



University of Southern California
Women in Science and Engineering Program (WiSE)
www.usc.edu/wise

WiSE Announcement



WiSE Program Manager

Dr. Sarah Fried-Gintis recently completed her PhD in History at USC, with certificates in Gender Studies and Visual Studies. Sarah also possesses an MA degree from USC in History (specializing in US Women's History, Modern Visual Cultures in the West, Gender Studies, and Judaic Studies) as well as a BS in History & Educational Studies from Vanderbilt University. Sarah grew up in New Jersey and lives in the San Fernando Valley with her husband and daughter. She looks forward to meeting the WiSE community and can be reached at sfried@usc.edu.

WiSE Program
Upcoming Deadlines

**To see all the USC WiSE Grant Programs, including ongoing grants without specific deadlines, please visit:
<http://www.usc.edu/programs/wise/programs/>**

Undergraduate Research Grants

Deadlines: USC College: January 16, April 1, and August 28
Viterbi School of Engineering: November 15, April 1, and August 1

(In the event that a deadline falls upon a weekend or a university holiday, that deadline will move to the first workday following the posted date.)

Award Amount: Awards during fall and spring offer \$2,500 (\$2,000 for the student and \$500 for advisor support). Awards during summer offer \$5,000 (\$4,500 for the student and \$500 for advisor support).

Directions: Submit online application.

Purpose: Up to fifteen Undergraduate Research Fellowships are granted each year in both the USC College and in the Viterbi School of Engineering to support summer and academic year research (Five awards each in the fall, spring and summer terms). The goal is to familiarize students with laboratory research and link them with a mentor early on. It is hoped that through the experience of first-hand research at the undergraduate level, the chances will increase that students will choose to pursue a graduate degree in science or engineering.

Graduate Top-off Fellowship

Deadlines: USC College: March 3
Viterbi School of Engineering: February 22

(In the event that a deadline falls upon a weekend or a university holiday, that deadline will move to the first workday following the posted date.)

Award Amount: Top-off awards of \$5,000/year for 2 years

Directions: Department Chairs should submit application materials electronically in digital form to the WiSE program office at wiseprog@usc.edu.

Purpose: Graduate Top-Off Fellowship funds are available to facilitate the recruitment of outstanding doctoral students to USC. The funds provide four incoming Ph.D. students in the USC College and four incoming Ph.D. students in the Viterbi School of Engineering with a WiSE Fellowship to supplement their financial support packages. Each WiSE Fellowship will carry a stipend of \$5,000 and may be renewed for a second year pending satisfactory progress verified by the faculty advisor.

Each department may nominate two candidates. Candidates must be ranked and briefly summarized in a cover letter from the Department Chair. Nominations and supporting documentation should be submitted electronically.

WiSE Program
Upcoming Deadlines
Continued....

Merit Fellowship for Current Doctoral Students

Deadlines: March 3

(In the event that a deadline falls upon a weekend or a university holiday, that deadline will move to the first workday following the posted date.)

Award Amount: \$5,000

Directions: Department chairs submit application materials electronically in digital form to the WiSE program office at wiseprog@usc.edu.

The Merit Fellowship for Current Doctoral Students is offered to current Ph.D. students at USC who demonstrate exceptional work in their field. Two candidates will be chosen from the USC College and two from the Viterbi School of Engineering. Candidates are nominated by the faculty. Each one-year WiSE Fellowship carries a stipend of \$5,000.

Purpose

The purpose of the WiSE Merit Fellowship is to provide advanced doctoral students with an opportunity to be recognized for their achievements. Surveys have shown that the attrition rate of female doctoral students is significantly higher than that of male doctoral students. The WiSE Program hopes this fellowship will provide support and motivation to students on an academic trajectory who demonstrate dedication to increasing the representation of women in science and engineering.

Selection Criteria

The WiSE Committee will evaluate the excellence of the candidate's research, the trajectory of improvement, and any other personal/professional attributes that demonstrate how the Merit Fellowship may encourage the candidate to pursue a career in science and engineering.

Merit Award for Excellence in Postdoctoral Research

Deadlines: March 3

(In the event that a deadline falls upon a weekend or a university holiday, that deadline will move to the first workday following the posted date.)

