Executive Board's Letter

Dear National Society of Black Engineers Supporters,

The National Society of Black Engineers at Cal Poly SLO thanks you for your interest in helping uphold our mission of increasing the number of culturally responsible black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community. Our chapter’s ability to assist underrepresented black students in finding the resources they need to thrive in both their collegiate and professional careers is a continuous battle we refuse to give up on—despite the challenging circumstances we are all in today.

We have distinguished ourselves among NSBE’s Region 6 by winning the Regional Medium-sized Chapter of the Year award for the second straight year! This accomplishment shows our commitment to supporting our members and honoring the NSBE mission statement to the fullest. We were able to financially support 24 members traveling to Fall Regional Conference and our National Convention has been postponed to late August. Through these conferences, members learn valuable career skills and bond with fellow black engineers. Additionally, many come away with summer internships or full time positions.

This packet details our chapter’s accomplishments and areas you can get involved in. Cal Poly SLO NSBE is always looking for new ideas, feedback, and networking opportunities with companies. If you are ever in the San Luis Obispo area, please reach out so we may cordially invite you to one of our general meetings or board meetings.

Regards,

2020-2021 Cal Poly SLO NSBE Executive Board

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Get to Know Us

History: The National Society of Black Engineers, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo chapter was founded at the university in 1974 under the title Society of Black Engineers and Scientists (SBES). It was created with the intent to increase the retention and recruitment of Black students in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. SBES became a collegiate chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) in 1984. The chapter rebranded from SBES to NSBE to align with the national society in 2017. Our SLO chapter operates under the affiliation of Cal Poly’s Multicultural Engineering Program (MEP) which provides services that aid our chapter both academically and professionally and promote leadership for students of different cultures.

2019-2020 Goals & Results:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Results</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruit 10 new members</td>
<td>Recruited 15 new members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintain 3.0 Chapter GPA</td>
<td>Current Chapter GPA of 2.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Send 30 members to FRC in SF</td>
<td>Sent 24 members to FRC in SF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charter NSBE Jr. Chapter in SLO County</td>
<td>Continuing this goal next year</td>
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<td>Perform chapter research/design project</td>
<td>Held bi-weekly coding workshops</td>
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Due to our diligence in achieving these goals, our chapter was also named Region 6 Medium-sized Chapter of the Year for the second straight year!

Goals for the 2020-2021 School Year:

- Win National Chapter of the Year
- Live Broadcast All Chapter Meetings
- Charter a NSBE Jr. Chapter in SLO
- Host at least 1 NSBE Alumni Event
- Implement New Scholarships
- Recruit 10 New Members
- Maintain 3.0 Chapter GPA

General Meetings: Our general meetings are based on the three pillars of the mission: academics, professionalism, and community. Academic meetings include a guaranteed 4.0 workshop, stress and time management presentation, exam strategy tips and developing positive relationships workshops presented by students and professional guest speakers. Some examples of professional workshops that we have are how to succeed as a person of color in STEM, resume and elevator pitch, maximizing your summer and sustainable engineering practices. Positively impacting the community is also promoted at general meetings by including more social activities like hiking or bowling to build community within our organization or with other organizations on campus.

End of the Year Banquet: The NSBE end of the year banquet is a time for celebration and good food. It is a time to reflect on our achievements throughout the year, distribute awards and scholarships, and welcome the next generation of leaders. For the 2020-2021 school year, we are inviting our corporate sponsors to the banquet to show our appreciation, celebrate our achievements and provide networking opportunities for the membership. Should the banquet be canceled, event funds will go to other club activities.

Mentor-Mentee Program: NSBE’s mentor-mentee program revolves around family. During fall quarter we host a “speed dating” general meeting where new members can get to know all their potential mentors. Students are matched by major, interests, and of course, preference. Our NSBE family tree is growing quickly and within it are lasting relationships to help Cal Poly students succeed.
Pre-Collegiate Initiatives

On Campus Events: Our chapter participates in many on campus events hosted by Cal Poly as well as other clubs to promote minority involvement in the STEM field. Some of the events include Build an Engineer day hosted by the Society of Women Engineers, Cal Poly’s Open House, CultureFest, and Poly Cultural Weekend.

