

SWE NEXT



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What is Agricultural Engineering?

It's harvest time! It's that time of year when the leaves start to change. We make trips to the pumpkin patch or corn maze, and we get ready for Halloween and Thanksgiving. It's a time when agriculture plays an important role (not that it doesn't always). How many of us enjoy the season without realizing the importance of Agricultural Engineering?

Thanks to Agricultural Engineers we have access to quality farming tools that allow for efficient food production and harvesting. They also study and design the best methods for land use in farming. Learn more about Agricultural Engineering by watching these two videos below.

- [What is an Agricultural Engineer?](#)
- [Agricultural Engineering Degrees and Careers](#)

A Day in the Life of an Agricultural Engineer

Meet Katelyn Lichte, an Agricultural Engineer for Corteva Agriscience. Find out how she got there, the types of projects she's working on, and how you can #BeThatEngineer on SWE's [*All Together*](#) Blog.



Imposter Syndrome

Have you ever been in a room and suddenly felt like you didn't belong? Maybe everyone else in the room seems like experts and you don't think you can contribute anything useful.

This is called Imposter Syndrome and it's a very common feeling that can affect anyone. Very intelligent people can be afflicted by this. They seem to forget about their knowledge and qualifications and worry that others will discover their lack of competence.

As a woman working in a male-dominated field, it's easy to feel like an outsider, undeserving of your place at the table. It's important to remember that being a woman does not make you less qualified. If you've got the job, it means someone recognized your capabilities and wants your input! Next time you worry that someone might not like your idea, stand up for yourself and contribute!

For more about Imposter Syndrome and tips on how to overcome it check out these articles below.

- [**Yes, Impostor Syndrome Is Real. Here's How to Deal With It.**](#)
- [**Feel like a fraud? Here's How to Overcome Imposter Syndrome.**](#)

Contribute to this newsletter!

Do you want to contribute to the SWENext Newsletter? If you've got an interesting story you want to share, you can write an article as a guest reporter! Just contact us with your idea at [**swenext@swe.org**](mailto:swenext@swe.org).

SWENext Clubs Corner

We are continuing our plan to feature a new SWENext Club every month. This month we are featuring the **West Ranch SWENext Club**.

3...2....1...BLAST OFF! The West Ranch SWENext Club launched 2017 with the goal of bringing awareness to the high school and greater local communities of Stevenson Ranch, California. Tanja Brosche, of the Los Angeles SWE Section, made it her goal to increase the number of girls enrolling in engineering and STEM classes and this Club has done just that.



One of the group's biggest annual events is where students participate in the Team America Rocketry Challenge. The 9-12th graders of this club build and launch a rocket together, getting an out-of-this-world hands-on experience! Students have also visited NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) where they got to see all the groundbreaking projects the engineers there are working on. They were inspired to see many successful JPL women in tons of different STEM fields defying the laws of gravity every day!



Throughout the school year, they also have about five professional women in various engineering fields give guest talks as well as visit other local engineering companies. This year, the SWENexters of West Ranch are excited to work with local Elementary and Middle School students through STEM Outreach to ignite the spark in these younger students with the hopes of propelling them into

STEM just as they have been through their Club. These girls are truly reaching for the stars!

Interested in having your SWENext Club highlighted in the monthly SWENext Newsletter? Email Haley at hla37@cornell.edu!

How to start a SWENext Club

Many of you may be wondering how you can start a SWENext club in your area, and we want to make that easy for you. Check out [SWENext Clubs 101](#) to learn more. To register a SWENext Club, you must have a SWE member as an advisor. Your teacher can serve as an advisor by joining SWE for a reduced rate as an [Educator Member](#). Or find your [local SWE section](#) to contact SWE members near you.

Questions about SWENext Clubs? Contact us at swenextclubs@gmail.com.

SWENext Social Media Challenge with a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card!

This month, we're challenging you to think about how you first got interested in STEM. We're particularly interested in hearing about any books that got you hooked on engineering or science, or a book you gave to someone else to get them into STEM.

Share a picture of the book with us and tell everyone why it's so great!

An example of an inspirational book is [Hidden Figures \(Young Readers' Edition\)](#). Like the movie from 2016, it shares the story of four African American female mathematicians at NASA who helped propel the US space program forward.

Post it by November 4 on our closed [High School SWENexter Facebook Group](#).
#BeThatEngineer

The **winning SWENexter** will be selected by random from all entries and will win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

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