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Women in Science and Engineering

[www.usc.edu/programs/wise](http://www.usc.edu/programs/wise)

### USCChronicle

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#### NOTHING FISHY HERE

David Caron and WiSE Faculty affiliate Astrid Schnetzer quoted describing the fish die-off in Redondo Beach.

#### MAJA MATARIC RECEIVED PROVOST'S MENTORING AWARD

Honored at 30th Annual Academic Honors Ceremony

#### GOLUBCHIK HONORED WITH DIVERSITY AWARD

"The Los Angeles chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar presented USC Viterbi School of Engineering Associate Professor Leana Golubchik with its 2011 Diversity Award.

Golubchik was selected for her contributions to the promotion of diversity and cultural awareness at USC Viterbi in the transportation industry and in a project that supports the goals and mission of the seminar.

She has been a active member of the USC Women in Science and Engineering program since joining the school in 2002."

[WISEPROG@USC.EDU](mailto:WISEPROG@USC.EDU)

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CALENDAR OF WISE  
UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Undergraduate Research  
Awards  
  
Dornsife: August 28  
Viterbi: August 1

UCLA WORKSHOPS ON STEM  
  
Will be available on the UCLA Youtube  
channel. Stay tuned for more  
information.

WISE FACULTY NET-  
WORKING MEETING  
  
Meetings held the last  
Thursday of the month at  
12pm in HNB 107.  
  
Thursday, April 28, 2011;  
  
Bring you own lunch.  
Cookies, coffee and tea  
provided.



To see all the USC WiSE Grant  
Programs, including ongoing  
grants without specific dead-  
line, please [click here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT USC

### SPEED READING CLASS

Tuesday April 19th and Tuesday April 26th 11:45-12:15 - Lunch 12:15 - 1:15 -  
LAW room 101

Iris Reading is holding a speed reading workshop with the help of “Graduate and Professional Student Senate” as the sponsoring organization.

The workshop is free to all students and faculty with lunch provided. The Instructor, Ross, will cover basic speed reading skills, teach to read in half the time, and retain twice as much. Students will make an improvement on the spot. Here's a link to see what a typical workshop looks like:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RmQiOEC8UnM>

Please RSVP here:

<http://www.irisreading.com/los-angeles/>

### USC INTERNATIONAL GRADUATION RECEPTION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Hosted by the USC Office of International Services  
Friday, April 29th from 4-6pm

## CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS

NAVAL STEM FORUM  
OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH (ONR)  
JUNE 15-16, 2011  
THE HILTON ALEXANDRIA MARK CENTER.

For decades, America's students have not been keeping up with demand in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education when compared to their peers around the world. This downward trend not only affects America's future economic and competitive health, but also our ability to provide the technological edge on which Sailors and Marines depend.

The Department of the Navy's (DoN) STEM objective is simple: to increase the talent pool from which the next-generation of great naval engineers and scientists will come.

For more information and to register visit:

<http://www.onr.navy.mil/Conference-Event-ONR/STEM-Forum.aspx>

2011 SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL SCIENCES (SICSS 2011)  
AUGUST 17-20, 2011  
SHANGHAI, CHINA

After several years' preparation, we are happy to announce that Shanghai International Conference on Social Science (SICSS) 2011 will be held in Shanghai, China. SICSS 2011 is supported by the Higher Education Forum and aims to provide a multi-cultural and multi-dimensional social science conference. The theme highlights on all aspects of social science such as Management, Finance, Economy, Culture, Education, Society, Politics, Law, Psychology, Journalism, and Communication Studies.

Topics in Management fields cover Business Administration, International Enterprise, Human resources, Strategic Marketing, Logistics, Supply Chain, Information Management, Restate Management, Electronic Commerce, Industry Innovation, and Corporate Governance. Topics in Finance fields contain Banking, Investment, Accounting, Finance Engineering, Portfolio, Emerge, Stock Market, Insurance, Finance Management, and Risk Management. Topics in economy fields involve Macro and Micro Economics, Agricultural Economy, Ecological Economy, Beauty Economy, Labor and Population Economy, Urban and Rural Economy, International Economics, Industry Economics, and Monetary Economics.

The official language of the conference is English. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.shanghai-ic.org/>

## FACULTY

### NSF WRITING RETREAT

Sunday, July 31- Friday August 5, 2011  
The Connors Center  
Dover, Massachusetts

This will be the 5th year of a writing retreat that is sponsored through NSF's ADVANCE PAID program. It provides a week (Sunday evening through Friday noon) for faculty to focus on writing. The time is unstructured except for meals, Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening. BUT even the structured programs are optional. A writing coach spends Tuesday with us, providing general information about writing scientific papers in the morning and individual tutorials in the afternoon. We have a "program" on Wednesday night. This year, Jill Singer, director of the Undergraduate Research Office at Buffalo State and former NSF program director for geo undergraduate education, will be present information about how to have a research career when you are working with primarily undergraduate students. I thought this would be especially helpful to faculty at Keck institutions. She is also participating in the writing retreat so will be available for informal discussions during the week. In the past participants have ranged from finishing PhD students to full professors in named chairs. In the evaluations, there are always positive comments about the mentoring that occurs during the retreat as well as the uninterrupted time to write.

