



## USC Women in Science and Engineering Newsletter

February 22, 2010 (Published Bi-Weekly)

Issue 1.3

### Calendar: WiSE 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Speaker Series

A complete list of the Speaker Series can be found at: [10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Speaker Series](#).

#### Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

- **Cathy Murphy** (University of Illinois), Chemistry
- SSL 150, 12:30pm

#### Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

- **Idun Reiten** (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Mathematics
- KAP 414, 3:30pm
- *Tea prior to the lecture, KAP 410, 3pm, hosted by the Math Department. All are welcome.*

#### Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

- **Daniela Rus** (MIT), Computer Science
- SSL 150, 3:30pm KAP 414, 3:30pm
- *Tea prior to the lecture, EEB 248, 2pm, hosted by WiSE. All are welcome.*

### Calendar: WiSE Faculty Networking Meetings

Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, HNB 107

Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, HNB 107

### Calendar: Other Events

#### Postdoc Career Workshop

March 5, 2010 at Caltech and USC's Health Sciences Campus

Keck PDA and Caltech PDA present a Career Development Workshop by Peter Fiske, VP Research and Development, PAX Scientific Inc; Sponsored by KSOM Office of Research Advancement

10-12pm: Session I, Beckman Institute Auditorium, Caltech

"Putting Your Science to Work"

12-1pm: Buffet lunch/ Networking, Beckman Institute Courtyard, Caltech

2-3pm: Session II, Aresty Auditorium - LG Level, Norris Cancer Research Tower, USC

"Dynamite Interview Techniques for Scientists and Engineers"

3-4pm: Meet & Greet, refreshments will be served

All are welcome. Please contact [keckpda@usc.edu](mailto:keckpda@usc.edu) for information.

#### National Postdoctoral Association (NPA): National Summit on Gender and the Postdoctorate

March 10-11, 2010 at the Sheraton Philadelphia University City Hotel

The purpose of the summit is to address the issues that women face when attempting to transition from postdoc to faculty. Although women and men are roughly represented 50-50 at the postdoctoral level, there is a precipitous decrease in the number of women faculty. The NPA's purpose for hosting this event is to define the issues women face when transitions from postdocs to faculty and to find ways for the NPA and member institutions can better support women in this transition in the hopes of correcting this national disparity. <http://www.nationalpostdoc.org/meetings-and-events/advance-summit>

...Calendar:  
Other Events

### National Postdoctoral Association (NPA): Annual Meeting

March 12-14, 2010

Following the National Summit on Gender and the Postdoctorate, the NPA will hold its annual meeting from March 12th through the 14th, 2010 in Philadelphia. The event is being hosted by U Penn, Thomas Jefferson, Drexel, CHOPs, and Temple. The keynote speaker of the event is Francis Collins, M.D. Ph.D., director of the National Institutes of Health. See the website for more details  
<http://www.nationalpostdoc.org/meetings-and-events/annual-meeting/2010-annual-meeting>

### ACE Southern California Network: Inaugural Women's Leadership Forum

March 19, 2010, California State University San Marcos, The McMahan House

Your Journey: Ready, Set, Go!

Join the ACE Southern California Network for a day of networking and professional development with Keynote addresses, a Leadership Panel, and networking with faculty and administrators from the Southern California Region.

Registration rate is \$50.00 and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, parking, and conference materials. If you are unable to join us in-person but would still like to view the keynote address and leadership panel we have a special webinar rate of \$20.00. *Space is limited to 75 women.*

Registration link: <http://www.csusm.edu/owhe/leadershipforum/index.html>.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in Higher Education Luncheon

March 25, 2010, USC Davidson Continuing Education Conference Center, Embassy Room

Speaker: Diana Nyad, American Swimmer, World Record Holder

Thursday, March 25, 2010, 12-2pm

Please RSVP to [cfr@usc.edu](mailto:cfr@usc.edu) or (213) 740-8286 and (213) 740-1739.

More details [here](#). Website: [www.awislvac.org](http://www.awislvac.org).

