AIAA is having a general body meeting on this coming Thursday, February 27th. Later in the semester, a trip to Boeing and possibly another inspirational speaker will be scheduled. Last semester, AIAA successfully made its first ever trip to the American Helicopter Museum. As the only helicopter museum in the country, the American Helicopter Museum restores and displays historical aircraft and focuses on the science and technology of vertical flight.

National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)

During the last week of January, the Villanova Student Chapter of NSPE hosted their second annual joint-chapter networking dinner where distinguished guest Eric Tappert spoke about the St. Francis dam failure. Students had a chance to network with professionals in their field of interest and gained valuable insight and connections. This coming March, we will be holding a general body meeting and executive board elections. Please contact us nspe@villanova.edu with any questions you may have.
Formula SAE

As Villanova was closed for severe snow fall, Nova Racing Engineers were hard at work in the garage working on the VU06 racecar. The team managed to get the engine running for the first time and is now working on trouble shooting as well as tuning the engine for optimal performance. VU06’s hubs and uprights were completed and assembled earlier in the semester (do I hear rolling chassis?), which means the team is only a few steps away from a fully driving car. Spring break will be a big week for the team, as many members will remain on campus to work on the car. VU06 is expected to be in full race trim by the end of break and the team is working hard to meet that deadline. For questions regarding our team, our cars, or getting involved, please feel free to contact Souhail Halaby at mhalaby@villanova.edu.

Engineering Student Council (ESC)

Villanova’s Engineering Student Council has been hard at work this semester. The Engineering Traditions Committee has been planning the Spring Engineering Formal (get excited!). The Freshmen Committee and Engineering Traditions also put together a few events for National Engineering Week. While ET was running a quizzo event, the Freshmen were hard at work raising money for Team Sanfilippo Foundation. The Freshmen raised $166.60 in two days through a Hope’s Cookie fundraiser, and “Throw a π at a Freshmen” event. ESC is continuing to put on events for the rest of the semester, so stay tuned!

Eta Kappa Nu (HKN)

The semester has started off great, our members have been busy planning out the events we will have over these next few months. We plan on inducting new members shortly, so if you’re an ECE, be sure to check your email! We are also looking forward to hosting a few more fun events once the weather warms up, so be sure to keep an eye out for our event flyers!

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

The Villanova ASCE Chapter will be hosting PCA Resiliency Expert, Donn Thompson on Tuesday, March 25th. We will be joining with DVGB and hope to have over 100 people in attendance.
National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

We participated as a chapter in the MLK Day of service in which we spent a day giving back to the community. It was a day used to strengthen the bond of our members as well as become productive members of society. Also, on January 16th, we held our first general body meeting of the semester. It was a chance to inform new members about all NSBE has to offer as well as update current members of upcoming events. A major event which occurred last month was the Region 2 Danger Zone Summit. On January 25th, Villanova NSBE hosted its first Danger Zone Summit at Villanova University. Presentations were given in order to build leadership and professionalism. It was also a great chance for NSBE members to increase their network of future leaders. Our most recent event, which was held on February 1st, was our very first Dodge ball Tournament. The event was sponsored by City Sports and turned out to be a great success as many people came out to compete in a fun-filled environment. Being the first time we hosted a sports tournament, it showed that more events like it have great potential for success. If you have any further questions, please contact us at president@novansbe.org. We would be happy to answer any questions.

Chi Epsilon

January and February are busy months for Chi Epsilon. The civil engineering fraternity has been selecting its new members and preparing them to be inducted. The initiation ceremony took place on February 1 in Bartley 1001 at 11:00 AM in front of their parents, relatives, and friends. Eight civil engineers in the top of their class here at Villanova University will be inducted. The new officers will also be initiated at this time. These new Chi Epsilon members will begin to provide tutoring services to civil engineers at all levels. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutor, contact Kayla Spitzer, at kspitz01@villanova.edu.

