Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES)
The Cornell University Biomedical Engineering Society promotes the profession of biomedical engineering (BME) through research, educational outreach, and advocacy of engineering approaches to biology and human health. The Cornell Chapter of BMES has worked to promote personal growth and development of its over 100 doctoral students and 82 masters of engineering students by expanding existing programs and implementing new initiatives. Recently, Cornell BMES was presented the Commendable Chapter Award and Meritorious Achievement Award at the 2011 and 2010 BMES Annual Meetings, respectively, to recognize their outstanding commitment to outreach and excellence in both the local and greater communities.

Professional Development:
The annual Cornell BMES Retreat provides a forum for students to present their research to a technical audience and increases industry exposure of BME research at Cornell. In 2013, ten speakers and 35 posters were presented about the cutting-edge research occurring in our department. Biomedical technology companies have sponsored this event for the last 4 years and representatives interact with students throughout the retreat. Some of our past sponsors include West Pharmaceutical Services, Momenta Pharmaceuticals, Angel Medical Systems, Becton, Dickinson, and Co., and Bose-Electroforce.

During the year, Cornell BME hosts numerous professional development events for graduate students. Work-In-Progress Luncheons (a.k.a. WIP lunches) are a forum for students to present their current research, and receive feedback from students and faculty members. Students can present anything from a proof of concept for an experiment to final results. Presentations are followed by questions and input from the larger group, and afterwards a selected faculty member for each student will sit down and give further comments.

The Professional Development committee has welcomed numerous speakers in our Industry Luncheon Series including representatives from Smith and Nephew, and Transonic Systems, Inc. The luncheon series provides students with insight into each company’s products, their market niche, and openings for new graduates. The lunches give a unique one-on-one opportunity with company representatives and create an environment where students can ask questions that would typically be outside of the realm of a normal scientific presentation.
Outreach:
The BMES Outreach committee has been very active on campus and in the greater Ithaca community with a number of projects. During December, BMES hosts an annual Holiday Food Drive for the Red Cross. Hundreds of items worth of non-perishable food, toiletries, stuffed animals, toys and more filled the collection boxes over the two short weeks of the drive.

The Outreach committee has successfully expanded its efforts to team with the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Cornell Upward Bound, a program that reaches out to kids in underserved school districts. Together, these groups hosted two Saturday Science Academies. At each day-long event, members of BMES and SWE led a series of hands on activities spanning many biomedical topics such as biomechanics, optics, and biomaterials.

BMES also undertakes special projects. For example, in the aftermath of the devastating flooding in upstate New York in September 2011, the Outreach committee quickly gathered society members to volunteer with an ongoing Owego Flood Relief Effort. Our group traveled to areas damaged by the extensive flooding and aided families in salvaging belongings in water damaged homes. We also worked alongside other volunteers to rid houses of the rotted interior in preparation for repair.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Students in the society have published in numerous journals that span the field of current biomedical engineering research such as:

- Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
- Nature Medicine
- Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism
- Science Translational Medicine
- Biophysical Journal
- Tissue Engineering
- Nature Methods

Students in the society give presentations at numerous conferences including, but not limited to:

- Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting
- Annual Meeting of the Orthopedic Research Society
- American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting
- Womensphere Emerging Leaders Global Summit
- Gordon Research Conference: Fibronectin, Integrin & Related Molecules
- Physical Sciences Oncology Center Annual Network Meeting

Additionally, students in the society have received numerous prestigious fellowships:

- 40 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships and 20 Honorable mentions in 2013
- MOGAM Fellowship
- National Science Foundation GK-12 Fellowships
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award for Individual Pre-doctoral Fellows

If you would like more information or would like to support the Cornell Biomedical Engineering Society, please visit our website at http://www.bme.cornell.edu/bme/about/bmes.cfm