

INWES PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

June, 2005

INWES (International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists)

was established to:

“Strengthen the capacity of individuals, organisations, and corporations to influence policies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) worldwide, and encourage the education, recruitment, retention, support, and advancement of professional women and students through an international network of organisations and experts.”

With the goal of:

“Building a better future worldwide through full and effective participation of women and girls in all aspects of STEM.”

INWES central activities are:

- I Outreach activities
- II ICWES conferences series and workshops
- III Youth program
- IV Voice in the mainstream and advocacy
- V Career development

Geographical regions considered by INWES:

North America

South and Central America, and the Caribbean

Western Europe (including Israel and Turkey)

Eastern Europe

French speaking Africa

English speaking Africa

Middle East

Central Asia

Southeast Asia

Far East Asia

Australia and New Zealand

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I - OUTREACH

Main contact(s):

Monique Frize

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Program 1 - Scholarships

Description:

INWES wishes to allocate scholarships to women entering engineering or natural sciences at university level, one for each eleven official INWES regions.

Delivery Target:

One scholarship for each of the eleven INWES regions.

Program 2 - Develop a web portal

Description:

The development of the Web portal was approved by the Board in 2004 at the meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya as one of its top priorities.

Item delivered:

The Phase I portal (no sign in by members) was successfully delivered in the fall of 2004. This is a completely new design of our first web site. Very positive comments from everyone since it has been published.

Program

- Phase II development proposal includes four different types of access groups (public, members, committees, executive committee plus board, super admin) with unique access code and password for each person, registration on line, Google search engine. The four Access Groups will be able to upload files and categorize them based on the File Categories managed by Super Admin or Board Member.
- Last phase includes Web portal support and content development.

I – OUTREACH

Program 3 - Develop the network of associations

Description:

INWES put in place a number of activities develop its network through the creation of local and regional organisations for women in engineering and science that will become a member of its international family. To do this, INWES plans to:

- Provide seed money to help start up the association;
- provide information on how to start an association;
- grant access to its website when a member;
- pair up the new association with a “sister association”.

Main Location of Activities:

In regions.

Item delivered:

A regional organisation for women in engineering and science in India has been created in 2004-2005 with some sponsorship from INWES through one of our Individual Board Member.

Project 1:

Develop a manual on how to start up an association.

This manual will save time and resources for women in STEM in a region or in a country wishing to start up an association. A first draft was prepared by Gail Matson and Sue Bird during AWSE workshop in Kenya, August 2004. It is being completed by Misa Gratton.

Project 2:

Help start between one and three new associations per year.

Project 3: (To be developed at the next Board meeting):

Establish a “sister association” program.

II - ICWES Conference Series and workshops

Main contact(s):

Sue Bird

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Program 1 - ICWES Conference Series

Description:

Twelve ICWES triennial conferences (International Conferences for Women Engineers and Scientists) have been held since 1964. Since the creation of INWES, ICWES series is one of its main programs. INWES involvement into ICWES series is to:

- Provide continuity and communications (schedule & programs).
- Identify potential locations 6 years out.
- Work with host organization/country on logistics, notifications & registration.
- Provide sponsorship for visas and other support needed for fundraising, etc.

Main contact(s):

Sue Bird

E-mail: sue@birdacoustics.co.uk

Delivery Target:

INWES and other STEM organizations worldwide.

Items Delivered:

No	Year	Dates	Place		Participation
I	1964	June 15-21	New York, USA	Focus for the Future Developing Engineering and Scientific Talent	
II	1967		Cambridge, UK	Enough for Everyone. The Application of Technology to World Problems	
III	1971	September 5-12	Turin, Italy	Planning for Progress. Women's Professional & Family Duties	
IV	1975	September 8-13	Cracow, Poland	New Techniques in the Service of Mankind	
V	1978	September 4-8	Rouen, France	La Contribution des Femmes Ingenieurs et Scientifiques à la Solution des Problèmes que le Progres Technologique pose aux Diverses Sociétés Humaines	
VI	1981	September 8-12	Bombay, India	Science, Technology & Society	

VII	1984	June 17-24	Washington DC, USA	Technology: An International Bridge	
VIII	1988		Abdjan, Ivory Cost	Science, Technologie et Developpment	
IX	1991	July 14-20	Warwick, UK		
X	1996	October 8-10	Budapest, Hungary		
XI	1999	July 24 - 27	Makuhari, Chiba, Japan	Science and Technology for Global Ecology	3 000 participants including young girls
XII	2002	July 27-31	Ottawa, Canada	Women in a Knowledge - Based Society	550 from 46 countries

Upcoming conference

ICWES13 – The 13th International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists will take place August 26-29, 2005 in Seoul Korea.