Off Campus Events: To motivate students about STEM outside of campus, we plan day trips to Atascadero Middle School to present information about our chapter and the types of projects the disciplines of engineers perform. Each meeting we implement a game or project that is based on engineering principles for students to participate in.

NSBE Jr. Chapter:
The current goal of NSBE is have 10,000 black engineers/STEM majors graduate from college annually by the year 2025. A major focus of the society at the national level to achieve this goal is to engage black students at the middle school and high school levels and get them interested in STEM fields early in their academic careers. Traditionally, African Americans are underrepresented in these careers leading to lack of exposure for young students. Our chapter aims to spearhead a new NSBE Jr. Chapter to assist in the 10,000 graduating STEM major goal.

Annual Conferences

NSBE Chapter Retreat 2019, Sept 20-21: This September our chapter held the second annual chapter retreat at Granite Ridge Campground. Invites were extended to all returning members during the summer time in order to help start the school year off right. It ended up being a successful event where members got to know each other a bit better! An open dialogue was held at the end of the trip to capture feedback and get new ideas from the membership.

Regional Leadership Conference (RLC):
NSBE is proudly a part of Region 6 of NSBE which includes states on the West Coast. Each summer, our region prepares each chapter’s executive board with workshops targeted to build a successful chapter. Executive boards share innovative new ideas and exchange tips on how to expand your chapter and sustain it. RLC is an incredible opportunity to build our chapter to the best of its ability, by training our leaders to their full potential.
Fall Regional Conference (FRC): FRC is a large event where members will get the chance to participate in productive workshops, network with industry professionals at the career fair, and showcase their technical prowess by exhibiting a project or competing in academic competitions. They will also get the chance to listen to several motivational keynote addresses delivered by industry leaders. The 2020-2021 Fall Regional Conference will be hosted in Los Angeles, California. Our goal for this conference is to support 30 members in attending. Should FRC be canceled, conference funds will go to other club activities.

National Convention: The 2021 National Convention in Orlando, Florida will allow members to engage in the same activities as FRC, except on a larger scale with over 100 engineering and technical companies participating in the career fair. In 2019, the National Convention included 14,000 students from universities around the world. Our goal is to have 20 members participate. NSBE conferences pave the road to successful careers and internships for many of our members.

Scholarships: NSBE prides itself on academics. It is one of the responsibilities for the retention chair to scope out relevant scholarships that can be advertised in emails, at meetings, and of course on the highly useful resources tab on our website. In order to motivate students, we provide three of our own scholarships including a raffle ticket for a twenty-five-dollar gift card for every A received each quarter, twenty-five dollars for a quarterly GPA improvement of 0.5 and one hundred dollars for students on the Dean’s List each quarter.

Company Site Tours: Company site tours or project walks are huge motivators. Giving students the ability to immerse themselves in a day in the life of their dream career improves academic success because students have experienced what could soon be a reality for them. They also get students excited about the companies they are touring, so they are more likely to apply to these companies. This is a great non-monetary way to help our chapter succeed.

Collegiate Initiatives

Intramural Sports: This past school year, NSBE Intramural sports continued and our basketball team made it to the Co-Rec D2 semifinals. During last spring quarter, NSBE participated in Co-Rec basketball as well as Co-Rec soccer. This is a great stress reliever for people on the team and provides a nice break from studying for anyone who wants to cheer on our teams.
Sponsorship Levels

Each torchbearer will also receive the additional benefits listed for the torchbearers below the one in which you qualify.

PLATINUM TORCHBEARER
$5,000+
Banquet Table (4 people)
Logo on all apparel if wanted

GOLD TORCHBEARER
$2,500 – $4,999
Guaranteed general meeting slot

SILVER TORCHBEARER
$1,000 – $2,499
Logo on one apparel item

BRONZE TORCHBEARER
$1 – $999
Social media shout out