



September 9, 2011
Issue 3: 28

Women in Science and Engineering

www.usc.edu/programs/wise

REMINDER (FACULTY)

Faculty should RSVP to the September 29 WiSE Sponsored Faculty Networking Meeting held at the University Club by Thursday, September 22 (9/22). Please respond to the Evite sent by Sarah Fried-Gintis.

WISE FACULTY NETWORKING MEETING

This month's meeting will be hosted by WiSE at the University Club on Thursday, September 29 at 12pm.

IN THIS ISSUE

Announcements

-2-

In the News

-4-

WISE Faculty in the News

-5-

Awards

-6-

UPCOMING EVENTS

WiSE 2011 Fall Library Program and Orientation for WiSE Faculty Students and Postdocs

Thursday, September 22, 2011 11am

(See flyer in Newsletter)

WISEPROG@USC.EDU

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

USC



ANNOUNCEMENTS

USC CHILDCARE:

Eligibility Revisions for International Students

WiSE is very pleased to announce a change in the eligibility requirements for international students to enroll their children in USC Childcare.

In the past USC Childcare has maintained that international students on fellowship were not eligible to receive the university subsidy. As of September 2011 this policy has changed. International students, whether research assistants, teaching assistants, or recipients of fellowships -- who maintain full-time status DO qualify to receive the subsidy. The USC Childcare website will soon reflect this change in policy.

We hope that this opportunity will assist many of our international students at USC and encourage all WiSE-eligible students interested in USC Childcare to apply for the WiSE Childcare Subsidy, information on which is available on our website at:

http://www.usc.edu/programs/wise/programs/child_care/

Please help us in spreading this important information to appropriate students.

CHILDCARE PROVIDER/NANNY AVAILABLE:

From Professor Maya Mataric:

Elenia Segura is an experienced childcare provider who is looking for working 6 hours per day: 9am to 3pm, in the general Childcare provider/nanny available:

Elenia Segura is an experienced childcare provider who is looking for working 6 hours per day: 9am to 3pm, in the general area around Pasadena, Glendale, Eagle Rock.

She speaks fluent English (went to high school in the US) and drives. Her contact info is: 323 343-1760. She will provide strong references.

CHILDCARE



The USC Women in Science and Engineering Program



Together with the USC Science and Engineering Library

Presents

2011 Fall Library Program and Orientation for WiSE Faculty, Students, and Postdocs

Back again by popular demand! Join USC Science and Engineering librarians Jean Crampon, Najwa Hanel, and Norah Xiao for an introduction to electronic resources and library facilities that may assist with various points in the research process. The program is appropriate for seasoned researchers as well as those new to the USC campus. Following a formal presentation and tour, join colleagues for a complimentary lunch and conversation.

Topics to be discussed include:

1. Update of new databases and search engines
2. Helpful resources for literature review
3. Resources for citation analysis (yours and others)
4. Specific guidance for your personal research needs

Thursday, September 22, 2011

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Science and Engineering Library

**Space is limited, and RSVP is required to wiseprog@usc.edu
Confirmed participants should meet at the circulation desk**

**Contact WiSE at (213) 740-0996 for more information
Or visit www.usc.edu/wise**

WHERE ARE ALL THE WOMEN ENGINEERS? GENDER EQUALITY YET TO BE ACHIEVED DESPITE 'DRAMATIC' GROWTH IN JOBS

By Darah Hansen
August 30, 2011
Vancouver Sun

It's been nearly 90 years since Rona Hatt did the unthinkable.

In 1922, at the age of 21, Hatt graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in chemical engineering, the first woman to do so in the province.

The achievement earned her the nickname "lone flower" by her classmates - "a woman in a field of men," according to the university's archives. Times have changed, and women, led by pioneers such as Hatt, are no longer such a rarity in engineering classes across the country. UBC, for instance, expects to welcome 234 female students into first-year engineering courses this September at its campuses in Vancouver and Kelowna.

Yet, despite a number of equity and diversity initiatives over the past decade, the number of women entering the profession remains stubbornly - and many would say troublingly - low.

For the full story, [click here](#).

PUBLISH AND PROSPER OR PROCREATE AND PERISH?

By Katie Siek and Minaxi Gupta
Summer 2011
ACM-W CIS Newsletter

Being a tenure track faculty professor in academia is like running your own startup company. The funding agencies are like venture capitalists (VCs) and the students are like employees. You have to choose the most fruitful ventures in terms of research directions, get them funded through federal agencies or private funding, find the best employees, work as hard as you can, and hope for the best. While the flexibility of how many hours you work and from where is great, the job of a professor is as demanding as it is satisfying...In this article, two female computer science professors at two different universities, working in two diverse areas of computer science and married to spouses who are also professors in computing areas, recount their experiences in trying to balance career and motherhood.