Award Amount: \$3,000

Directions: Department chairs submit application materials electronically in digital form to the WiSE program office at wiseprog@usc.edu.

The WiSE Merit Awards for Excellence in Postdoctoral Research are offered to current Postdoctoral researchers at USC who demonstrate exceptional work in their field. Candidates must be working under the mentorship of a faculty member in a WiSE-eligible department of the USC College or Viterbi School of Engineering. A maximum of four awards will be given each year. Candidates are nominated by the faculty and each department may nominate up to two candidates. Each WiSE Award will be for \$3,000.

Purpose

The purpose of the WiSE Merit Award for Excellence in Postdoctoral Research is to provide junior researchers an opportunity to be recognized for their achievements. The WiSE Program hopes the awards will provide support and motivation to researchers on an academic trajectory and increase the representation of women in science and engineering.

Selection Criteria

The WiSE Advisory Board will evaluate the excellence of the candidate's research, the trajectory of progress, and other attributes that demonstrate how the Award for Excellence in Postdoctoral Research may encourage the candidate to pursue a career in academic science and engineering.

Calendar: WiSE
Network Meetings

WiSE Faculty Networking Meeting

Meetings held the last Thursday of the month at 12pm in HNB 107

- **Thursday, February 24, 2011**
- **Thursday, March 31, 2011**

Bring your own lunch; cookies, coffee, and tea provided

Calendar: Other
Events

AWIS LAVC Events

- **On-going Coffee Clubs (second Tuesdays of every month): February 8**
We currently have a UCLA (3pm, Cafe Synapse) and an East LA location (5pm, USC Health Science Campus).
Details at: www.awislavc.org in the right sidebar.
- **UCLA Book Club: Thursday, February 10, 3pm**
First Title: "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" by Mitch Albom
Thursday, February 10, 3 pm, UCLA Cafe Synapse

If you have any questions about AWIS LAVC events, email webadmin@awislavc.org or president@awislavc.org or visit www.awislavc.org.

Calendar: Other
Events Continued...

Three-Dimensional Patterning of Porous Materials Using Vapor Phase Polymerization”

Physics and Astronomy Colloquium Series

Professor Malancha Gupta, USC’s Chemical Engineering and Materials Science Department

Monday, February 7, 2011, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Viterbi School to Host National Academy of Engineering (NAE) National Meeting

“Engineering and Managing the Megacity”

Thursday, Feb. 10, 2011, 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Henry Salvatori Computer Science Center Auditorium (SAL 101)

The important topic of MEGACITIES will be addressed by six experts on infrastructure, energy, the environment, transportation and natural disasters. National Academy of Engineering President Charles Vest will introduce the program. Prior to the meeting and during breaks, attendees will be able to view Viterbi School faculty poster presentations on research relating to panelist topics.

<http://viterbi.usc.edu/news/news/2011/viterbi-school-to.htm>

Women in Math

Movie Night

Thursday, Feb. 17th 6pm - 9pm.

‘Agora’ is a movie about Hypatia of Alexandria (the first known notable woman in mathematics).

There will be snacks before the movie in KAP 410 at 6pm.

Movie will start around 6:30pm in KAP 414.

Please RSVP by Wed Feb 15th to chaskell@usc.edu.

USC PhD Hooding Ceremony

Thursday, May 12, 2011

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Bovard Auditorium

Registration Begins

February 11th at 2:00 p.m

Students Must Register!

The Ph.D. Hooding Ceremony, sponsored by The USC Graduate School, is the only University-wide event exclusively for Ph.D. recipients. Those Ph.D. candidates who graduated in December 2010 or who will graduate in May or August 2011 are eligible to participate. On February 11th at 2:00 p.m. (Pacific Time) the official 2011 Hooding Ceremony web page will be available for registration on The USC Graduate School website. It will have complete Hooding information, logistics, instructions and the on-line registration form. In order to participate in the ceremony, candidates must register online between Friday, February 11, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. and Friday, April 1, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time). Only students who register online by 5:00 pm on April 1st will be able to take part in the Ph.D. Hooding Ceremony. Each student who registers by the deadline will be guaranteed a limited number of guest tickets for the event.