### Kellogg Center for Biotechnology - Executive Education: Business for Scientists

April 12-16, 2010

*BUSINESS FOR SCIENTISTS* is designed to introduce scientists to business concepts and industry specific tools and frameworks. Basic knowledge in accounting, strategy, finance, and management will be covered and its relevance applied to the biomedical sector. The course will enable you to think of how innovation moves from bench to market.

For more info: [Executive Education: Business for Scientists](#), or contact Jeanne Sheppard: [jsheppard@kellogg.northwestern.edu](mailto:jsheppard@kellogg.northwestern.edu).

### ACE Southern California Network: Free Webinar Series

April 15, 2010, 11:30am - 12:30pm

Topic: From the Inside Out... Meeting Today's Leadership Challenges

Presenter: *Dr. Soraya Coley, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, CSU Bakersfield*

Register for webinars at: <http://lynx.csusm.edu/cascade/forms/owhe.asp>.

Opportunities

Not all opportunities could be included in the Newsletter.

Please go to the [Opportunities of Interest](#) page of the WiSE website for additional opportunities.

### Nature Inspired Engineering Research Experiences for Undergraduates (NISE-REU) Program

**DEADLINE:** February 26, 2010

Program Dates: June 7- August 13, 2010

Website: [www.nise.udel.edu](http://www.nise.udel.edu)

Undergraduate students (rising junior and senior engineering and related discipline students) are invited to participate in a ten week summer research program sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the College of Engineering at the University of Delaware. Participants in the program receive a \$4500 stipend and on-campus housing. The program is intended primarily for undergraduates who are in their junior year at the time of application. Applications from women and minorities are especially encouraged. However, all undergraduates currently enrolled in a U.S. college or university are eligible.

To apply, you must complete the on-line application at [www.nise.udel.edu](http://www.nise.udel.edu).

Contacts for further information: Profs. Kenneth Barner and Takashi Buma, at [nise-reu@ece.udel.edu](mailto:nise-reu@ece.udel.edu).

**USC CAMS Prize Call: Center for Applied Mathematical Sciences, Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Research with a Substantial Mathematical Component - \$1000**

**DEADLINE:** March 1, 2010 at 4pm PST

Eligible nominees are PhD candidates graduating 5/2010 – 8/2011.

Include with your nomination: nominating letter from the student's dissertation committee chair, nominee's CV, and a statement of 3 pages or less by the nominee describing the research. Reprints, preprints, and a faculty letter of support may also be included.

Please direct nominations to the Director of CAMS and send the material to:  
Fatima Perez, Department of Mathematics, KAP 108, MC 2532, e-mail: [fcperetz@usc.edu](mailto:fcperetz@usc.edu).

**Computer Security Research Experience for Undergraduates in Science and Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park**

**DEADLINE:** March 1, 2010

Program Dates: June 1 – August 6, 2010

The Women in Engineering Program at the University of Maryland is seeking applications for Scholars to become integral members of 5 team-based research projects in computer security coordinated by faculty in the A. James Clark School of Engineering and College of Computer, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences. Students majoring in engineering, computer science, math, and physical science are strongly encouraged to apply. Each Scholar receives a \$4,000 stipend, \$300 food allowance and housing. Funding is available for transportation.

For additional information and applications go to: <http://www.wie.umd.edu/undergrad/reucomps.html> or contact Dr. Paige Smith ([pesmith@umd.edu](mailto:pesmith@umd.edu) or 301-405-3931).

**ASEE/NSF Corporate Research Postdoctoral Fellowship for Engineers Program**

**DEADLINE:** ASAP

This program will allow 40 highly qualified recent engineering Ph.D. recipients to conduct meaningful, innovative research at some of the nation's foremost research-performing companies. The program provides \$50,000 toward stipend expenses and \$6,500 toward health insurance for each one-year fellowship, and requires that the host corporation pay just \$25,000 toward the stipend and a \$2,500 administrative fee, so fellows will receive a minimum of \$75,000 for one year at a leading-edge corporate laboratory. Host companies currently include HP, IBM, and number of others.

Fellowships will be awarded to the first 40 successful matches made between the company and applicant, with the companies making the selection decision.

