

# Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

*Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*

Fall 2015



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## 37th Annual NSBE/SHPE Career Fair

For the past 37 years, the Rensselaer Society of Hispanic Engineers (SHPE) Chapter has collaborated with the Rensselaer National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Chapter to co-host one of the largest student run career fairs. This year, we are proud to have hosted our 37<sup>th</sup> Annual NSBE/SHPE Career Fair is event took place on September 25th & 26th from 10:00am to 3:30pm. As in years past, this NSBE/SHPE Career Fair successfully hosted almost 200 companies and provided an atmosphere for career development and networking for the more than 4000 Rensselaer students in attendance.

Fortune 500 companies, such as ExxonMobil, Boeing, and Proctor & Gamble, were present to hire RPI students for full time, internships, and co-op positions.



37th Annual NSBE/SHPE Career Fair



## SHPE Jr.

In 2013, a SHPE Jr. Chapter was established in Amsterdam High School, located in Amsterdam, New York. This particular high school was chosen due to its high Hispanic population and proximity to RPI. SHPE-RPI members of the SHPE Jr. Committee visit the chapter on a monthly basis to encourage these high school students to pursue careers in STEM fields. The members of this committee organize the events, meetings and workshops of the SHPE Jr. Chapter. The objective of the program is to provide the students with the tools and resources to ensure their success in school and in the future. Workshop topics usually include teaching and orienting students about college application, college grants and testing preparation. Some workshops include fun science or engineering projects to interest more students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) areas. The SHPE Jr. Chapter is complete with its own Executive Board and budget, and we are currently working on increasing membership and participation of the chapter.

## Thanksgiving Dinner

To celebrate Thanksgiving, this semester we collaborated to organize a potluck dinner for our chapter, as well as the members of Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity and Sigma Delta Sorority. Each organization was responsible for preparing Thanksgiving staples as well as cultural desserts and delicacies. The Executive Board also invited students from our SHPE Jr. chapter in Amsterdam. Everyone shared good times and even better food, providing another opportunity to network and bond as an organization. We hope to keep this event a tradition for years to come!





## GBM 3: *La Voz Latina*

On October 8, 2015, *La Voz Latina* was co-hosted by Sigma Delta Sorority and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) at RPI in honor of Latino Heritage Month, a time in which we recognize Hispanic and Latino American heritage and culture. This event was sponsored by General Electric (GE). The aim of *La Voz Latina* was to gather professionals from GE's Hispanic Hub, RPI faculty, RPI Graduate students, RPI Undergraduates from the Hispanic community, and members of the SHPE Jr. chapter at Amsterdam High School with the opportunity to empower one another in what it means to be Hispanic in their own environment through sharing their experiences, triumphs, and tribulations. In this successful event, we were able to communicate about not only our past experiences but also about the bright future of STEM for the Hispanic/Latino community.



## MentorSHPE Program

Over the summer, Hispanic freshmen were contacted and asked if they would be interested in participating in the mentoring program offered by SHPE RPI. Those that were interested were then paired with active SHPE members based on majors and similar interests. The mentors were able to advise their mentees about academics and professional development. This program allowed mentors and mentees to develop a friendship and a support system for the incoming students. This program has not had a long history with the SHPE Chapter of RPI, so there is room for improvement and increased participation.

## Haunted Hayride

SHPE-RPI had the funds for a chapter outing and, in the spirit of the Halloween season, a haunted hay ride seemed fitting. Active members could attend this event free of charge, but whoever was interested was welcome to attend. The objective of this outing was to provide a fun, social atmosphere for members to mingle.



# Upcoming Events

## *Baila con SHPE*

*Baila con SHPE* is a free event where anyone who is interested can attend and learn how to dance or pick up a few new moves. Dances to be covered this night will include: salsa, merengue and bachata. Instructors will teach the basics and Hispanic food will be provided. The point of this event is to bring awareness to the RPI campus about our Hispanic culture and to provide a night of fun and excitement to our current SHPE membership. This year, *Baila* will be Bazaar-themed, with local vendors and participants from the Troy Farmers' Market attending and selling their products. We expect this — plus the free dance lessons and food — to attract a crowd. *Baila con SHPE* will occur on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-10:00PM.



RPI SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
**PRESENTS**  
**BAILA**  
SATURDAY, FEB 6TH **CON SHPE** 2016

*Night Bazaar*

McNeil Room | 7pm-10pm | FREE ENTRY  
Local vendors and artisans will be selling additional food and beverages



## Upcoming Events

### *Outreach Weekend 2016*

This year, Outreach Weekend will be held April 1st through 3rd. This weekend provides us with an opportunity to bring high school students to RPI to learn about STEM fields. We provide engineering activities to promote development of creativity, critical thinking, and leadership skills. In the past, students have attended workshops from various fields including civil engineering, physics, and aerospace engineering. Outreach Staff always makes sure to include fun activities in the schedule.

For more information about Outreach Weekend, check our website at [shpe.rpi.edu](http://shpe.rpi.edu). Student applications are due February 12, 2016.

