



Dear Engineering People,

I would like to invite you to take a part in the creation of Wisconsin's only IEEE Affinity Group of Women in Engineering (WIE).

Before I continue I would like to introduce myself. My name is Edina Bajrektarević, and I am an Operations Electrical Engineer for American Transmission Company. I recently graduated from West Virginia University, where I obtained a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. I originally came from Bosnia and Herzegovina, where I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Power Engineering.

After attending several IEEE meetings, I thought it would be very valuable to form an Affinity Group of WIE for the State of Wisconsin. I believe that recognition of women in our field is very important, and, in that regard, I would like to encourage you to join this Affinity Group. We will attempt to recognize each woman in Electrical Engineering that lives and works in the State of Wisconsin.

This group will address some important professional and educational issues for women as engineers and it will, as a key function, support the retention of women in engineering. Main activities of the group will include seminars and workshops, where featured professionals will share their success and experience in their engineering field, and some interesting aspects of their life.

I understand that some of you provide great support to the IEEE Student Branch Affinity Groups, and to the Society of Women Engineers in Milwaukee. In that regard I would like to encourage you to bring your experience and professionalism to this group. Your presence will greatly contribute to the work of the group as a whole and, furthermore, you may have opportunities to share experiences from our group with the younger generation.

I would like to provide you with some interesting information related to the formation of the WIE Affinity Group. Here is the process:

1. Group requires six IEEE members willing to be part of the founding affinity group and provide IEEE with their names and IEEE member numbers.
2. One person will need to be responsible for the affinity group until the first meeting is held and the Officers are formally appointed.
3. Group will require Section's Chief Officer approval. An Affinity Group would depend administratively and financially on the Section.

4. Group will need to keep a certain level of activities, at least two activities per year, and a roster of members.

WIE Society will answer any questions we may have regarding the work of this group. Officer resources are available online at the WIE web page.

I hope that you will join the Wisconsin Area WIE Chapter, and that you will find the activities of the WIE group of interest and value.

Sincerely,

Edina.

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