2011 NSF CAREER Proposal Writing Workshop

April 4-5, 2011

Application deadline: February 15, 2011

Sponsored by NSF, the 2011 NSF CAREER Proposal Writing Workshop will be held on April 4 and 5, 2011, hosted by the University of Connecticut. The workshop venue will be the Sheraton Hotel at the Bradley International Airport (BDL), near Hartford, CT.

This Workshop will provide future CAREER proposal submitters with proposal review experience and interactions with NSF program directors and recent NSF CAREER awardees. Major activities of the Workshop include presentations by NSF program directors on the key fundamentals of proposal writing, presentations by recent CAREER awardees on their experiences and best practices, mock panel reviews of successful and unsuccessful CAREER proposals, and panel reviews of project summaries of the attendees' own CAREER proposals. Similar workshops held in the past have typically attracted twice as many applicants as each workshop could accommodate, and previous attendees have enjoyed significantly higher proposal success rates, both with their CAREER and other proposals. Thus, it is expected that this Workshop will help the attendees write more competitive proposals and subsequently, improve the quality of their research.

Application procedure and tentative agenda for the workshop can be found at:
<http://aries.imse.ksu.edu/nsf/nsf2010/main.htm>.

Workshop organizers: Robert Gao, University of Connecticut and Z.J. Pei, Kansas State University.

Kellogg Center for Biotechnology Executive Education course 2011

April 11-15, 2011

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 information: <http://www.kellogg.northwestern.edu/biotech/execed/scientists.htm>,
or contact Jeanne Laseman, Program Manager, 847.491.5540, j-laseman@kellogg.northwestern.edu.

Student Recognition

USC recognizes graduating students who have excelled both inside and outside the classroom, and have made a significant difference through their leadership, volunteering, and community engagement efforts. We would like to invite you to nominate undergraduate, graduate, and professional students whose presence and notable contributions have enriched the quality of life on campus and in the local, national and international community. We urge you to identify and nominate students deserving of this special recognition. To be eligible, nominees must be scheduled for graduation in May, August, or December 2011.

The online nomination form and submission instructions are located at <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/studentrec>. This site will allow you to nominate as many students who you believe have demonstrated the greatest level of involvement and leadership. You will need your USC NetID and password to begin the nomination process. We encourage you to meet with prospective nominees prior to submitting your nominations.

Completed nominations must include the following:

1. Student Profile (to be completed by the student)
2. Student Involvement Summary and Leadership Narrative (to be completed by the student)
3. Nomination Narrative

Using the online nomination process, please submit the names and emails of students you wish to nominate by Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 5:00 pm. Students must complete their part of the nomination (numbers 1 and 2 above) by Friday, February 18, 2011 at 5:00 pm. **Faculty and staff must complete their part of the nomination (number 3 above) by Friday, March 4, 2011 at 5:00 pm.** Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

The Student Recognition Award ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 1:30 pm in Bovard Auditorium. As in the past, nominators will be notified of students selected to receive awards and will be invited to attend.

Spark™ Seeks USC Volunteers to Mentor 7th & 8th Graders

Spark is a non-profit that places middle school kids in apprenticeships with professionals from a wide range of fields (www.sparkprogram.org). The organization has had a great track record with youth in the Bay area and they recently expanded to southern California.

Spark is currently looking for volunteers in the engineering and computer science fields to spend two hours per week this spring (March through June) with a 7th or 8th grader. The students would come to your office or workplace once a week and learn about what it's like to be a professor, a computer programmer, a robotics engineer... or you can fill-in-the-blank here! USC students and alums would make great potential apprentice teachers. This semester we have apprenticeships with a professor in the USC Math Department as well as with a professor in the School of Social Work, and we hope to expand our partnership with USC students, professors, and alums! We are happy to come to your office and make a presentation to introduce Spark and provide you with more information about our program. If you -- and/or your students and colleagues -- would be interested in contributing please contact Ben Allen at 310-346-9826, ballen@sparkprogram.org or Jahan Boulden at 310-291-3900, nboulden@sparkprogram.org.

