences and interactions with students and company representatives, ▪ promotes engineering as a viable degree and career choice for women, ▪ educates participants and their parents about pre-college course requirements for engineering undergraduate programs, and ▪ provides current students with leadership and presentation skills development opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Recognition on CEO PowerPoint welcome slides and agenda • Participation as panelists and lunch engineers • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Pre-College Initiatives (continued)			
<p>Women in Engineering at UT Austin (WE@UT) – July 21-22, 2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 80 high school senior women ▪ 20 current engineering student volunteers 	<p>Women Engineers at The University of Texas at Austin (WE@UT) is a program held in conjunction with the University Honors Colloquium. Over 300 high school senior women interested in math, science or engineering who are invited to the Honors Colloquium are invited to arrive one day early and attend WE@UT. WE@UT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduces students to a variety of engineering studies and exciting career options, • exposes students to female engineering role models through hands-on workshops and engineering sessions facilitated and attended by engineering students, faculty and industry professionals, and <p>provides current students with leadership and presentation skills development opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Recognition on WE@UT PowerPoint welcome slides and agenda • Participation as panelists and lunch engineers • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
WEP Retention Initiatives			
<p>First Year Initiative (FYI) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FYI Safety – Monday, August 24, 2009, 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. ▪ FYIIsland – Wednesday, August 26, 2009, 5:30 – 7 p.m. ▪ FYI: PAL/Mentee Meet-n-Greet – Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 6 – 6:45 p.m. ▪ FYI: Scholarships – Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 12 – 1 p.m. ▪ FYI: Stay Connected & Study Abroad – Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. ▪ FYIceland – Monday, January 18, 2010, 5 – 6:30 p.m. ▪ FYI Spring Picnic (with WISE and FIGs) – Thursday, April 1, 2010, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. 	<p>350+ first year engineering women</p>	<p>The First Year Initiative (FYI) is designed to increase the retention rate of first year female engineering students into their second year. FYI events provide academic and peer support to inform students about engineering as a major and to connect students to the engineering community and the resources available to them. As part of FYI, first year women are matched with Peer Assistance Leaders (PALs), undergraduate mentors in their majors, who help answer questions about being an engineering student and maintain communications throughout the fall and spring semesters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of FYI events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Retention Initiatives (continued)			
<p>Women in Engineering in Littlefield (WELD) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moov-in Goodie Bag – August 2009 ▪ WELD Welcome – Monday, August 24, 2009, 4 – 5:15 p.m. ▪ Bi-weekly lunches and dinners throughout the fall and spring semester ▪ WELD WE Connect Tour – Saturday, March 6, 2010 	<p>57 first year engineering women</p>	<p>WELD is a retention-focused program providing first year engineering women the opportunity to live together in a residential community. Participation in WELD allows students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • live in a tight-knit community of women with common interests • live in the closest dorm to the engineering complex • form study groups right where they live • share their experiences with pre-college students participating in WEP recruiting events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of WELD events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes
<p>All About ME First-year Interest Group (FIG) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, Thursdays 2 – 3 p.m.</p>	<p>20 first year mechanical engineering women</p>	<p>The FIG program is a University initiative aimed at retaining students into their second year. Participants take two cohort courses together and meet with a WEP Staff FIG facilitator and peer mentor for a one hour weekly seminar. Seminar topics are selected to help students adjust to life at UT, develop strategies for a successful college career, get connected to their major and have some fun. The All About ME FIG is open to 20 first year women majoring in Mechanical Engineering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of FIG events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes
<p>WEP with ME First-year Interest Group (FIG) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, Tuesdays 2 – 3 p.m.</p>	<p>20 first year mechanical engineering women</p>	<p>The FIG program is a University initiative aimed at retaining students into their second year. Participants take two cohort courses together and meet with a WEP Staff FIG facilitator and peer mentor for a one hour weekly seminar. Seminar topics are selected to help students adjust to life at UT, develop strategies for a successful college career, get connected to their major and have some fun. The WE with ME FIG is open to 20 first year women majoring in Mechanical Engineering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of FIG events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Retention Initiatives (continued)			
<p>Rockin' Pipettes First-year Interest Group (FIG) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, Tuesdays 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.</p>	<p>20 first year chemical engineering women</p>	<p>The FIG program is a University initiative aimed at retaining students into their second year. Participants take two cohort courses together and meet with a WEP Staff FIG facilitator and peer mentor for a one hour weekly seminar. Seminar topics are selected to help students adjust to life at UT, develop strategies for a successful college career, get connected to their major and have some fun. The Rockin' Pipettes FIG is open to 20 first year women in Chemical Engineering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of FIG events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes
