

## “Efficiency Engineers Competes with Major Industrial Engineering Companies for Local Talent”

Efficiency Engineers was among several major companies to attend and sponsor Lehigh University’s Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) Council Networking Event last Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The event was the first for the University’s ISE Department and welcomed major national and international companies including Exxon Mobil, Lutron Electronics, W.L. Gore & Associates, MARS Chocolate North America and Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation among others.

Set among these large companies, Efficiency Engineers President, Michele Stuart, met and spoke to many of the attending students, as well, as professionals from the other companies in attendance.

Along with Stuart, Efficiency Engineers Senior Industrial Engineers, Mike Stabinski, and Business Development Director, Julie Westbrook greeted students to discuss their interests and potential opportunities with Efficiency Engineers.

Westbrook said, “We develop many Lehigh IE’s as interns before they move on to one of these larger companies. Equally, we have hired IE’s after they have developed their skills and are looking to become more of an external consultant. We’re not exactly competing with these companies for IE’s. It is more like cooptition.”

For the companies in attendance, the event offered not only an opportunity to seek out talented individuals, but also a window into the career priorities of emerging graduates.

Marc Sweet, an analyst at Exxon Mobil said “The event was good as far as seeing exactly what IE students are interested in at Exxon Mobil and in just the general companies who were here overall. It gives us a better idea at what we should be focusing on when we look to hire IEs.”

For students, the event gave them an opportunity to expand their network and speak to companies with potential internship and job opportunities available. Efficiency Engineers offered a unique career setting for those IE students who are interested in industrial and systems engineering work.

“I took a look at all the companies before and your company is one of the companies that interests me,” said Nada Es-Sakli, a Lehigh ISE Graduate Student who felt that Efficiency Engineers offered work that was more in her line of interests.

Other students, like Lehigh Graduate Student Karan Parikh, enjoyed the intimacy of connecting with companies in a smaller setting. Parikh says he hopes to find a summer internship with a company that fits within his background.

Stuart said that she met several interesting students through the program. Hoping to find the best and brightest of the Lehigh Valley and to connect with other professionals in the area, Stuart said the event was important and one she hopes to attend again in the future. “I’m glad we got to be a part of it. I can’t wait until next year.”

Pictures from the event can be found at: [http://www.lehigh.edu/ise/events\\_photo.html](http://www.lehigh.edu/ise/events_photo.html)