Chi Epsilon new officers:
President: Courtney Brown
Vice President: Dana Flood
Treasurer: Aaron Williams
Secretary: Katharine Jennings
Grand Marshall: George Zimmer
Editor: Samantha Butwill

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

ASME has a lot planned for the upcoming month, starting with an internship forum co-sponsored by IEEE. There is also a meeting of the Philadelphia Section of ASME and an upcoming webinar series about the use of MATLAB, ANSYS, and other valuable engineering software. ASME is organizing a "Battle of the Brains" competition, for engineers to show off their smarts and compete for prizes. A tour of manufacturing plant is also in the works. Finally, ASME is looking for volunteers to help this March when Villanova hosts Girl Scouts. A few engineers are needed to help teach the girls about STEM topics, breakfast and lunch will be provided. Thanks!
Society of Women Engineers (SWE)

Villanova’s Society of Women Engineers hosted a joint meeting with the official Philadelphia professional chapter of the Society of Women Engineers on January 27th. It was a combined dinner and networking event. There was also a film shown, called Top Secret Rosies. It is a documentary about female engineers during World War II who pioneered computer technology. The movie was a hit, and the attendance reached full capacity. The focus of the next meeting, coming up on February 24th at 7:30 PM in the East Lounge of Dougherty, is leadership positions for next year. It will be short because of midterms. For more information, contact us at villanovaswe@gmail.com or on Facebook under the Groups at Villanova, or tweet at us using the tag #villanovaSWE.

Chem-E Car

As the Regional Chem-E-Car Competition draws nearer and nearer, some last minute changes have been made to the group’s dynamic in order to facilitate the optimum efficiency of each group’s members. With only a few days ago, the team put in charge of designing and building our shoebox-sized car that have been temporarily repurposed to aid both the stopping and driving reactions in an attempts to solidifying what reaction we should use as a means to power our car.

For the driving reaction itself, the connection that was explored with Cabot has encountered some unforeseen hold ups (such as the shipping and handling of a compound that’s seen the outside of the lab and could present complications in some unpredictable ways when in contact with other materials). Not to be stopped, they are refocusing their effort on a zinc oxide battery and measuring its power output.

PEERS

Despite the snow, peers has been busy conducting both physics and chemistry reviews and open office hours. In the coming weeks we plan on electing new executive board members as well as adding new general members. Upper and underclassmen are always welcome to come into our office in CEER for help with test preparation and studying.
Steel Bridge

At this point in the year, the design for the bridge has been completed. The team had to overcome several design challenges, particularly with the connections. Rule changes, questions about buildability, and budgetary concerns all raised important questions. Despite the setbacks, we are very pleased with our final design. The steel has been purchased, and fabrication is set to begin in SETRL this week. The final product should be completed with plenty of time to spare for load testing before the competition in April.

Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)

Spring 2014 ITE Officers
President – Sean Walsh (Sr.)
Vice President – Jonathan Mize (Jr.)
Treasurer – Doug Allen (Sr.)
Communications Chair – Michael Arensmeier (Jr.)
Secretary – Adam Macker (Jr.)
The planned events of the Villanova chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers for the Spring 2014 semester are as follows.

February: ITE has three events planned for the month of February. The first event was a recruitment night on Tuesday the 4th. The club gave a short presentation about the activities of the club and looked to recruit interested students.

The ITE club also hosted a graduate student presentation on the 11th. Finally, the club will be taking a field trip to the SEPTA control center in Philadelphia, the trip is planned tentatively for the last week of February.

March: The ITE club has three events planned for the month of March. The events include a field trip to the PennDOT traffic monitoring center in the first weeks of March. A pavement inspection exercise at the Philadelphia airport is planned for middle March and finally the ITE club will be attending the annual ITE Traffic Bowl. This year the Traffic Bowl is being held in the Harrisburg Pa and is still under scheduling from the professional ITE chapter. The event will be held either in late March or early April.

April: For April the ITE club will bring in guest speaker Dave Petrucci, the event will take place mid-March. Finally the ITE club will take a field trip to a Philadelphia Phillies game to perform a trip survey to gain better understanding of how people commute to large events such as Major League Baseball games. The event will take place in late April.
The new semester has begun and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers has hit the ground running! The chemical engineers have already had the delight of listening to a very special guest speak, Sarah Ewing, who is the Vice Chair for the AIChE Young Professionals Committee. Her talk, entitled “Step Away from the Job Boards,” focused on the best ways to obtain internships and full-time positions, including the best way to network in today’s market.