<p>The ACES. First-year Interest Group (FIG) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, Thursdays 2 – 3 p.m.</p>	<p>20 first year architectural and civil engineering women</p>	<p>The FIG program is a University initiative aimed at retaining students into their second year. Participants take two cohort courses together and meet with a WEP Staff FIG facilitator and peer mentor for a one hour weekly seminar. Seminar topics are selected to help students adjust to life at UT, develop strategies for a successful college career, get connected to their major, and have some fun. The ACES FIG is open to 20 first year women in Architectural and Civil Engineering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of FIG events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes
<p>Fabulous Intelligent Girls First-year Interest Group (FIG) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, Tuesdays 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.</p>	<p>20 first year engineering women</p>	<p>The FIG program is a University initiative aimed at retaining students into their second year. Participants take two cohort courses together and meet with a WEP Staff FIG facilitator and peer mentor for a one hour weekly seminar. Seminar topics are selected to help students adjust to life at UT, develop strategies for a successful college career, get connected to their major, and have some fun. The Brilliant Biomedics FIG is open to 20 first year women in any engineering major.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of FIG events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Retention Initiatives (continued)			
<p>Peer Assistant Leaders (PALs) – Fall 2009, Spring 2010 and Summer 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PAL Training at the Student Leaders Conference – Monday, August 24, 2009 ▪ PAL Meet-n-Greet – Tuesday, September 1, 2009 ▪ PAL Meeting – Monday, January 18, 2010 	<p>61 second, third and fourth year engineering women</p>	<p>PALs provide support to first year engineering women transitioning from high school into the Cockrell School of Engineering and work with WEP to recruit students to UT.</p> <p>PALs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • receive skills development and leadership training, • serve as resources and role models to pre-college and first year engineering students, • organize opportunities for first year women to get connected within the Cockrell School of Engineering, and • help coordinate pre-college programs. <p>Over 50 PALs representing all departments are selected and trained by WEP each year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of PAL trainings or events • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes • Access to student resumes
<p>Women In their Second year of Engineering (WISE) – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WISE Meeting – Tuesday, August 25, 2009, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. ▪ WISE Resume Workshop – Tuesday, September 8, 2009 ▪ WISE Options Networking Dinner – Monday, September 21, 2009 ▪ WISE Networking Reception at Spring EXPO – February 3 or 5, 2010 ▪ WISE Spring Picnic (with FYI and FIGs) – April 1, 2010 	<p>200+ second year engineering women</p> <p>78 second year engineering women accepted into WISE program</p>	<p>The WISE program is designed with the needs, occasional doubts and questions of second year students in mind. WISE provides advice and a career exploration network that helps students explore their options and make informed decisions about their college careers and future plans. WISE encourages women to make their second year the year to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commit to completing an engineering degree • solidify their choice of major • explore career options through externships, internships, co-ops and undergraduate research <p>WISE consists of special events, targeted communications, peer mentoring and skills development through WEP pre-college program volunteer opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists or during welcome of Y2 events • Recognition on Y2 event PowerPoint welcome slides • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
<p>WEP Leadership Seminar – Fall 2009</p>	<p>40 second, third and fourth year engineering women</p>	<p>The purpose of the WEP Leadership Seminar is to provide second year undergraduate students practical applications to assessing their leadership and communication styles and applying what they learn through interactive activities. Seminars include interactive leadership role plays, personal assessments, industry leader guest speakers and MBA-level course material. The 2-credit hour, pass/fail course is restricted to engineering majors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes ▪ Access to student resumes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Retention Initiatives (continued)			
Graduates Linked with Undergraduates in Engineering (GLUE) – October 2009 through Spring 2010	24 second and third year engineering women <i>and</i> 24 MS and PhD engineering students	GLUE gives undergraduate students the opportunity to gain practical research experience by pairing them with graduate students in their majors. Undergraduate students assist with research projects and participate in a weekly seminar class where students share their research experiences, learn about research options in industry and academia, hear from panels of graduate students and engineers, and learn about graduate school and other undergraduate research options. Graduate students participate in career development workshops and gain mentoring, project management and teaching experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Recognition on syllabus and online Blackboard course management site • Participation as panelists or at end of semester celebration • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