For the full story, [click here](#).

**Note: This link takes you to the first page of the Newsletter. Scroll down and follow the link to the article.

WOMEN STILL UNDERREPRESENTED IN U.S. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND MATH & ENGINEERING (STEM) FIELDS

August 6, 2011
TechConnect

**Latest report from the U.S. Department of Commerce shows less than 1 in 4 women in the U.S. hold jobs in STEM fields.

The U.S. Department of Commerce report speaks to the importance of innovation and technology to the US economy. Although women represent close to 50% of the US workforce and half of all college-educated workers, their numbers have not grown in STEM-related fields over the past decade. For those women who hold a STEM degree, they are more likely to hold a job in education or healthcare versus a STEM occupation.

To read the full report, [click here](#).

FIVE POSTDOCS AWARDED L'OREAL USA FELLOWSHIPS FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

August 26, 2011

WIA Report

The L'Oreal USA Fellowships for Women in Science are awarded to postdoctoral scientists in the life and physical sciences, mathematics, engineering, and computer science. Winners are selected on the basis of their academic records and intellectual merit. Each applicant must submit a "clearly-articulated research proposal with the the potential for scientific advancement." The applications are reviewed by a panel of nine scientists assembled by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

For the full story, [click here](#).

STUDY FINDS COMPUTER SCIENCE, MODERN LANGUAGES MOST GENDER-POLARIZED MAJORS AT SWARTHMORE

By Jon Emont

August 30, 2011

Daily Gazette

More than seven out of every ten Swarthmore graduates in Computer Science, Physics, Engineering, and Philosophy are men, Swarthmore institutional research finds.

Beginning in 2001, Swarthmore recorded the gender breakdown of majors and minors graduating in each class. Sahiba Gill '12, Managing Editor of The Gazette, tabulated the majors from the classes of 2001 through 2011, excluding those majors with fewer than four graduates in any year. The study demonstrated that over three quarters of the students majoring in Physics, Philosophy, and Computer Science were men, and over three quarters of the students majoring in Modern Languages, Art History, and Art were women. The preponderance of men in many of the most quantitative disciplines, such as Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science, was one of the most striking results of the study. The most egalitarian major was History, a department with effective gender parity in its majors over the past ten years. However, the gender polarization in major selection among Swarthmore students seems to be caused by broader gender norms, not by institutional practices.

For the full story, [click here](#).

WISE FACULTY IN THE NEWS

A SEARCH FOR LIFE AT THE EARTH'S EXTREMES: USC DORNSIFE PROFESSOR KATRINA EDWARDS WILL LEAD THE TWO-MONTH TRIP TO A SITE KNOWN AS THE NORTH POND

By Robert Perkins

September 7, 2011

USC News

A USC scientist will take a research expedition this month into the heart of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean to explore the very limits of life on Earth.

Katrina Edwards of USC and Wolfgang Bach of Bremen University will co-lead the team of more than 100 scientists and support crew on a drilling expedition for the Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations (C-DEBI), which is systematically working to unlock the secrets of the living world below the seafloor.



For the full story, [click here](#).

AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD

Reminder Call for Nominations

The Center for Excellence in Teaching invites every department across the University to nominate one teaching assistant or assistant lecturer for USC's highest teaching award presented to graduate students. The University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award emphasizes the critical role of teaching in USC's mission. Three awards will be presented at the 2012 Academic Honors Convocation to graduate students who have exhibited exceptional excellence in their classroom or laboratory instruction and other guidance of undergraduate students. Each award carries a \$1,000 prize.

The nomination deadline is Friday October 14, 2011.

Please note that at a special reception on November 16, 2011 all nominees will be honored with an award and citation in recognition of their excellence in teaching. Hence, all departments are encouraged to submit a nomination.

Required documents for the University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award are these:

- Contact information of nominator and nominee
- From the nominee's sponsor, a citation for publication in the Academic Honors Convocation program (~150-175 words)
- From the nominating department, a formal statement not to exceed two pages, indicating why the nominee is an excellent candidate for the award. The statement may include:
 - evidence of innovative instructional techniques and contributions;
 - contributions to student learning above and beyond the call of duty;
 - contributions to learning outside the classroom;
 - self-improvement efforts regarding teaching.
- A copy of nominee's most recent curriculum vitae
- A representative selection of the nominee's formal teaching assessments, including students' comments appearing in the assessment forms
- Up to two letters of recommendation from department faculty who can assess the nominee's contributions to students' learning.

Please send a pdf of the nomination materials to: uscet@usc.edu

For more information, [click here](#).