Dean Joan Schaeffer Metcalf Fellowships

Applications Due: February 25, 2011

The Dean Joan Metcalf Schaefer Scholarships in the College reward undergraduate and graduate students each year who follow in Dean Joan's footsteps of scholarship, leadership and service. Scholarships are available for merit, travel, and research on college.usc.edu/css.

- Applicants for the awards must be full-time students majoring in USC College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California for the 2011-2012 academic year.
- Junior status or above in the 2011-2012 academic year.
- Minimum 3.5 grade point average.

For questions, contact scholarships@college.usc.edu

Verizon Scholarship Awards Program

Application Deadline: March 30, 2011

The Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF), first established in 1990 and now a network of 29 community organizations focused on transforming the lives of Asian and Pacific Islanders throughout Los Angeles County, is partnering with Verizon to offer \$20,000 in scholarships for students attending a 4-year accredited college. This year, the first in the program, they are offering 20 - \$1,000 awards to students based on merit and essay questions.

The first cycle for the scholarship program consists of 8 awards targeting first-year college students whose majors are math, sciences, engineering, or related field. The deadline for the first cycle is March 30th, 2011.

For more information: www.apcf.org.

Contact WiSE Program Manager, Sarah Fried-Gintis, for Additional Informational Materials.
sfried@usc.edu

2011 Diversity Forum at University of Southern California

Saturday April 2, 2011

University of Southern California

USC is honored to host The California Forum for Diversity in Education, a national graduate school preparation program and recruitment fair. To register for this event, please visit: <http://www.ucop.edu/diversityforum>. This all-day event draws representatives from over 150 universities from across the U.S. interested in promoting graduate education and recruiting underrepresented undergraduate and masters students for various graduate programs.

Annually, over 1300 students participate from throughout Southern California. The event also includes graduate student preparation workshops and special presentations by faculty and graduate students. For more information, including participating universities, please visit <http://www.ucop.edu/acadadv/forum-for-diversity/recruiters>. If you are interested, please register for the conference at <http://www.ucop.edu/diversityforum>.

Contact: graduate.diversity@usc.edu

Summer Research at Cornell University: Cornell Center for Materials Research

Program: June 6-August 12, 2011

Application deadline: March 1, 2011

The Cornell Center for Materials Research is offering a special summer research program with a stipend valued at \$4000, room in one of Cornell's on-campus dorms and additional funds for travel (non-CU students only). During the ten-week period, students will work with Cornell faculty on interdisciplinary materials research projects involving chemistry, physics, materials science and engineering disciplines. Students will also participate in an organized program of lectures, mini-courses (e.g. electronics, microscopy), laboratory visits and a variety of recreational activities.

- Open to Fall 2011 undergraduates who are US Citizens or permanent residents.
- Selection will be based on academic standing and faculty recommendations.
- Minority and female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.
- All chemistry, physics and engineering majors are welcome to apply.
- Program includes stipend which covers housing, but does NOT cover food.

Get more information and apply at <http://www.ccmr.cornell.edu/education/reu/>

NEWS at USC

To see the USC WiSE News archives, please visit www.usc.edu/programs/wise/news/

WiSE Success Story

One of the first recipients of WiSE support, a junior research faculty member, Laura Marcu, is now a Full Professor at UC Davis, and has also recently become a Fellow.

Congratulations are in order!

Please join us in congratulating Eva Kanso on her promotion to Associate Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering with tenure and its recognition of her academic and research accomplishments!

Our warmest congratulations Eva!

USC Viterbi Professor Receives Presidential Mentoring Award

USC News, January 31, 2011



USC Viterbi School of Engineering professor Maja J. Mataric was among the scholars who received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring at a White House ceremony Jan. 27.

Congratulations Maja!

[Click here for the complete story](#)

Other News and Articles of Interest

“The Care and Maintenance of Your Adviser”

Nature, Published online, 26 January 2011

By Hugh Kearns & Maria Gardiner (affiliations)

Authors Hugh Kearns and Maria Gardner argue, “Graduate students bear as much responsibility as their mentors for ensuring that they are well guided through their degrees.”

[Click here for the complete story](#)