The retreat is held at the Connors Family Retreat & Conference Center, Dover, MA (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/retreat/>). It is part of Boston College.

For application materials, contact WiSE Program Manager Sarah Fried-Gintis at [sfried@usc.edu](mailto:sfried@usc.edu)

## GRADUATE STUDENTS

THE FPR-HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE CULTURE, BRAIN AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR A TWO-YEAR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN CULTURAL OR SOCIAL NEUROSCIENCE.

The purpose of the fellowship is to encourage undergraduate teaching and research around questions about how neurobiological and cultural factors interact with and influence psychological and social behaviors and clinical practices.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.hampshire.edu/hr/971.htm>

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA POSTDOCS

[http://www.usc.edu/programs/wise/resources/conferences\\_of\\_interest/](http://www.usc.edu/programs/wise/resources/conferences_of_interest/)

## UNDERGRADUATES

### COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADUATES (CREU) APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 10, 2011

Sponsored by CRA's Committee on the Status of Women in Computing Research (CRA-W) and the Coalition to Diversify Computing (CDC), the CREU program is aimed toward increasing the number of women and underrepresented minorities who go on to CS&E graduate programs. Students have the opportunity to conduct undergraduate research with a small team (2-4 students) at their home institution during the academic year and optionally the following summer. Formerly administered as two separate programs - CREU and MRO-W - the program includes not only computer science and engineering research, but also collaborative, multidisciplinary research creating and using cyber-infrastructure. Each student from an underrepresented group receives a \$3,000 stipend for their work in the academic year and \$4,000 for the optional summer extension. Each team can also request an extra \$1,500 to be used for supporting materials and activities. For more information, see: <http://www.cra-w.org/creu>

## UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Did you know that these spontaneous cancers in dogs and cats share many features with human cancers? Chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hypothermia and immunotherapy are all used to fight cancer in the pet animal, and many naturally occurring cancers in pets closely resemble human cancer and provide meaningful systems for cancer research. Veterinarian scientists are uniquely qualified to be comparative oncologists - researchers who study naturally-occurring cancers in animals as models for human disease. The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine provides an outstanding environment for the training of future veterinary scientists through our combined VMD-PhD (DVM-PhD) program. It's an excellent way for you to continue your education while impacting the future of medicine for humans and all species. Find out more at: [www.pennvetphd.org](http://www.pennvetphd.org)

FEMALE ELECTRICIANS BURN OUT ON MALE DOMINANCE

BY K. ALEISHA FETTERS

WeNews correspondent

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

For female electricians time has stood still. While women are gaining rank and numbers in many other highly-paid fields, here the numbers are stuck at token levels of about 1 percent. An annual women's construction fair in California might help.

Female electricians in the New York City Labor Day parade circa 1982. (WOMENSENEWS)--As a child Elizabeth Fox, 44, wanted to be an electrician when she grew up. Her grandfather and father were both electricians in New York City.

"My dad always said not to do it," Fox said. "He saw when women first came into the industry and he didn't like the way they were being treated."

She figured things would be different in the late 1980s, almost two decades after women began entering the trade.

But now, 24 years after completing her apprenticeship in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3 in New York City, she knows she was wrong.

It's not that she doesn't like her work. In fact she has enjoyed the diversity of jobs, ranging from traffic signals, making fiber optic expressway cameras record and bridges. But the atmosphere has made her question her career choice.

For the full article, please visit:

<http://www.womensenews.org/story/equal-payfair-wage/110412/female-electricians-burn-out-male-dominance>

MENTORSHIP KEY FOR WOMEN IN IT, SAYS COLLABORATE PANEL  
WOMEN NEED TO FIND OTHERS WHO CAN HELP PROMOTE THEIR GROWTH WITHIN  
AN ORGANIZATION

By Jaikumar Vijayan

April 13, 2011

Computerworld - ORLANDO -- Mentors and sponsors can play a key role in helping women advance their careers in information technology, according to members of a panel discussion at the Collaborate 11 Oracle user conference here.

Women continue to be heavily outnumbered by men in the technology workplace and still need to contend with lingering perceptions about their abilities, the panelists said. As a result, they need to not only constantly push themselves forward but also find someone who can help them.

Women need to take ownership of the value they bring to the organization, said Beth Renstrom, a senior manager of product management at Oracle development who has more than 17 years of experience in IT. "Take ownership of what you have done and make sure you are letting people know what you have accomplished," she said.

