

# April 1, 2014 Newsletter

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**April 1, 2014**

University of Southern California

## Upcoming Events

### **WiSE Programming: Graduate Student Research Presentations**

Monday, April 7, 2014

3 pm

WiSE Suite, DRB 232

RSVP [here](#).

### **WiSE Faculty Networking Lunch**

Thursday, April 24

Noon

WiSE Suite, DRB 232

### **WiSE Advisory Board Meeting**

April 29, 2014

12:30 pm

WiSE Suite, DRB 232

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## Upcoming Deadlines

### **USC Women in Science and Engineering**

1042 Downey Way, DRB 232

Los Angeles, CA 90089-1111

(213) 740 - 0996

<http://wise.usc.edu>

**Prof. Leana Golubchik,**  
WiSE Director

**Dr. Sarah Fried-Gintis,**  
WiSE Program Manager

### **Website Refresh**

We refreshed our public website! Did you notice? Check out our new look at <http://wise.usc.edu>.

### **Keep Up With Us**

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 [Facebook](#)

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[WiSE Undergraduate Research Experience - Student Researchers](#)

**Applications Due: April 1**

Upperclassmen with an established working relationship with a faculty mentor may submit a research project proposal. If awarded, the student will commit to participating in WiSE programming efforts throughout the academic year, while also receiving more substantial funding to conduct research based on the submitted project proposal. WiSE Researchers will be expected to conduct most of their research efforts during the summer, but other arrangements are possible. The mentors of WiSE Researchers will continue to receive a small grant to support expenses related to their students' work. The goal of this program is to provide undergraduates with first-hand experience in laboratory based research. 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. WiSE Researchers will receive a \$3,000 grant the semester in which they conduct their research, \$500 during each of the Fall and Spring Semesters for participation in the WiSE Research Programming Series, and \$500 in advisor support.

[Hanna Reisler Mentorship Award](#)

**Nominations Due: April 7 (DEADLINE EXTENDED)**

The Hanna Reisler Mentorship Award is named in honor of one of our founding faculty members and the many years she has dedicated to mentoring faculty and especially women at USC. The Hanna Reisler Mentorship Award recognizes individuals at USC who have advanced the careers of women in science and engineering through generous and committed professional mentorship. Last year's inaugural award was given to the WiSE Viterbi and WiSE Dornsife Committees and was accepted, on behalf of their respective committees, by Professors Meng and McNitt-Gray. Letters of nomination should be submitted by March 31, 2014. Nominations will be reviewed by an awards committee, consisting of Professors

Meng, McNitt-Gray, and Golubchik, with an awardee to be announced in April. Members of the WiSE-community should send letters of nomination to [wiseprog@usc.edu](mailto:wiseprog@usc.edu). All members of the university community are eligible to be nominated.

### Merit Fellowships for Current Doctoral Students **Due Tuesday, April 8**

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 Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences 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. To be eligible for the Merit Fellowships students must plan to be enrolled full-time for both the upcoming Fall and Spring semesters, be in at least their fourth year of study or passed their qualifying exams, and be funded by a 50%-time research assistantship, teaching assistantship, or fellowship during that period. Expected date of graduation should not be earlier than the Spring semester.

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## Faculty in the News

Professor Anna Krylov (Chemistry) and her work petitioning the exclusion of women at the International Academy of Quantum and Molecular Science was featured in USC News (3/25/14). [Changing the Climate of Discrimination.](#)

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## Articles of Interest

[The Working Mother Myth: Merging Parenting and Programming](#)

[Stevens Institute of Technology Launches Effort to Recruit More Women to Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Computer Engineering](#)

## Undergraduate Majors

[Why Smart People Suffer from the Imposter Syndrome and How to Thrive in Spite of It](#) (VIDEO)

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## Opportunities of Interest

WEBINAR: WEPAN (Women in Engineering ProActive Network) presents "**Male Allies Moving the Gender Equity Needle.**" Collaborations that include men offer distinct benefits in efforts to achieve gender equity. In the past six years FORWARD, through its NSF Institutional Transformation ADVANCE project, has developed and implemented an Advocates and Allies program for male faculty, designed to augment its goals to transform the climate of the institution and increase participation of women faculty. Wednesday, April 16, 2014 1pm EST. Register, [HERE](#).

The [CSAW Policy Competition](#) asks students to propose a policy in response to particular cyber threats or incidents. The best 5 teams will progress from the qualification round to finals in NYC. Students will submit written policy proposals, and will present their work to a panel of judges who are experts in the field. Students will be judged on their understanding of the issues, the feasibility of their approach, and the creativity in their solution, among other things. The winning students will represent the future of domestic and foreign cyber security policy, prepared to tackle our country's greatest threats. Registration opens July 1.

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## USC Student Researcher Needed

The Boedicker Lab is looking for motivated undergraduate students for research projects over the summer. The focus of the research is understanding the rules that make complex networks of microbes work. Microbial communities play an important role in our everyday lives, and our lab aims to increase their benefit to society by developing experimental and theoretical tools to control, predict, and design the functional outputs

of both synthetic and natural microbial ecosystems. Towards this goal, we have been developing predictive and quantitative models of biological decision making, using the tools of synthetic biology to test and expand our understanding of gene regulation, and investigating the role of microscale spatial structure on signal exchange and interspecies gene regulation. The lab works on projects related to medicine, such as microbes found in the lungs of cystic fibrosis patients, as well as interaction networks of cells isolated from the environment. Contact Professor James Boedicker (Physics and Astronomy) at boedicke@usc.edu.

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