WEP Participant Scholarships – Fall 2009, Spring 2010 and Summer 2010	Participants and volunteers in WEP pre-college and current student events and initiatives	WEP Participant Scholarships are for participants in WEP initiatives and are aimed at increasing the retention of women in engineering by encouraging students to participate in activities, to get connected with peers, mentors and resources, and to engage in skills and career development opportunities. Scholarships are awarded throughout the academic year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
WEP Career Development Initiatives			
WEP Career Development Seminar – Spring 2010	40 second, third and fourth year engineering women	The purpose of the WEP Career Development Seminar is to provide undergraduate students practical applications for succeeding in the workplace and applying what they learn through interactive activities. The seminar offers career advice and guidance to engineering students by connecting them with professionals and peers in their fields. Seminars include interactive leadership role plays, networking with engineers and alumni through Open Mentoring™ and through in-class activities, and MBA-level course material. The 2-credit hour, pass/fail course is restricted to engineering majors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Participation as panelists • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes ▪ Access to student resumes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Career Development Initiatives (continued)			
Evening with Industry Banquet – February 4, 2010	330 undergraduate and graduate engineering students (75% women; 95% undergraduate)	The Evening with Industry Banquet is an annual networking event hosted by the Women in Engineering Program the night prior to the Spring Engineering EXPO. The Banquet is an excellent way for industry representatives to interact with engineering students interested in summer internship, co-op and full-time career opportunities. Representatives from over 40 companies network with over 330 students at a reception prior to dinner, enjoy networking and an awards presentation during dinner and have an opportunity to continue discussions at the conclusion of the program. Corporate sponsorship of a table at the dinner reserves space for two company representatives and seven students. Companies request students with specific engineering majors and students sign up on a first-come, first-served basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition as table sponsor on email advertisements, communications and marketing materials • Visibility on student Web registration system • Recognition in Banquet Program Booklet and during WEP Update
WEP Skills Development Scholarships – Fall 2009, Spring 2010 and Summer 2010	Coordinators and volunteers in WEP pre-college and current student events and initiatives	WEP Skills Development Scholarships are for volunteers or participants in WEP initiatives who are developing leadership, organizational, communication or technology skills. Scholarships encourage participation in these career and skills development opportunities. Scholarships are awarded throughout the academic year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes
WEP Community Building Initiatives			
WEP eCommunity – Fall 2009 and Spring 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1,400+ currently enrolled engineering undergraduate and graduate women 	The WEP eCommunity serves as an on-line resource center for students seeking academic and career guidance and as a communication tool for WEP. The eCommunity on Blackboard provides information on WEP initiatives, opportunities for students to engage in Cockrell School of Engineering and UT Austin events, access to resource materials from WEP career development and other initiatives, and tips and tricks for academic and personal success in college and in engineering. The eCommunity on Blackboard is automatically made available to all women enrolled in the Cockrell School of Engineering. The eCommunity on Facebook consists of a WEP Group as well as department specific WEP groups and other communities based on WEP cohorts. The eCommunity on LinkedIn is for female engineering alums from UT Austin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Recognition on eCommunity online Blackboard site • Company online postings and announcements • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes

Initiative and Date	Target Audience	Initiative Description	Partner Visibility
WEP Community Building Initiatives (continued)			
<p>Community Building Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fall End of Semester Celebration – Monday, December 7, 2009, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. ▪ WEP Breakfast Holiday Open House – Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ▪ Tiff’s Treats with the Dean, March TBD ▪ Women’s History Month Celebration Open House, Wednesday, March 24, 2010 ▪ WEP Spring Picnic (with WEP FIGS, FYI, WISE participants) – Thursday, April 1, 2010 ▪ Spring End of Semester Celebration – Monday, May 10, 2010, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. ▪ WEP Breakfast Send-off Open House – Wednesday, May 12, 2010, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 100 currently enrolled engineering undergraduate and graduate women 	<p>WEP Community Building Initiatives are aimed at addressing the critical student success factor of interaction with other students and participation in student activities. End of Semester Celebrations and Open Houses provide students a structured study break prior to finals where they may celebrate semester successes and accomplishments with each other, write welcome letters or tips for success to incoming students, or share study tips and finals survival strategies. The End of Semester Celebrations are highly interactive community building events attended by over 100 students each semester. WEP’s Women’s History Month Celebration includes the placement of a Women’s History Month banner within the Cockrell School of Engineering area and the hosting of an open house to celebrate the accomplishments of women engineers from our student, staff, faculty, alumni and industry population.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition on all email communications and marketing materials • Recognition on End of Semester PowerPoint welcome slides • Participation in events with opportunities for addressing the participants • Company handouts, giveaways and/or door prizes