At the time of application, research fellows must hold a Ph.D. awarded in an engineering field within the last three years and be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or permanent residents. Interested applicants should begin the process at <https://aseensfip.asee.org/apply/sessions/new>.

Additional program details, along with a sample host agreement, can be found at <https://aseensfip.asee.org/>.

For further information, contact Tom Juliano at [aseensfip@asee.org](mailto:aseensfip@asee.org) or (202) 331-3517.

**NEWS at USC**

**Assistant Professor Andrea Hodge, Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, receives NSF Career Award**

The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program offers the NSF's most prestigious awards in support of the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization. Such activities should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of integrated contributions to research and education.

Please join us in congratulating Professor Andrea Hodge on this important recognition and accomplishment!

**Professor Susan Montgomery, Department of Mathematics, selected as 2011 Noether Lecturer**

The Association for Women in Mathematics selects one woman annually to be the Noether Lecturer, which honors women who have made fundamental and sustained contributions to the mathematical sciences. The Noether Lecture is presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings each January. A list of previous Noether Lecturers can be found at: <http://www.awm-math.org/noetherlectures.html>.

Please join us in congratulating Professor Susan Montgomery on this recognition of her achievements!

### **Innovation in the Construction Management Classroom**

USC Viterbi School of Engineering 2/8/10

Burcin Becerik-Gerber has captured the intricacies of a real-world building project in her semester-long course, “Building Information Modeling for Collaborative Construction Management.”

[Click here for the full story.](#)

### **Good Listener, Great Mentor: Chemist Hanna Reisler of USC College earns the Provost's Mentoring Award 2009**

USC College of Letters, Arts & Sciences 2/16/10

The annual award honors a faculty member demonstrating sustained success in mentoring USC faculty, postdocs, graduate students and undergraduates

[Click here for the full story.](#)

## **University, Company Initiatives Seek to Interest Girls in Tech Industry**

### **Argonne National Laboratories Holds Ninth “Introduce a Girl to Engineering” Day**

Chicago Sun Times, 2/20/10

“The career day, now in its ninth year...enabled 52 girls in grades 6-8 to see the variety of science jobs filled by women at the laboratory...Argonne, with women comprising 16 percent of its 1,300 science and engineering employees, works to support its female workers and their success through an internal committee called WIST -- Women in Science and Technology.”

[Click here for the full story.](#)

### **University of Iowa opens girls' eyes to science and engineering**

Iowa City Press Citizen, 2/21/10

“Science was sweet Saturday at Girl Scout Badge Day. The University of Iowa Women in Science and Engineering Ambassadors organize the event to teach girls that science and engineering can be fun...”

This year, they made landfills out of candy to understand the dynamics of a landfill, compounded their own lip gloss, and learned about geoscience by excavating fossils and identifying minerals.”

[Click here for the full story.](#)

### **Tech industry searching for girls gone geek**

msnbc.com, 2/22/10

“In a bid ‘to counter the dismal statistics’ regarding women and computer science, there is ‘a movement to reclaim the notion of geek,’ [making] it their mission to encourage more young women to fall in love with science and technology.”

[Click here for the full story.](#)

### **Minicamp gives girls a look at math, science careers**

Philadelphia Inquirer, 2/22/10

Widener University held its annual Engineering Mini-Camp for High School Girls, which featured 18 labs on different subjects, including a “Chocolate Asphalt” lab in which students sifted and mixed walnuts, coconut, oatmeal, and raisins with chocolate to simulate mixing and spreading asphalt. Other labs focused on lie detectors, programming robots, roller-coaster design, wind tunnels, and building electric-powered Lego cars.

[Click here for the full story.](#)

## **Other Articles of Interest**

### **Reaching Gender Equity in Science: The Importance of Role Models and Mentors”**

Science, 2/12/10

The number of women embarking on science careers has been increasing steadily during the past several decades...thanks in part to having had role models and mentors whose paths they could follow.

[Click here for the full story.](#)

### **Graduation Gaps for Science Majors**

Inside Higher Ed, 2/17/10

“More and more students are starting college with plans to major in science and technology fields, but a new study finds that their completion rates are lagging – especially among underrepresented minorities.”

[Click here for the full story.](#)