



September 2011 Newsletter

By Jose Lopez



SHPE-Houston has big plans for New Year!

New Year's Day is synonymous with a fresh start, a new beginning with goals and milestones. For the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) Houston Chapter, that day was Wednesday, August 17, our first general meeting, when 2011-12 SHPE Houston President, Luis Salazar, welcomed a vibrant mix of new and familiar faces at CenterPoint Energy. Salazar introduced the 2011 executive board and announced that this year promises something for every interest, from professional development and community outreach, to social outings and networking mixers. The first such event will be Saturday, September 3rd, when SHPE Houston attends Hispanic Heritage Night at the Astros. Look for us in the Mezzanine. After the game, there will be a free concert by Latin duo Chino y Nacho. This is the first of several member appreciation events planned. For more information about tickets contact us via email at social@shpehouston.org.

During the meeting, students from the University of Houston announced that they are planning a 10th Anniversary celebration for their chapter in 2012. The student chapter was very successful in hosting the 2011 Region 5 Regional Leadership Development Conference (RLDC).

Members with the National Society of Hispanic MBA's (NSHMBA) Houston Chapter were also present and gave an update on upcoming events open for SHPE members to attend. In the past, SHPE Houston has also collaborated with NSHMBA Houston, as well as other local organizations in our area including SHPE Texas Bay Area Chapter, Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Houston Area Section, National Society of Black Engineer (NSBE) Houston Space Chapter, Engineering Council of Houston (ECH) and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) South Texas Section.

The next general meeting on Wednesday, September 14th, hosted by BP America, where speaker Felipe Bayon, Head of Special Projects will share his experiences as a project manager. Dinner will be provided.

For updates on these and other events go to our calendar at www.shpehouston.org. Also, follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Upcoming Events

General Meeting - Wed, Sep. 14th, BP America

Social Mixer – Thu, Oct. 13th, Yard House

Outreach – Wed, Oct. 26th, Harvard Elementary

2011-2012 SHPE Houston Executive Board

President – Luis Salazar

Vice President – Isaac Tapia

Secretary – Rubi Medina

Treasurer – Jose Lopez

Community Outreach – Jose De La Pena

Student Affairs – Walter Castillo

Social/Nominations – Jose Soto

Membership – Abraham Padilla

Webmaster – Jennifer Valencia

Scholarships – Guillermo Suarez

Join Today!

Renew Your Membership!



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SHPE Students need Mentors

Have you ever questioned why someone never told you what to expect when you graduated? Or when you were a student, did you ever want to know if the classes you were taking were the right ones for a specific career? Those persons are mentors. They can provide an insider perspective that can't be learned in text books.

Student members in our region are looking to meet professional like you for just that purpose. Typical questions range from "what's it like to work for *Company X*" to "what's been your favorite project" and even "how much money do you make after graduation?"

SHPE Houston has hosted panel sessions amply titled "A Day in the Life of an Engineer." Although these sessions are aimed at middle and high school students, the intent is the same with respect to college undergrads. A mentorship can be established as a group or one-on-one.

SHPE Houston has established links with student chapters at the University of Houston, Rice University, Lamar University, Texas A&M University, Prairie View A&M University and the University of Texas at Austin. If you have an interest in working with students, or would like to participate in future panel sessions, contact us via email at studentaffairs@shpehouston.org.

SHPE Houston Partners



Call for Volunteers

SHPE Houston needs volunteers to carry out many of the outreach activities planned for the year.

The first opportunity will be on Wednesday, October 26th at Harvard Elementary School for their Annual Family Science Night. Plans are also underway to work with students at Jeff Davis High School and Clifton Middle School. Other schools will be added as the year progresses.

In the spring, we work with the Houston Hispanic Forum (HHF) and the Science & Engineering Fair of Houston (SEFH). We would like to work other organizations within the Hispanic community.

For more information contact us via email at outreach@shpehouston.org.

Congrats 2011 SHPE Scholarship Winners!

\$1000 Scholarship Recipient:

Fernando Gonzalez – Computer/Software Engineering, Texas A&M University

\$500 Scholarship Recipient:

Zaida Hernandez – Mechanical Engineering, University of Houston

Thank You SHPE Houston Sponsors!