Project 1: Sponsorship of a one-day Symposium on Gender:

Colloquium on gender “Creating integrated knowledge on gender and science & engineering: perspectives from women's studies, the humanities and the social sciences”

Project 2: Best student’s papers on gender

Four scholarships for best student’s papers on gender presented at ICWES13

1. Two 1st prizes: 2 x 1 000 \$US
2. Two 2nd prizes: 2 x 500 \$US

II - ICWES Conference Series and workshops

Program 2 - Regional workshops

Description:

Regional workshops are organized by INWES members representing a host country every year between ICWES conferences. Their main purpose is to develop regional participation of women in science and engineering and interest them to INWES. They are expected to produce long-term outcomes of collaboration, networking, and development of a staging platform for future initiatives.

Delivery Target:

INWES and other STEM regional organizations.

Main Location of Activities:

One of INWES eleven regions.

Items Delivered:

1. In 2003, KWSE with INWES successfully delivered an international conference BIEN2003, in Daejeon, Korea, with several hundreds of participants from many countries. One of the goals was to expose Korean academia and industries to an international group that will gather in Seoul for ICWES13. It also helped organizers to experience the potential work involved in organizing the ICWES13.
2. In 2004, a leadership workshop for AWSE (African Women in Science and Engineering) was developed with the joint support of INWES and UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya. Some 80 women leaders in science and engineering from 18 African countries participated. An INWES Board meeting was also organized during this meeting. The event generated a significant number of INWES members, both organizational and individual and the development of permanent networking opportunities between INWES and African women leaders.

Upcoming workshop (2006):

Regional workshop in Poland (most probably in Wroclaw).

Upcoming workshop (2007):

Regional workshop in South America.

III - YOUTH Program

Main contact(s):

Jennifer Flanagan

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Program 1 – Youth participation at ICWES conference series

Description:

Youth Program at ICWES conference series:

Invite up to 25 local girls to participate in 1-2 days of science and engineering hands-on activities. These activities would inspire and excite the girls about science and engineering. We would connect the girls into the INWES conference so that they could meet women role models working in science and engineering.

Budget is to support two Canadian experts to organize and run this program at ICWES13 in Korea and for local expenses (materials, lunch for the girls, etc...).

Program 2 - Essay competition for girls and young women

Essays to be written by young women in grades 9 to 12 on why they wish to become a scientist or engineer. The essay would describe their study and career plan and also include a short biography of a women scientist or engineer from their region (in past eras or current).

Delivery Target:

Two prizes for each of the 11 regions: 1st prize: \$1 000; 2nd prize: \$500.

(More prizes could be added when budget allows).

IV - VOICE IN MAINSTREAM SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AND ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN STEM

Program 1 - INWES representation to international events and advocacy

INWES directors participate actively in significant international discussions on issues of concern (environment, poverty, etc...)

Main contact(s):

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Main Location of Activities:

Worldwide.

Item delivered:

- Sue Bird was the INWES representative at a meeting in Bahrain on 6/7 February 2005 where The Arab Network for Women in Science and Technology was launched. Almost all Arabic countries were represented.
- Monique Frize will represent INWES and speak at the Symposium “Linking Efforts: Women and ICT International Organizations” in Baltimore in June and at the “Crossing Cultures, Changing Lives” Conference in Oxford (UK) in August.
- INWES representation on the Steering Committee (SC) of the Gender Caucus (GC) for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
- AAAS/UNESCO Meeting (Washington) Monique became member of the “Capacity Building Committee to eradicate poverty” of WFE0 (other meetings were held in Washington in June 2004, Shanghai in November 2004.
- UNESCO World Report on Science, Technology and Gender -2005 (WRSTG): Pam Wain, president on WES (UK), a member of INWES, represented INWES at the Paris meeting, 24-26 November 2004, and Shirley Malcom (AAAS U.S.A) represented INWES at the IRSTG Regional Meeting in Mexico City, 2-4 December 2004. Claire Deschênes is representing INWES at the meeting in Marrakech June 26-30, 2005.

PARTIAL LIST OF THEMES FOR ADVOCACY:

Ethics in Science;

The environment, sustainable development and climate change;

Increasing the participation of girls and women in STEM;

Equity and Diversity: policies for change, research on issues, action plans for change.