

Engineering Coeds Meet

7 Women Organize First UI Chapter

By JOAN KOZA

Seven of the 14 women in the College of General Engineering banded together Tuesday night in the home of Grace Wilson, assistant professor of general engineering, to formulate plans for the University's first chapter of the Society of Women Engineers.

This national organization was previously presented to the girls at an informal meeting with William L. Everitt, dean of the College of Engineering. With their dean's advice as an incentive, the eager girls decided that they needed to know and help each other with their everyday problems.

"Usually the girls I see walking through the halls of the engineering buildings are just typists or office girls. That's why I'd like to know those other female students who have the same troubles as I do," explained Barbara Kozub, junior, temporary chairman. Assisting Miss Kozub as secretary-treasurer is Lucy Kowalski, freshman in aeronautical engineering.

Miss Wilson, adviser of the group, asserted that women engineers are not only scarce on this campus but throughout the entire United States. In fact, as an average, only 70 women graduate each year in the entire country with a degree in the engineering field.

Bearing these facts in mind, the girls realize that they have rough road ahead and a need for mutual support in their field. They want to study together and stick together to match the male brainpower in engineering.

Organizational pains can be severe; but once University and national approval is granted concerning their constitution and selection of officers, other problems such as dues and meeting times will be established.

Also present at the meeting were: Stevie Ackley, Leone Murphy, Betty Gardner, Connie Mayer and Brenda Gerdes.



ATTENDING THE FIRST MEETING of the proposed University chapter of the Society of Women Engineers, held at the home of Grace Wilson, are: bottom row (l-r) Brenda Gerdes, Miss Wilson; top row Connie Mayer, Lucy Kowalski, and Stevie Ackley.
(Daily Illini Staff Photo)

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