ABOUT NSBE BIRMINGHAM

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Birmingham Professionals Chapter is a 501(c) (3) non-profit association dedicated to the academic and professional success of African American engineering and technical students and professionals.

Our mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers, who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community. NSBE-Birmingham fulfills the mission of NSBE by organizing, sponsoring, and attending an array of workshops, community activities, scholarship funding, mentoring, and networking events.

We facilitate the development of strong technical professionals and leaders, encourages minority students to eagerly seek out degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics related fields, and empowers the community with the knowledge and foresight to strengthen the very foundation that enables our community as a whole to achieve greater heights.

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES:

- Stimulate and develop student interest in the various engineering disciplines.
- Encourage and advise minority youth in their pursuit of an engineering career.
- Strive to increase the number of students studying engineering at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Encourage members to seek advanced degrees in engineering or related fields and to obtain/maintain professional engineering registrations.
- Promote public awareness of engineering and the opportunities for blacks and other minorities in that profession.
- Function as a representative body on issues and developments that affect the careers of black engineers.

Visit us at www.nsbebham.org

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2015-2016 Executive Board

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- Distribution Engineer at Alabama Power Company
Re-imagining the Role of NSBE Professionals

Over the last four years, the NSBE Professionals have worked to redefine their brand and influence. The NSBE Senate has played a vital role in advancing this effort by supporting amendments to the Constitution that have changed the name of the body and that have formally established the Professionals Affiliate membership category.

At last year’s Annual Convention, the NSBE Senate took up an amendment proposal to change the definition of the Professional member. While that amendment received significant support, it did not reach the three-fourths Senate vote required for ratification.

First, there was concern that the standard for NSBE Professional membership would be lowered beyond a reasonable standard with the prior proposal. Second, Senators were uncomfortable with the lack of clarity on how the new rules would apply. This revised amendment proposal establishes specific new minimum standards that must be met before Professional member status can be considered.

Further, it establishes a clear process for how one who does not meet the original criteria for Professional membership can acquire it through new alternative criteria.

The second new amendment proposal seeks to make the National Professionals Chairperson a voting member of the National Executive Board. The National Professionals Chairperson represents some 7,000 NSBE Professionals and Professional Affiliate members, representing nearly a quarter of all NSBE members. By giving the National Professionals Chairperson a voting stake on the NEB, it will insure that the interests of this substantial segment of NSBE membership are given appropriate weight in policy making decisions.
The first year of SEEK Birmingham is in full swing! Students in grades 3-5 have been welcomed on the Avondale Elementary campus to take part in this free S.T.E.M. program.

The SEEK Program is designed to be a fun and engaging educational experience, led by NSBE engineering students and technical professionals dedicated to pursuing professional excellence and giving back to the community. Students work in teams to solve problems and create products while discovering the underlying math and science principles involved in these processes. Each week, the students take on a new project, culminating with a presentation, design competition and physical competitions.

The projects for this year are:

**Gravity Cruiser**

Student teams design and construct a vehicle that is powered by gravity. A weighted lever connected to an axle by string rotates on its fulcrum; as the weight descends it causes the axle attached to the string to rotate, propelling the cruiser forward. Concepts explored include potential and kinetic energy, friction, inertia, momentum, diameter, circumference, measurement, graphing, and constructing a prototype.

**Glider**

Students explore the relationship between force and motion and the effects of weight and lift on a glider. Students learn the relationships between data analysis and variable manipulations, and the importance of understanding consumer demands. The glider activity culminates in a book-signing event where each design team presents its prototype.

**Fuel Cell**

Using a PEM Fuel Cell as the primary power source, student teams design, build, and test prototype vehicles which they must then present to an audience. The AWIM Fuel Cells Challenge requires students to explore physical science concepts such as force, friction and energy transformations as well as environmental concepts such as green design, and incorporates mathematics concepts as student teams collect, analyze and display data.
SEEK BIRMINGHAM 2015
Pictures

Parent Orientation Night – June 11, 2015

Design Presentations

Students Gathered for Competition Awards

Julian Grant speaking for Alabama Power

Electric Vehicles on Display

Matthew Smith speaking for BL Harbert

Competition Judges from Alabama Power, BL Harbert, and NSBE Birmingham
As science concepts change — our lives change too!

Saturday
July 25, 2015
1 – 4 p.m.

Five Points West Library
4812 Avenue W
Birmingham, AL 35208
(205) 226-4013

Parents please stay with your children

ANNUAL MATH AND SCIENCE DAY

The 15th Annual Math and Science Fun Day will trace how science concepts have changed over the centuries and how those changes affect our society and the world.

This program is free to all ages and allows youngsters to get involved in kid-friendly, scientifically based, hands-on activities. The event will feature knowledgeable and fun presenters.

Parents are encouraged to remain with their children.

Families will explore household products with magical properties, examine the origin of motion pictures, view early telephones, trace how automobiles demanded the invention of the traffic light, and get the inside scoop on motorcycle engines. They will weave a yarn craft and compare it with spun nylon products, design their own amazing Styrofoam millinery, examine why the Stetson hat was popular in the Wild West, and learn the value of the stethoscope in diagnosing pneumonia. They will construct dinosaurs and mathematically plan a garden. Additional activities will help them investigate the theme.

“Man’s first science was agriculture. Growing your food brought humans from being nomads to being farmers” according to Dr. Preston Scarber, an educator and respected Birmingham-area materials engineer.

“Man’s second science was astronomy, which allowed study of the sun, moon and planets and their relationship to planting and weather.”

“We love to see our children learn and get involved. Nothing is more exciting than seeing the human mind enjoy learning,” say retired educators and organizers of the event, Winfield and Elinor Burks.

For more information, the Burks at:
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Give Us Your Feedback!

What can we do to improve your membership experience?
Please send comments and suggestions to our Programs/Membership Chair at membership@nsbebham.org

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