For the full story, see:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215794/Mentorship\\_key\\_for\\_women\\_in\\_IT\\_says\\_Collaborate\\_panel](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215794/Mentorship_key_for_women_in_IT_says_Collaborate_panel)

The UCLA Center for the Study of Women  
is pleased to announce

## Women and STEM

How stereotypes undermine the interest and success of women in science, technology, engineering, and math

Spring Speaker Series organized by Professor Jenessa Shapiro, Department of Psychology at UCLA

This speaker series will bring to UCLA some of the top researchers in the field of stereotype threat. These speakers will present research demonstrating the emergence of stereotype threat in STEM domains, the mechanism that account for this phenomenon, and the ways in which we can intervene to prevent the deleterious influence of stereotype threat.

Featuring

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Toni Schmader  
Professor of Psychology, University of British Columbia  
Stereotype Threat Deconstructed  
Thursday, April 28, Franz Hall, Room 3534, from 4 to 6 pm

—

Nilanjana Dasgupta, Professor of Psychology  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
STEMing the Tide: Female Experts and Peers Enhance  
Young Women's Interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)  
Thursday, May 12, Franz Hall Room 3534, from 4 to 6 pm

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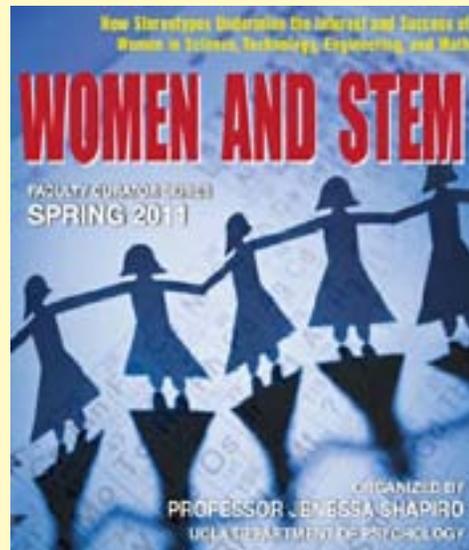
Joshua Aronson  
Professor of Applied Psychology, New York University  
Stereotypes and the Nurture of Intelligent Thought and Behavior  
Thursday, May 19, Franz Hall Room 3534, from 4 to 6 pm

Cosponsored by UCLA Department of Psychology, the Psychology Diversity Science Initiative, and the  
UCLA Interdisciplinary Relationship Science Program

For more info, visit:

<http://www.csw.ucla.edu/events/women-and-stem-speaker-3-toni-schmader>

Contact: Emily Walker, [ewalker@women.ucla.edu](mailto:ewalker@women.ucla.edu)



Earth Sciences, Biological Sciences (Division of Marine Environmental Biology),  
WiSE and the Center for Deep Energy Biosphere Investigations (C-DEBI) are hosting:

Dr. Brandy Toner,

a 2011 Ridge 2K Distinguished Lecturer

May 18 and 19, 2011

Dr. Toner will give two lectures:

Science Community Lecture: May 18 at Noon, ZHS200

“Integrated nested-scale biogeochemistry of hydrothermal plumes at a back-arc spreading center”.

Abstracts: Hydrothermal venting associated with mid-ocean ridge volcanism is globally widespread. Hydrothermal plumes created by this venting represent a dynamic biogeochemical interface between the sub-seafloor and deep ocean that is poorly understood in terms of process-level mechanisms and global ocean implications. Advancing understanding of the role of plume processes in global ocean biogeochemistry requires highly integrated, multi-disciplinary research that accesses physical, chemical, and biological properties within individual buoyant plumes. In addition, comparisons among plumes in a given vent field, and among vent fields representing a continuum of geophysical and geochemical conditions are essential. To address this research need, a large nested-scale research program focused on hydrothermal vent fields along the Eastern Lau Spreading Center has begun. During June-July 2009, rising plumes at Kilo Moana, ABE, Tahi Moana, Mariner, and Tui Malila vent fields were sampled at discrete elevations for geochemistry, metal speciation, mineralogy, and microbial ecology. The trajectory of oxidation-reduction sensitive elements as they move through a buoyant plume at ABE vent field will be highlighted. In terms of global ocean elemental fluxes, hydrothermal vent plumes represent a critical oceanic interface where biogeochemical processes leading to particle formation, surface reactivity, and dispersal are poorly constrained.

General Public Lecture: May 19 at 11am, HNB auditorium (HNB100)

“Can iron from deep-sea hot springs fertilize the oceans?”

The global mid-ocean ridge system is a 60,000-km volcanic chain that crosses the floor of all major ocean basins on Earth. Dispersed along this baseball seam are deep-sea hydrothermal vents that release hot fluids rich in iron and other reduced chemicals. Every year, the iron released to the ocean by hydrothermal venting at the seafloor is approximately equal to all of the iron flushed from the continents by rivers - this is a lot of iron. With all of this iron entering the oceans, how do we explain the large regions of the global ocean where iron availability is so low that it limits life? The key to understanding iron mobility and bioavailability is the specific chemical form of the iron. In this lecture, I will discuss current scientific understanding of the chemistry and biology of hydrothermally derived iron. I will also highlight recent research discoveries that demonstrate the limits of current understanding and examine the rich complexities of iron biogeochemistry in the deep ocean.