The older chemical engineers at Villanova are also looking to help out some of the younger students. AIChE president, Joey Reckamp, has drafted a newsletter to give out to the accepted Early Action applicants on Candidate’s day. AIChE has also come up with a way for the upperclassmen to help out the younger chemical engineers with some of their core engineering classes. AIChE will be hosting weekly review sessions for sophomores and juniors to get extra help with classes like Fluids, Thermo, Mass transfer and Reactors! AIChE is also looking out for their younger students by hosting two separate panels about summer work. One is the Senior Research Panel, where younger students can learn about research opportunities that interest them and the other is the Senior Internship Panel, where younger students can talk to some experienced veterans on how to obtain a summer internship. So early in the semester, yet AIChE is still trying to make a difference for chemical engineers all across Villanova’s campus!

Villanova’s chapter of Pi Tau Sigma had a successful fall semester, providing approximately 45 hours of tutoring. Our members are continuing this effort in the spring for undergraduate engineers. If you would like tutoring help, please feel free to email chapter president Ryan Lester at rleste02@villanova.edu.

Spring semester is shaping up to be a busy semester for ISPE. On February 11th, ISPE held its Exhibitor’s Night at Citizens Bank Park, one of the main networking events for the year. At the event, vendors showcased their products and attendees were able to go on tours of the ballpark. On February 20th, a career panel on jobs in biotech and pharmaceutical engineering was held with speakers talking on areas from consulting, to validation, to automation.

We would also like to announce that on March 14th there will be a tour of Morphotek’s biopharmaceutical manufacturing facilities! The tour is from 1:30 to 3:30, with transportation details to be announced shortly. Attendance is capped at the first 50 of all the local student chapters and is limited to ISPE student members, so sign up early! The last day to sign-up is March 7th. Contact Robert McGrane (rmcgra01@villanova.edu) to sign-up.
Description of Wayanad, India Engineering Project:

For the first time Villanova’s College of Engineering partnered with Profugo, a local non-profit organization, and traveled to India for a service project. This venture happened over winter break 2013-2014. Working closely with Profugo, the students traveled to Wayanad, India to assess the needs of future engineering projects at this remote location in the southwest region of India. The students who made the long trek included Aisling Brennan, Maura Daugherty, Donovan Driscoll, and Karl Mauthe. During their trip, the group discovered a number of exciting possible sustainable engineering projects which will require a long term commitment from Villanova engineering students. These projects include, but are not limited to the design and construction of a biogas digester, rainwater harvesting, and alternative energy.

While at the site, this project was three-pronged. One activity the students concentrated on was meeting with the Indian Government College of Engineering which was trying to initiate an engineering service group of their own. The Villanova students conducted a presentation on testing for water quality and introduced the Wayanad students to various ways of filtering water and maintaining the cleanliness of wells. A second focus of the trip, involved collaboration with the Wayanad college students and was geared towards assisting the non-profit organization Profugo conduct a water quality workshop to a group of middle school students and later to the adults within the community. The Villanova engineering students created a How-To Manual for water-quality testing and had the manual translated into Malayalam, the local language. As a result, members of the Prashanthagiri community could regulate their own wells using equipment made available to the community at the Profugo House. The final purpose of this service excursion was to assess the needs of the community and explore ideas for future engineering projects. The students traveled to other local non-profit organizations and spoke extensively with many members within the communities.

NovaCANE

NovaCANE has already made multiple trips during the start of the spring semester. Three structural groups made trips to three different schools where they made bridges that were tested with a shake table. The sustainability group was busy as well, making two different trips where they worked with chemical reactions and learned lessons on recycling. There are multiple other trips that are scheduled for the end of February, one of which will be an egg drop experiment.

Wishing all a great Spring Break. May you come back to campus bringing Spring with you.